

SKETCHES OF CHARACTER.

"To hold the Mirror up to nature."

I might undoubtedly say this is "a true story" but unfortunately the world pays little regard to names; whatever may be the peculiarities of one, or the excentricities of another the world will pronounce it overdrawn,—or fiction;—nevertheless the sketch of character I now give, is true, essentially true, and I could name many living persons, as the law requires to substantiate the fact, and give evidences of its truth. Uncle Toby was a bachelor—one of the best of his kind—good hearted and generous (so his nephews and nieces say) although some persons think one hundred pounds (out of a plumb) to charitable funds, was not an evidence of it; he was fond of good living, and money—Well! Uncle Toby amassed it by the sweat of his brow and lived not to enjoy; but death who is no respecter of persons, just took him off in the nick of time; for some dozens of nephews and nieces to squander and dash—*brag and boast*, that they were most fortunate, in being born *after poor Uncle Toby*, and thereby enjoying the reward of his labours, and hard earnings. Ah! poor Uncle Toby, he had all his honors "in death" was kept in state for three days and followed to the grave, by his heart-wrung nephews and *ninety mourners*, then came the opening of the will, tears were checked, noses wiped,—some were astonished, others dismayed. As is usual in such cases, there were agreeable and disagreeable disappointments, as certain favourites expect a *little* more, and others less, although *all* live in hopes, poor Miss Bella had but four thousand while her sisters had six; but never mind, each were to give their mite and Miss Bella was to weigh as heavy as the rest, a promise made at that moment of *independance*, but soon forgotten.

Ah! said Miss Dulcy, I thank heaven Master Tommy is not better off than us, notwithstanding he *loadied* after Uncle Toby, eating cold round every day at twelve, purposely to please him—favourite indeed!—said she with a toss of the head, he might have saved his stomach. The aside was neither unheard