

prospects or hopes on this side of the grave concenter in the preservation of my friendships, and the tranquillity of my conscience."

—Those who are not strangers to delicate sensibility, find in this pathetic representation, no imaginary distress. Ambition does not willingly renounce her projects ; affluence reluctantly gives way to penury ; and rank and power are not easily resigned. The mind, accustomed to the busy pursuit of honours, is too restless for the calm enjoyments of friendship ; ill suit the humble arrangements of narrow competence, where boundless profusion has rendered every gratification a habit ; and however comfortable the shelter which conscience may afford, we are apt to consider it as the unwilling refuge of disappointment and despair.

Such, however, is the condition to which you have subjected yourself. Will you pardon me, Sir, if I endeavour to prove to you that the fault is your own ? I feel for your condition, and I would not wantonly insult your distress. I consider you as a brave, honourable, but imprudent man ; and most an
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