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## INTRODUCTION.

**T**HE following Trial has for its object the discovery of a crime the most atrocious, of the kind, that ever the depravity of human nature could justify one man in laying to the charge of another. The killing of a fellow-creature, though unaccompanied by circumstances of malice or cruelty, always shocks the mind, even upon recital, and, when accompanied with fore-thought and barbarity, and characterized by the name of MURDER, never fails to raise in us the feelings of indignation and abhorrence.—But in the present instance our emotions are carried still farther ;—we are not only struck with the enormity of the crime itself, but view it attended by so black a train of concurrent aggravating guilt, that astonishment and terror are superadded to indignation and abhorrence.

When we reflect upon the deliberate malice with which the deed has been meditated, planned and perpetrated ; when we consider that it had been the determination of some months standing, and that a week's journey, at an inclement season of the year, through the most desert parts of the country, had been undertaken for the express purpose of executing the abominable scheme, and when we view the obstinate malignity of the perpetrators, whose flinty hearts neither the kind reception nor cordial friendship of the deceased and his family could soften or shake from their diabolical purpose, with all the concomitant circumstances of their guilt, we pause with amazement at the act !

To offer any further comment upon the atrociousness of the crime is unnecessary. The unhappy objects of this Trial have suffered the last punishment of the law, and by a voluntary confession of their guilt and by every  
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