

forward to the future, and if, in the retrospect, there be ought that can soothe it into sympathy, or beguile it of its cares, how eagerly do we invite it to our kindlier affections! How insensibly linger on the joys of our childhood, which, like others that have long since departed, to return again no more, shine brighter and more sweetly in proportion to their distance. They are as the eyelids of the morning, or first flowers of spring, lovely it is true, but then, alas! how short-lived and fleeting! My reflections were sorrowful and cheerless, verging, like some blighted hope, on a termination as desolate, since it was there that I made up my mind to leave the paternal roof—a roof that was now, on many accounts, irksome—nevertheless this cost me many pangs to accomplish; for the abode of our earlier years, how much so ever it may embitter the sweet emotions that possess us, is still where we drew our first breath, and was never yet quitted without anguish or a sigh: a certain look behind—lingering and long—hard to be conceived, certainly so expressed—that no tongue can utter nor any pen describe.

I was soon after found in London, where I became intimate with a Mr R——, whom detraction left destitute ere yet of age, which, had he forgotten a higher power, must soon have made him what those maligners desired: he bore this trial with calm resignation, going on his way in uncomplaining silence, but abstracted from that world which had so early shown its frailty and weakness. One of the chief ornaments to our metropolis, passing all its dignities with unsullied reputation, now gathered to his fathers, originated an imprudence which drove him from his native place. Ultimately he arrived in London, where, from the humblest offices, he gradually rose to the highest distinctions: whilst living he was honoured, and when dead lamented. Such a character in the hands of the world, would have been lost to society and himself. If we were as zealous in concealing, as we are in exposing, a first false step in others, 'twould be the means, much stronger than any other, for preventing a second, besides exercising a duty so beautifully inculcated by our Lord on rebuking the accusers of the woman, "Let him that is without sin amongst you cast the first stone at her."

For the short time Mr R—— appears, I shall represent him, than whom none was better fitted for the arduous office of teacher: he settled in Mr H——'s school, W——, Herts, as locum tenens, alias deputy, alias assistant, alias tutor, alias lastly and hatefully usher. Mr H—— and an