

weavers themselves, for whose sake it was written, being upon the Jury, found him guilty. This would be enough to discourage any Man from endeavouring to do you good, when you will either neglect him or fly in his face for his pains, and when he must expect only danger to himself and loss of money, perhaps to his ruin.

However, I cannot but warn you once more of the manifest destruction before your eyes, if you do not behave yourselves as you ought.

I will therefore first tell you the plain story of the fact ; and then I will lay before you, how you ought to act in common prudence, and according to the Laws of your Country.

The fact is thus, it having been many years since Copper half-pence or farthings were last coined in this Kingdom, they have been for some time very scarce, and many Counterfeits passed about under the name of Raps : several applications were made to England, that we might have Liberty to Coin new ones, as in former times we did ; but they did not succeed. At last one Mr. Wood a mean ordinary Man, a Hard-Ware dealer, procured a Patent under His Majesty's Broad Seal to Coin Fourscore and Ten Thousand Pounds in Copper for this Kingdom, which patent however did not oblige any one here to take them, unless they pleased. Now you must know, that the half-pence and farthings in England pass for very little more than they are worth. And if you should beat them to Pieces, and sell them to the brazier, you would not lose above a penny in a shilling. But Mr. Wood made his half-pence of such Base Metal, and so much smaller than the English ones, that the brazier would not give you above a penny of good money for a Shilling of his ; so that this Sum of Fourscore and Ten Thousand Pounds in Gold and Silver, must be given for trash that will not be worth above Eight or Nine Thousand Pounds real value. But this is not the worst, for Mr. Wood when he pleases, may by stealth send over another and another