

TRUEMAN.

All appear'd so just and fair to him, it is not possible he ever shou'd ; but his absence will no longer be conceal'd. Your father's wife ; and tho' he seems to hearken to the friendly excuses I wou'd make for Barnwell ; yet, I am afraid, he regards them only as such, without suffering them to influence his judgment.

MARIA.

How does the unhappy youth defeat all our designs to serve him ! yet I can never repent what we have done. Shou'd he return, 'twill make his reconciliation with my father easier, and preserve him from future reproach, from a malicious unforgiving world.

*Enter* THOROWGOOD AND LUCY.

THOROWGOOD.

This woman here has given me a sad, and (bating some circumstances) too probable account of Barnwell's defection.

LUCY.

I am sorry, Sir, that my frank confession of my former unhappy course of life should cause you to suspect my truth on this occasion.

THOROWGOOD.

It is not that ; your confession has in it all the appearance of truth. [*To them.*] Among many other particulars, she informs me that Barnwell has been influenced to break his trust, and wrong me, at several times, of considerable sums of money ; now, as I know this to be false, I wou'd fain doubt the whole of her relation — too dreadful — to be willingly believ'd.

MARIA.