

129
136
139

141
149
155
165

DEDICATION.

TO THE

RIGHT HON. LORD JOHN RUSSELL.



MY LORD,

Your Lordship will, no doubt, be at a loss to understand how it is that you have had the honour of this dedication conferred upon you, which you have so little reason to expect, and (as you have never seen, and probably never heard of, the author) must be conscious have done so little to him to deserve, and it is but reasonable and just that I should explain the motives that actuated me. Dedications are mendacious effusions, we all know, and honest men begin to be ashamed of them, as reflecting but little honour on the author or the patron; but in a work of humour an avowal of the truth may well find a place, and be classed among the best jokes it contains. I have selected your Lordship, then, as my Mæcenas, not on account of your quick perceptions of the ridiculous, or your powers of humour, but solely on account of the very extensive patronage at your disposal. Your Lordship is a colonial minister, and I am a colonial author; the connexion between us, therefore, in this relation, is so