

exclaimed the leddy, in a rage at the simpleton's insinuation, which was uttered without the slightest sentiment of reproach. "But," she added, "ye'll see what it is to stand wi' a het face afore the court the morn."

"I'll no gang," replied Walter; "I hae nae broo o' courts and law-pleas."

"But ye shall gang, if the life be in your body."

"I'll do nothing but what Mr Keelevin bids me."

"Mr Keelevin," exclaimed the leddy, "ought to be drum't out o' the town for bringing sic tribulation intil my family. What business had he, wi' his controversies, to jumble law and justice in the manner he has done the day?" And while she was thus speaking, George and Mr Pitwinnoch made their appearance.

"Hech, man, Geordie!" said Watty; "I'm thinking, instead o' making me daft, ye hae de-mentit my mother, poor body; for she's come hame wi' a dyte proceeding out of her mouth like a two-edged sword."

"If you were not worse than ye are," said his brother, "you would have compassion on your mother's feelings."

"I'm sure," said Watty, "I hae every compassion for her; but there was nae need o' her to wish to make me daft. It's a foul bird that fyles its ain nest; and really, to speak my mind, I think, Geordie, that you and her werena wise,