

they had for many years deemed for lost. The satisfaction my presence gave them, of which they had been so long deprived, it is not to be expressed; and the comfort I enjoyed in the prospect of seeing my nearest relations, was in some degree a solace for the miseries I had undergone. But, even in this, hard fortune pursued me still, and my troubles were not yet at an end. New enemies started up, who, as if the abettors of those who laid the snare for me when a child, now contrived a new species of captivity for me, when I was a man. They begrudged me my liberty, and the freedom I took to relate my misfortunes; in order, therefore, to suppress a disagreeable truth, they again deprived me of it for a time; destroyed my means of subsistence, and loaded me with infamy and reproach; from which, thanks to the justice of my cause and the integrity of my judges, I have at last been honourably delivered. KIDNAPPING, a species of trade followed by these monsters of impiety for the lust of gain, may be compared to the practices of the savages formerly mentioned, who, to gratify their propensity to mischief, cut, mangle, burn, and destroy, all the innocent people they can catch. And surely the guilt of the kidnapped must be much greater than that of the savage race, who boast not of humanity. If the latter commit such crimes, it is against those they imagine to be their enemies, for the sake of plunder; but the former are void of all excuse. What then can some of the *worthy* merchants of Aberdeen say for themselves. Prompted by avarice, and despising the laws of God and all civilized nations, have they not been guilty of this atrocious crime? And does not the blood of the innocent, several of whom have died under the hands of their cruel masters, cry against them for vengeance? Certain it is, that this execrable practice of kidnapping was put in execution

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