

written and I breathe again !—They no doubt, mistook us for a party of tradesmen of that sort, than which nothing could be farther from our thoughts. However, that we might not be annoyed by such mistakes in future, I determined on putting the boat out into the middle of the stream. ‘Don’t Twaddel!’ exclaimed the whole party, as with one voice, for we had hitherto kept close in shore, because the water being shallower, it afforded us some chance of succor if anything should happen to our daring and adventurous crew:—as Smith observed, in his dry way, ‘It would be very disagreeable to be picked up wringing wet and very dead. But the command being in my hands I was resolute on being obeyed, and so out I steered into the dangerous bosom of the Thames.

I now, I may say, we, went on swimmingly. The rowers were attentive to their duty, and perspired with pleasure at their successful exertions: the ladies chatted pleasantly with each other on the fashions and upon Miss Wilke’s expected marriage with the gallant Major Morris of the Middlesex militia; and now and then encouraged our endeavors to please with their lovely smiles, we had every appearance of being as happy as beauty and bravery could render us. About this time, I noticed that Jones looked somewhat deplorably at his hands they were as red as beet-root in the palms, with symptoms of blistering. If there is anything on which Jones is sensitive it is on the whiteness of his hands; it as an amiable weakness, which even the mighty mind of Lord Byron gave way to. Smith who has a deal of malicious humor about him, comforted him by telling him that he would lose all the skin they had “to their backs,” but in three months he would have in its place a new and much whiter one. Jones looked quite horror-struck!—Miss Fanny Smith then advised him to put on his gloves, which he did, and that made them considerably worse. A boat full of persons passed us at this moment, and we were again saluted with, “Go it tailors!” Jones who was sore in one respect, and in many other respects very mettlesome, was for running them aboard and calling them to an account: but I explained, that it was