

Vice Punished, and Virtue Rewarded;

BEING THE

HISTORY

OF

Mr. Tommy Thoroughgood,

AND

Mr Francis Froward,

Two Apprentices to the same Master.

Published at the request of several Gentlemen of the Common Council of the City of London, for the benefit of all, especially young people.

Abhor that which is evil cleave to that which is good,

EDINBURGH:

Printed this present Year.



THE
H I S T O R Y
OF

Mr. Tommy Thoroughgood,

A N D

Mr. Francis Froward.

Two Apprentices to the same Master.

MR. Thomas Thoroughgood, the younger son of a country gentleman, was put out apprentice to an eminent tradesman in Cheapside. The master finding his business increase, was obliged to take another about a year after, whose name was Francis Froward.

Thomas had behaved exceedingly well, was very diligent and honest, as well as good; he used to say his prayers constantly every morning and night; he never went to play when he should be
at

at Church or about his master's business, never was know to tell a lie, nor ever staid when he was sent on an errand. These rare qualifications had gained him the affection of his master and mistress, and made him a favourite in the family before Francis came to them. It was in a great measure owing to master Tommy's character in the neighbourhood, that master Forward was induced to comply with the Master's demands, not doubting but his son, in such a happy situation, and with a companion of so sweet a disposition, would one day turn out to his satisfaction, and be a comfort to him in his old age.

Francis, in the first year of his apprenticeship, began to discover the natural bent of his inclination. He chose to associate himself with naughty boys in the streets, and seemed to place his whole delight in loose and idle diversions; he neglected the business of the shop, when at home, and intirely forgot it when he was abroad. These, and many more indiscretions of the like nature, Tommy Thoroughgood

4 *The HISTORY of*
Thoroughwood concealed at first from
his Master, tho' not without some inward
uneasiness.

In the fourth years service, our youae
spark, who was an only child, heir to a
pretty fortune, gave further proofs of
his vicious turn of mind, and frequent-
ly launched into follies and debaucheries
of a more heinous nature; for now he
made no scruple of absenting himself
from Church on the Lord's day; always
staid out late when he knew his Master
was engaged in company, and at such
times very rarely returned home sober;
nay, he had sometimes the assurance to
lie out of his Master's house all night.
In order to deter him from pursuing this
wicked course of life, Mr Thorough-
good threatened to inform his Master of
his scandalous behaviour and to
his parents of his misconduct. U
las! all these menaces proved ineffect-
ual, and instead of working out of his
reformation, served only to heighten his
resentment, and to raise daily squabbles
and animosities between them. Here-
upon

T. Thoroughgood and F. Froward. 5
upon Mr. Thoroughgood, finding all his
good offices hitherto thrown away, at
length determined no more to meddle in
the affair, or even to offer his brother's
advice; but to leave the unhappy youth
to follow the dictates of his own perverse
will: being resolv'd at the same time to
take particular care that he should not,
in any of his mischievous frolics de-
fraud his Master, and thereby cast an o-
dium upon his fellow-apprentice.

The Master was chosen Alderman of
the ward, and Mr Thoroughgood was
out of his time in the same year, and
unblameable conduct, had now the
whole management of the trade, as well
abroad as at home, committed to his
care and inspection. This great charge
obliged him to keep a stricter eye over
Francis' behaviour who was just en-
tering into the last year of his appren-
ticeship, and imagined his actions were
above cognizance of one, who the other
day was but his equal; and on this ac-
count would neither hear or bear his re-
proof, nor hearken to his admonition;
but

but continued to riot in all the follis and
and degeneracies of human nature, till
his apprenticeship was expired. So true it
is, " That the wicked hateth reproof,
" but the wise man lendeth his ear to
" instruction,

Mr. Francis having been for a long
while impatient of a servile life was now
become his own Master, and seemed eag-
er of putting himself upon a level with
his late companion. To effect this, he
goes down to his father, and prevails up-
on him to set him up in business, that
hes might trade for himself. The reins
were no sooner laid on his neck, than he
gave a loose to his sensual appetites, and
in little more than four years, had a
statute of bankruptcy taken out against
him. The unexpected news of this fat-
tal event, instantly broke his mother's
heart, nor did the old gentleman sur-
vive her long. Hereupon our heir was
obliged to sell the personal and mortgage
the real estate, to procure his liberty,
and to satisfy the assignees. In this
sinking situation after the days of mourn-
ing

T. Thoroughgood and F. Froward. 7
ing were over, he left the house his father lived in, and returned again to London, where he purchased a handsome equipage, commenced the fine gentleman, frequented the balls, masquerades, play-houses, routs, drums, &c. &c. and cut as good a figure as the best of them. But here let us leave him for a while, and turn our eyes to a worthier object.

In the same space of time which Mr. Froward took to squander away a good estate, Mr. Thoroughgood had by his own industry, and from a small fortune, gained one considerably better, and was in a fair way of encreasing it. The former made pleasure his business, but the latter made business his pleasure, and was rewarded accordingly. The alderman, who by his own application, and Mr. Thoroughgood's assiduity, was grown very rich, had no child now living but one daughter, of whom both he and his lady were extremely fond; they had nothing so much at heart, as to see her well settled in the world. She had many suitors, but resolved to encourage

courage none without the consent of her parents, who would often, when by themselves tell her that it was their joint opinion, she could not dispose of herself better than to Mr. Thomas, and would frequently ask how she liked him? for they would be unwilling to marry her against her own inclination. Her usual answer was, "Your choice shall be mine; my duty shall never be made subservient to any sensual passion." This reply was not so full and expressive as they expected; and as mothers are commonly very dexterous in finding out their daughter's maladies, Madam had good reason to believe, from some observations made on Miss's behaviour, that her affections were already fixed, and that she was deeply in love with somebody else, which was the cause of her unusual anxiety. Hereupon, as she was sitting at work one evening, in a melancholy posture, they called her, and desired to be informed whether the husband they proposed was disagreeable to her, if so, she should chuse for herself.

The young lady (after some hesitation) with blushes, confessed her regard for Mr. Thoroughgood; which gave infinite satisfaction to the alderman and his lady, who were overjoyed at the prospect they had of marrying their daughter to a person of such prudence, integrity and honour.

The next day, as soon as dinner was over, the alderman and his lady withdrew, and left the two lovers together all the evening; from this interview, they became sensible of each other's approaching happiness, and about a month after were joined together, to the great satisfaction of all parties concerned. From this day the bridegroom was taken into partnership, and transacted the whole business himself. In process of time his father-in-law died, and left him in possession of all his substance. He succeeded him also in dignity, and after having served the office of sheriff, was in a few years called to the chair.

Mr.

Mr. Froward, whom we left a while ago, pursuing his pleasures and wicked inclinations, had long before this time been reduced to poverty, and like many other thoughtless wretches, betook himself to the highway and gaming-table, in hopes of recovering a lost fortune. He had followed this destructive trade with some success, above three years without being discovered; but was at length taken near Enfield, and brought to his trial at the Old-Bailey, during his fellow-apprentice's mayoralty, and cast for his life. When he was brought to the bar to receive sentence, his Lordship recollecting Mr. Froward's name, examined who he was, and asked if he was not the person that served his time with Mr. Alderman —, in Cheapside. This he positively denied; but notwithstanding he used all possible means to disguise himself, his person and speech betrayed him. My Lord animated with the principles of compassion and benevolence, and imagining that his design of concealing himself in this wretched situation, might very probably proceed from

from shame or despair, took no further notice of it in court, but forgetting his present disgrace, as well as his former arrogance and indiscretion, privately procured his sentence to be changed into transportation for life.

The ship in which Mr. Froward embarked drove by stress of weather into a certain port in Jamaica, where he in less than ten days was sold to a noted planter, and doomed to perpetual slavery. You may imagine how shocking this prospect must appear to a gentleman, who had just before squandered away a good estate in indolence and pleasure, who never knew what it was to work, nor had ever given himself time to think upon the nature of industry. However, he no sooner began to reflect upon his present wretched situation, and his late providential deliverance from death, than he also began to repent of his former transgressions; and finding himself in a strange country, unknown to any person about him, he patiently submitted his neck to the yoke, and endured his
fer-

fervility with an uncommon fortitude of mind. In the first place, he determined, during all the time of his labour, to offer up continual thanksgivings to Almighty God for his manifold mercies bestowed on so unworthy a creature, and to devote all his leisure hours to the duty of repentance. His next resolution was to obey his Master's commands, to serve him faithfully, and to perform whatever business was imposed on him, so far, and so long as health and strength would permit; not doubting but the same God, who had preserved him hitherto, in such a wonderful manner, would accept the oblations of a contrite heart, and enable him to go through it with courage and cheerfulness.

the first month's service, as he himself told me, went very hard with him. His hands blistered, his feet grew sore and raw, and the heat of the climate was almost insupportable; but as custom makes every station familiar, before three months were expired, all these grievances were at an end; and he, naturally

endured with spirit of emulation, would not suffer himself to be outdone by any of his fellow-slaves. The superintendent observing his extraordinary assiduity, could not help taking notice of him, and would frequently give him encouragement, either by calling him off to go on a trivial errand, or by thrusting some money into his hand. He behaved in this manner near two years, when his Master was informed of his good disposition, and removed him from that laborious employment to an easier, where he had more frequent opportunities of paying adoration to that Almighty Being, who supported him under all his afflictions. In these intervals, he was generally found with a book in his hand, or on his knees, from which practice, he received great consolation, as he often assured me.

At the expiration of three years, Sir Thomas Thoroughgood, who made previous enquiry after his fellow-pretice's behaviour abroad, sent orders to his agent in Jamaica, to purchase Mr. Froward's

Froward's freedom, and to advance him 100*l.* that he might be enabled to get his own livelihood; but, at the same time gave strict orders to his friend, not to let Mr. Froward know who was his bentfactor, and to lay his Master under the like injunction. In a short time after, Mr. Froward was discharged from slavery; but did not express so much joy on the occasion, as might be expected. From the good usage he met with in servitude, and the unusual favours he received from the superintendent, as well as the planter, he had conceived a great liking for the latter, and seemed to part with him not without some inward reluctance, though with apparent surprize, which was much heightened by the additional favour of a note for a hundred pounds payable upon sight to Mr. Francis Froward, or order, delivered to him by the same hand, soon after he received the discharge before mentioned.

During this confusion, the gentleman who really had a value for his late servant, told him, he was welcome to be at his house till he was settled, and that he

would do all the good offices in his power to promote his future welfare. Mr Froward replied, " Sir, you cannot do me
" greater service, than to let me know
" who is my generous benefactor; because it is incumbent upon me to make
" some acknowledgement." The Master positively refused to do this, and turned of the discourse, by asking how he intended to dispose of himself and money. " Sir " says he, " I am not unacquainted with the nature of trade, and labour is now become habitual to me,
" and as I am well skilled in the cultivation of the sugar cane, I would willingly rent a small plantation of that kind, and work upon it for myself." The planter approved of this design and promised him assistance.

In about a month after, Mt. Froward met with a bargain, agreeable to his substance, and worked upon it as hard as if he had been a real slave, with this difference only, that he could now spare more time in the service of his all-powerful Redeemer. In the interim, his late
Master

Master procured him a wife with a handsome fortune, who had a sugar-work of her own, and some negroes: he purchased more, and by his industry thrived again, and in a few years laid up 1000*l.* in specie.

In this comfortable state, nothing gave him uneasiness, but that he could not come to the knowledge of his kind benefactor; never was man more anxious to shew his gratitude, or more solicitous to find out his friend: One day, as he was at his devotion, a strange gentleman came to his habitation and desired to see him. He was no sooner admitted, than he accosted him in the following manner: “ Mr. Floward, I am com-
 “ mander of the Dove frigate, whose
 “ principal owner is Sir Thomas Tho-
 “ roughgood, and am just arrived from
 “ England: By Sir Thomas’s orders, I
 “ am to inform you, that his Jamaica
 “ Agent is dead, and he has made cho-
 “ ice of you to succeed him here in this
 “ station, I have a commission from him
 “ for you in my pocket, to dispose of
 “ my

T. Thoroughgood and F. Froward. 17

“ my cargo, and to freight me again
“ for my voyage home. He never
“ would own it, but I am well assured
“ he is the person who saved you from
“ bondage, and was the sole instrument
“ of your present prosperity.” Nothing
could give Mr Froward so great pleasure and satisfaction, as this last piece of intelligence; he knew not how to make the captain welcome enough, he kept him all night, and in the morning made him a present of a hoghead of rum. He made all the possible dispatch in disposing of his cargo, and freighted him out with the utmost expedition. With the rest of the goods, he sent Sir Thomas ten hogheads of sugar, and as many of rum, for a present, with the following letter.

Honoured Sir,

Transported with joy, and drowned in tears, I send this testimony of my esteem, of which I humbly hope your acceptance, as of those small tokens of my gratitude, with which it is accompanied. Next under God, 'tis to you, dear sir, that I owe my life,
my

18 *The HISTORY of*
my liberty, and my all. Happy me, had I
listened to your advice in my non-age;
happy still, as by your means. I have been
directed to the paths of virtue. 'Tis to
you I am indebted for my present comfort-
able situation, and the dawning prospect
of future happiness: the bills of lading, &c.
*are sent by Mr **** and all your business*
here, with which I am intrusted, shall be
executed with the utmost diligence and fi-
delity. I have only to add my prayers for
the continuation of your life and health,
who have been so beneficial to many, but
more particulary to,

Honour'd sir,

Your most humble, most oblig'd,
tho' most unworthy servant,

FRANCIS FROWARD.

Sir Thomas was highly pleas'd with the purpo,t of his letter, tho' he rail'd the captain for letting him know to whom he was oblig'd for his freedom. The same ship was sent the next season on the same voyage, when the captain was order'd to pay Mr. Froward the full price for the rum and sugar he had sent

T. Thoroughgood and F. Froward. 19
to the knight, and to deliver him the
following letter.

MR. F R O W A R D,

Sir,

*I thank you for the acknowledgement
you made for the good offices I did you, and
shall ever esteem the present as it was in-
tended; but have neither power nor incli-
nation to rob you of any thing you have ac-
quired by dint of merit. My design is, to
add to your acquisitions, and not to dimi-
nish them, as you will experience; only
persevere in your present course of life, and
you will make me ample amends for all I
have done, or can do for you. I am, sir,*

Your real friend,

T. THOROUGHGOOD.

Mr. Froward, who was uneasy that
his friend refused his present, continued
in a thriving condition for several years.
And now his wife died without issue;
he, grown very rich, and advanced in
years, disposed of all the sugar-work,
and left off all manner of business, ex-
cept

20 *The HISTORY of*
cept that of Sir Thomas Thoronghgood's. At length he himself was seized with a pestilential fever, and carried off in a few days. He bore the torture of his distemper with exemplary patience, and met his approaching destiny with an intrepidity of soul scarce to be paralleled.

That you may the better judge of his sentiments of gratitude, I have herewith sent a copy of his last will.

In the name of God, Amen. I Francis Froward of——, in Jamaica, being of sound mind and memory, do hereby make my last Will and Testament, in form and manner following, that is to say:

Imprimis I bequeath my soul to Almighty God that gave it, hoping and fully trusting, that I shall be saved and made eternally happy by the merits of my dear Redeemer Jesus Christ, who suffered for me and all mankind.

The

Item. As the poor convicts in prison, where I had once the misfortune to be confined, are not attended, and instructed as the ought to be, by persons who seek their eternal salvation; I do give and bequeath fifty pounds a-year, to purchase for their use such books as the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of London, and sheriffs of London and Middlesex shall think proper to put into their hands.

Item As the laws of England, however wisely constructed, have made no provision for poor people born in distant parts, and become miserable here, but left them to perish in the streets, lanes, and public places; I do give and bequeath five hundred pounds a-year, to be laid out for their relief in such a manner as shall seem most agreeable to the Lord-mayor of London, for the time being, and to the trustees, that be nominated by my executors.

Item And as many poor tradesmen and labourers are artfully seduced and
per-

22 *The HISTORY of*
persuaded, to enter themselves on board
merchant ships for this and other colon-
ies in his Majesty's Dominions, and are
afterwards at sea, unwarily drawn in to
indent themselves servants to the owners
of the vessel, and from that moment
commence slaves; and as such are sold
in the public markets of the colonies,
and generally ill-treated; I do give and
bequeath five hundred pounds a-year
for the redemption of such unhappy
people, and for the prosecution of those
who have been the abettors and contri-
vers of their ruin.

Item As gratitude is of all obligations
the greatest and most acceptable, I do
give and bequeath to my dear friend Mr
Thomas Thoroughgood, Merchant in
London, who saved me from an igno-
minious death, and redeemed me from
slavery, all the rest and residue of my
real and personal estate; and I do nom-
inate and appoint him, and his heirs ex-
ecutors for ever. In witness whereof, I
have hitherto set my hand and seal, this
third day of May, 1788.

FRANCIS FROWARD.

Witness }
Thomas Witness, }
John Wilson, }
Richard Jones }

Something Odd.

THE fam'd Poets of Greece,
Were but all of a piece,
And pretended the gift of some god ;
The Poets, &c.
Yet believe me, their art,
Was at length to import,
Something whimsical clever and odd,
Yet, &c.

So with moderns we find,
That this vein of the mind,
Reigns from monarch quite down to
the clod.
And tho' palaces strike,
Yet the cottage alike,
Has its pleasure because it is odd.

E'en the Prude in her way,
Cries each fool has his day,
So for once I will follow the mode,

Let us quit the dull sage,
And since cares don't engage,
I'll be cheerful because it is odd.

May the wife who from home,
Scarce venturer to roam,
For this once too will venture abroad ;
And tho' husbands will rule,
Yet she cries I'm a fool,
If to day I can't dare to be odd.

Thus odd folks under heaven,
May of odd things make even,
And of all my experience ease the load ;
Then for my sake this day,
Leave your cares as they may,
And to Marybone come and be odd.

F I N I S .