

allowance of £900 a-year, devoted one-half to private benevolence, which I quote, and could much enlarge, for the benefit of those retainers in the Minerva or soft-pudding press* of Leadenhall Street, whose effusions teem with fabrication and invective against our Universities, Oxford in particular, which, if not originating with themselves, (query), are at least the invention of unprincipled hirelings and discarded menials.

Mr. R——, replied to certain observations of our second master :

“They are demagogues who, under the pretence of the people’s rights, diffuse treason and sedition through a whole community, and the drift of whose writings, when able to write, is to lower sterling worth to a level with the groundlings, and raise street drainings into elements of purity. Those honorable principles that have exalted our country amongst the nations of the earth, are assailed, and in many instances endangered by the sin-working hydra of your new light ones. Let him that would deceive and over-reach another, first count the cost,—detection and infamy, and then I should imagine he would never attempt either.

“Those misdeeds and offences so generally infesting large towns and cities, are the penalties which population pays to morality, nevertheless, saying nothing of her wondrous secular and spiritual advantages, I believe London to be not only the largest and best regulated, but the freest from crime, and actual abode of integrity and virtue, of any other capital I could name. I speak not of her blemishes but her amenities, which every one may attain who has the inclination to do so: he that wilfully or willingly does wrong, must not, nor has he any right to blame others for doing so. I hope that her citizens will estimate the privileges they enjoy, if not, let them visit those of other countries, which, I am of opinion, will speedily check the growth of their unbelief, always remembering, as also must the cavalier and skeptic, that even heaven had its fallen angels, whilst Eden was lost through listening to the tempter.

“Let us therefore shun every avenue to temptation, and not endanger our own pretensions to moral obligations, by endeavoring to discover the want of them in others, since they too often save us that trouble by forcing themselves

* Which turns out ready-made circulating libraries of novels and romances complete for localities of the million, at a price next to nothing, and all bran new.