## PREFACE.

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If we are struck with any sense of admiration at the talent displayed by the perverse individual before us, we shall be led to lament, that so much ability should be mis-directed, and employed only to lead the possessor to misfortune, and an ignominious punishment, or to extricate him from dangers to which vice only has exposed him.

If we look at the toils, sufferings, and disappointments of Henry Frederic Moon—at the ingenuity called into action for his safety, for no purpose but that of relieving him from the consequences of his crimes, we cannot fail to repeat, within ourselves, the observation — How much easier it is, to be an honest man than a rogue !

and in a company of the presence of the

A. Marthank . . .

If we contemplate the reward of all the machinations which are exhibited, how much shall we not be struck with the reflection—that knavery, after all, is but a poor trade !—and, that with a most moderate comparative share of talent, an honest man may succeed better than Henry Frederic Moon! What was the amount of all his gains, when most successful ? and to what has he not, from time to time, been reduced, upon the failure of so many wily schemes ?

The moral utility, therefore, of the example held out to us in these pages, is general, since it embraces a practical and lively example of the great

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