

GEORGE BARNWELL. 165

fore too hastily return'd it : for which I ask your pardon. I now perceive you have been so far impos'd on, as to think me engaged in a former correspondence with your servant ; and, some way or other, accessory to his undoing.

THOROWGOOD.

I charge you as the cause, the sole cause of all his guilt and all his suffering ; of all he now endures, and must endure, till a violent and shameful death shall put a dreadful period to his life and miseries together.

MILLWOOD.

'Tis very strange ; but who's secure from scandal and detraction ? So far from contributing to his ruin, I never spoke to him till since that fatal accident, which I lament as much as you : 'tis true I have a servant, on whose account he has of late frequented my house ; if she has abus'd my good opinion of her, am I to blame ? hasn't Barnwell done the same by you ?

THOROWGOOD.

I hear you ; pray go on.

MILLWOOD.

I have been informed he had a violent passion for her, and she for him ; but till now I always thought it innocent ; I know her poor, and given to expensive pleasures : now who can tell but she may have influenced the amorous youth to commit this murder, to supply her extravagancies ? it must be so. I now recollect a thousand circumstances that confirm it : I'll have her and a man servant, that I suspect as an accomplice, secured immediately. I hope, Sir, you will lay aside your ill-grounded suspicions of me, and join to punish the real contrivers of this bloody deed.

[Offers to go.

THOROW-