

Wrong among Persons of Honour and Credit, the Imposture detected, and her Advocates covered with Confusion...

Let Mr. Churchill conduct you into the Vault with his Three Heroes, when Silent, all Three went in, about...

And Three turn'd silent, and came out. Pity the Credulity of Mankind, and be not rash in your Judgment...

Read the Story over again of the unfortunate Calas; execrate the Cruelty of Mankind; but learn to judge not rashly. When will Impostures end? When Impostors can no longer profit by them...

To the former a Rape now succeeds, attended with the most barbarous Circumstances. It is the peculiar Privilege of Englishmen, and the excellent Provision of our Laws, that the Accuser shall always be confronted with the Criminal, and that the Accused shall not be condemned unheard...

The Public is the Tribunal before which his Lordship's Character is to be canvassed: The Offence we must leave to the Decision of a Civil Court of Judicature. The former would be highly improper, if the latter subsisted on the Spot, as Prepossession and Prejudice ought equally to be avoided by every Judge...

But perhaps it is impossible to divert the Public of them. Judging from Passion, rather than Reflection, they take the first Impressions, which are not only the strongest for a Time, but often never effaced. Hear however both Sides of the Question, and be not rash in your Judgment...

Lord B is not only accused of a Rape, but of accomplishing the Fact by cruel and barbarous Means. However the former turn out, the latter is not consistent in the least with his Lordship's general Character...

which is humane, compassionate, friendly, amiable; his Temper frank, open, generous even to Profusion; his Disposition soft and tender, even to a Fault; but a Fault easily forgiven; His Understanding cultivated by Study, embellish'd by Travel, refin'd by a Taste for, and an Attachment to, the Fine Arts...

Can it be supposed, that a Nobleman, endowed with such a Temper, Disposition; understanding and Talents, could make use of any outrageous or barbarous Means to perpetrate his Design (the very Enjoyment consisting in mutual Consent) and may we not, on better Grounds, suppose (as I dare say it will turn out) that the Prosecution has arisen from the mercenary Designs of an artful Woman...

the safe Contrivance of her impoverished and importunate Friends, and the holy Zeal of an exasperated Party, who affecting a superior Degree of Purity, would pursue to the Stake the least Breach of a moral Duty in any Person out of their own Pale...

Not that I pretend to justify the Morality of the Action, independent of the Rape, tho' it may be so far justified, as the Example of Nineteen Parts of Mankind out of Twenty thro' the whole World can do it; and many a moral Philosopher would make no Scruple of concurring with Mr. Voltaire's Opinion, who speaking of Philip Duke of Burgundy, surnam'd, The Good, says, "This Prince's Virtue, however, did not prevent him from giving a Loose to Pleasure, and the Love of Women, which can never be a Crime, but when it prompts to some vicious Action."

Is not a Rape a vicious Action? No doubt. And the Man that perpetrates it, in the full Intent and Signification of the Word, deserves to suffer condign Punishment. But a fraudulent Combination against his Lordship appears to me so manifest, that I could venture to apply to him the Irishman's Address; Give me a Trifle, and I'll be hang'd in your Stead.

The Account I transmit to you is a State of the Case impartially set forth on his Lordship's Part. The Author of it is a Gentleman of Credit, lives much in the World, and has an Opportunity of conversing frequently with Persons engaged, tho' he is himself unconcerned on either Side. As nothing can transpire, that is strictly authentic, 'til after the Trial, you will please to take this Intelligence as hear-say Evidence upon the best Information that could be procur'd. In Contradiction to your Account that Lord B is at Orleans, my Correspondent adds in a Postscript, That he hears it is Lord B's Intention to surrender himself the first Day of next Term, before the Court of King's Bench, where it is expected he will be admitted to Bail, that he has notified this to the Girl's Counsel, who have thereupon desist'd from attempting to take him, and that he has actually retained Counsel, and will submit at present to no Compromise; and he subjoins, that the Sentiments of the wiser and cooler Persons in Town, and in particular of the Gentlemen of the Law, with whom he is most conversant, are, that the whole Transaction will turn out a wicked, artful and insidious Combination against his Lordship's Purse.

I shall state the Answer to this Charge in the plain simple and artless Manner in which Truth will always appear to the greatest Advantage, and in the Words of my Correspondent.

Lord B had used to employ a certain Duetista, as a Minister to his private Enjoyments, an Indulgence for which every Man is to answer for himself. Upon an Occasion of this Sort, Miss W was introduced to him, being before made acquainted with the Purpose, and having consented to the Proposal. She knew very well what she was proceeding to, and consulted only her own Inclinations. She went then willingly and knowingly to Lord B, with whom she freely staid, was well pleas'd with the Reception she met with, and expressed a Desire to go with him to his House in the Country. She staid there agreeable to her own Pleasure, and entirely at her own Disposal, 'til she was brought back by Lord B, in consequence of a Writ of Habeas Corpus. His Lordship knowing well the kind Treatment and civil Usage he had shew'd the Girl, made not the least Demur or Hesitation to obey the Writ, and what pass'd upon this Occasion before Lord M, is his greatest Justification: It is observable, that Miss W, whilst at his Lordship's Country Seat, wrote a Letter with her own Hand to her Father, the Substance of which was, that she was perfectly happy, and in an agreeable Situation, and desired his Acceptance of a Bank-Note of 100 l. which she had begg'd of his Lordship for that Purpose. It is farther observable,

that Miss W appeared perfectly at Ease, walk'd out in the Park without an Attendant, and particularly was present at the drawing a Fish-Pond, his Lordship having the Ice broke to gratify her Palate with the Dish of Fish; so far was she from a Design of starving herself, and he from a Desire of starving her into a Compliance. At the drawing of the Fish-Pond, it happened that one of the Servants fell, or was pushed in, upon which our young Lady (who is represented to have been so inhumanly treated, and under the most racking Torments of Mind) burst out into a loud Laugh. Does this shew the pining disconsolate Prisoner, or the young sprightly Wanton perfectly at Ease?

I shall now relate to you what pass'd before Lord M, upon the Return of the Habeas Corpus; and here I speak from pretty good Authority, as I had it from an eminent Man at the Bar, who told me, he related what Judge declared to him he heard from Lord M himself. He began thus;—There appeared but slight Grounds before Lord M, for granting the Habeas Corpus, and non est all for the Accusation of a Rape. The Evidence of illegal Restraint was this; Miss W was se't at the Window of Lord B's House, and upon being asked, Whether she was confin'd there against her Will? She made no Answer; but the Person who asked the Question, swore, That he understood by her Countenance, that she was confin'd against her Will, but did not dare to speak. Lord M, upon this Surmise, granted the Habeas Corpus, which was immediately obey'd; Lord B producing the Girl in Person, with this Address to Lord M.—This is an Affair of Gallantry, my Lord, and I am no further answerable for it, than that the Lady was brought to me, by a Woman, whom I have employ'd upon such Occasions. However, as it is come to this Pass, I am very glad, that I appear before such a one as your Lordship, one so well acquainted with the World, and who understands and can make Allowances in these Matters. Lord M made no other Reply to this, than in applying himself to the young Woman, whom he acquainted with the Reason of her being brought before him; telling her, it was upon a Suggestion of her being illegally confin'd, against her Will, in the Custody of Lord B. He spok'd to her thus: "You are brought here, in order to recover your Liberty, of which it is said you have been deprived. From this Moment then you are free, for, being of Age to dispose of yourself, I will protect you, whithersoever you choose to go. Your most prudent Step indeed would be to return with your Father, who is present here to receive you. It is not my Province to remind you of the Immorality of the Act, if you do not; but should you choose to return with Lord B, (tho' I mention the Imprudence) I will equally protect you from any Molestation of your Father, as I will from any Attempts of Lord B, in case you choose to go with your Father." Upon this Miss W made Reply, that as she had gone with Lord B, and had staid with him, with her own Consent, so she had been very well us'd by him, and chose to return with him. Lord M said, it was very well; but he must first of all speak to her in private. He accordingly order'd every Body else to withdraw out of the Room; but his Secretary; then he address'd himself to the Girl, telling her, that she was brought before a Person, who was ready to hear every Matter that might have to do with her, and he asked her publicly, whether they were what she made, and what she abided by? She said they were. Nothing now remained but for her to dispose of herself as she pleas'd; but the Father first desired to have an Opportunity of speaking to her a little while in private; which Lord M thought proper to grant. Accordingly Miss W went with her Father, and the young Man, into a Room, where she staid in Conversation for a Quarter of an Hour. She then came again into Lord M's Presence, (Lord B and the rest having remain'd there) with these Words: It is true, my Lord, some Violence has been us'd to me, by Lord B, and therefore I do not choose to return with him, but will go with my Father. Lord M to this, said, I own this is something extraordinary; but as I said, I would protect you, in case you choose to return with Lord B, so I now say, I will equally protect you, as you choose the Part of going with your Father. Therefore, my Lord, (addressing himself to Lord B) you will not meddle with her, at your Peril. Upon this all the Parties went away; no Degree of Force, being in the least intimated from the Girl, amounting to a Rape; and Lord M remaining thoroughly convinc'd from what pass'd before him, there could be no Truth in such an Accusation.

It is material to observe, that Lord M took at this Time the young Man that appear'd with the Father, to be the Brother of Miss W, tho' he has since turn'd out to be the Lover. It is probable, he would not (if he had known that Circumstance) permitted him to have been present with the Father at the private Conversation he desired to have with his Daughter, as we may guess the Consequence that might ensue from such an Interview. For, its being made appear to a young Girl, the Nature of her Situation, the Character of Lord B—laid open in the worst Colours, who after he had obtained his Will, might leave her abandoned to the World, that his Lordship was rich, and could well

make her Reparation for the Injury she must have receiv'd, whether it were with, or against her Consent; that it never would be presumed, that she willingly would have made a Sacrifice of what was most dear and precious to her; but that it would be readily believ'd that some Art, some Influence, something very nearly resembling Force, if not Force itself, must have been us'd to her, to obtain it; that were she, after what she had already declar'd, yet to accuse him of Violence, the Contradiction would only be attributed to Timidity and Surprise; and here was her Lover on the Spot who could then with some Appearance receive her to his Arms again, and stamp her an honest Woman by Marriage, whilst both might live easy by the Reparation Lord B would be oblig'd to make her; I say, upon something of this Sort being represent'd to her, it is easy to imagine it must have its Weight, and will perhaps turn out the best Clue for the unravelling the troublesome Consequences that have since ensued.

ANNAPOLIS, April 21.
TO THE PRINTERS.
I am very sorry to find that none of the peculiar Favourites of APOLLO have exerted their Genius on the Death of that benevolent Man, Doctor HAMILTON. It is certainly a Subject highly worthy their Pencil. The Lines I here with send, are the joint Effusions of a Heart replete with Gratitude for the Medical Services I formerly receiv'd from the Doctor. If they merit a Place in your GAZETTE, you will, by inserting them, oblige your constant Reader.

On the Death of Dr. JOHN HAMILTON. SHOULD bounteous Heav'n this grateful Blessing give, That, free from Pains and Ills, proud Man might live; In Death's cold Urn, HAMILTON ne'er would sleep, Nor would his Friends thus sadly mourn and weep; Still, by his Art, Life's Tide would calmly flow, And pallid Cheeks with new-blown Roses glow; Still, by his Art, PANDORA's gloomy Train, To vivid Health, would yield each Purple Vein.— Death, horrid Tyrant! deaf to a Mother's Tears, Thy Voice, thy awful Force, astonish'd hears; Stops his rude Hand—regrets thy powerful Sway, And raves and groans, and quits his trembling Prey! Health, rosy Cherub! leaves his native Skies, And, gayly smiling, beams in FLAVIA'S Eyes. So, when BOREAS, thund'ring o'er the Plains, Nips the soft Buds, discloses to vernal Rains; The blasted Cowslips droop their pensive Heads, The Snow-tipt Lillies languish on their Beds;— Soon as APOLLO darts his radiant Light, BOREAS, howling, wings his rapid Flight; Wak'd by his Beams, once more the Zephyrs play, And blushing FLOEA feels his gen'ral Ray. The gay-rob'd Flow'rs display their gawdy Hues, Unfold their Cups, and sip the fragrant Dews.— To paint thy Worth, for me, alas! how vain! Such lofty Themes demand POPE's nervous Strain: For me, no Muse entwines th' envied Bays, Friendship alone inspires these feeble Lays.— While Heav'n-born Truth th' generous Soul expands, 'Mid VIRTUES Sons thy Name exalted stands. While VIRGILIUS' Semblance Mortals deign to wear, Rememb'ring thee, they'll drop the streaming Tear. O! then let Peace and ever-smiling Rest, Attend thy hallow'd Shade—within this Breast Thy Mem'ry shall dwell—'til th' cold Hand of Death Close my dim Eye, and Fate denies me Breath. FLAVIA.

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THIS said, for Wisdom, hard the Task, To answer all a Fool can ask; Yet the wife Man gives a Rule, Sometimes to answer e'en a Fool: To his Advice, Submission due, An Answer is return'd to you; In humble Prose, display'd the Case, Plain as the Nose upon your Face. For Persons—Here Boys, bring the Glafs, And let us view which best will pass; Or rather let the Ladies sit, Judges of Beauty and of Wit, By their Decision we'll abide; (Ladies, of Merit, best decide: To gain their Hearts, to please their Eyes, Our sweetest Joy, our dearest Prize; The Influence of their Smiles to prove, Man most excels, when most in Love: Some Merit to my Share must fall, Who deeply am in Love with all) The brighter Eye, the fairer Face, The straighter Form, the comlier Grace, The nobler Air, more gen'rous Soul That warms and animates the Whole, Are Points on which your Judgment turns: (The Heart with warm Impatience burns, Not less the Goddesses; once fir'd, Who to a Preference aspir'd, And left the Shepherd to decide The Cause of Beauty, Wisdom, Pride; Who would not with his Taste have fell in, 'T' enjoy'd one beauteous as Helen?) But, no Advantages to take, Come, Clericus, Appearance make: No blushing—but stand forth in View, Let the fair Court first judge of you.

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broken Mose, his Hunter's Coat, Not all his Fathers worth a Goat; Nor did one generous Act for any, Nor pay'd a Bill, nor squeez'd a Penny from Morn to Night, with Tiddy in his Peaque Drink, and Gain his St...

With such a Varlet to contend, No Honour's won, and gain'd, no E 50 plain a Question to propose, Would but arraign the Sense of those Who Nature's choicest Gifts inherit, And all are sworn the Friends of Me

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