### THE LONDON GUIDE, AND STRANGER'S SAFEGUARD AGAINST THE CHEATS, SWINDLERS, AND PICKPOCKETS THAT ABOUND WITHIN THE BILLS OF MORTALITY; FORMING A PICTURE OF LONDON, AS REGARDS ACTIVE LIFE

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The London Guide, and Stranger's Safeguard Against the Cheats, Swindlers, and Pickpockets that Abound within the Bills of Mortality; Forming a Picture of London, as Regards Active Life by Anonymous

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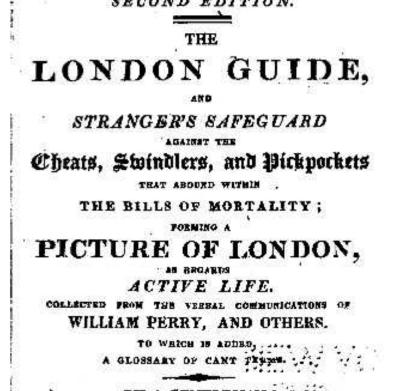
## THE LONDON GUIDE, AND STRANGER'S SAFEGUARD AGAINST THE CHEATS, SWINDLERS, AND PICKPOCKETS THAT ABOUND WITHIN THE BILLS OF MORTALITY; FORMING A PICTURE OF LONDON, AS REGARDS ACTIVE LIFE

Trieste



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BY A GENTLEMAN, WHO EAN MADE THE POLICE OF THE METRIPOLIS: AN OBJECT OF ENQUERT TWENTY-DWD TELES:

#### LONDON:

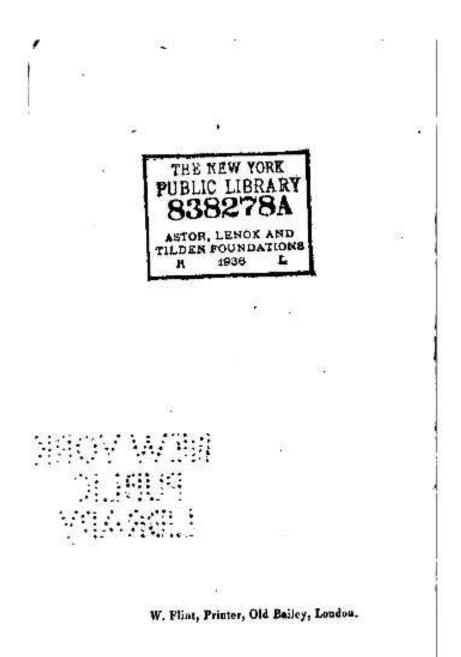
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# ANALYTICAL TABLE

OF

### CONTENTS.

INTRODUCTION iv. Vocabulary x.

J. OUT DOOR DELINQUENCIES : Inn Yards and Coaches 1. Hangers on 8. Hackney men 10. Smashing 13.

- Of Walking the Streets 14. Picking Pockets 17. Crowds 18. Gangs 19. Resorts 20. Stagging 21. Manuers 23.
  - Violence 27. Women 28. Boys 31.

Of Hustling 32. Footpade 34. Women ib. Tripping up 35. Falling down 37. Running 42, Call 44.

Of Highwaymen 46. Arms 48.

II. INN DOOR TRICKS : Sharpers 48. Wagering Kiddies 49. Cards 53. Low Games 54. High Games 60. Greeks and Legs 61. Do's 62. Plucking 64.

Money-Droppers 69. Ring-Droppers 71. Kidnappers, False Accusers, Trappers and Crimps 72. Subornation 77.

Pretended Officers 78. Of Searching 80. Smnggling 82. Informers 83. Smuggled Articles 86. Private Stills 88. Duffers 91. Jobbers 95. Barkers 98. Mock Auctions 99.

III. MINCELLANGOR OPPENDES. In perombulating the Streets 102, Stall Keepers 104, Clothes Shops 105.

Street Pilferers 105. Prowlers 108. Dodgars 110. restitutes 114. Wiles 116. flags 120. Facey men Oris/6 Macig 36 Prostitutes 114. 121. Bon Ton 122. Bully 126. Force 127. Midnight Reggnrs 130. Box Lobby 136. Luze 137, Peggars 140, Bold ones 141, Sneaks 142. Execution 144.

IV. HOUSE-BREAKERS 140. Preventives 148, Arms 149. Jack '52. Murders 155. Defence 158. Shopwindows 160. Snop-Lierans 162. Women 164. Heavy Goods 167. SMARIERA 172. Forgecies 174.

V. MINOR CHEATS 174. Pretenders to Literature 175. Mock Porsum 176, Pretended Doctors 179. Lawyers 181. Obtaining money 185. Costermongers 189. Register Offices 190 Latteries and Goes 193. Game Publicans 186. Brewer and Distiller 200, Sycophants 2 3, Spongers 207. Swindlers 209. Reputation 2/2. Bunks 2.7. Recrivers 223.

VI. OF CONSPIRATORS and INFORMERS 227.

12

### INTRODUCTION.

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WARN a stranger first arrives in this overgrown city, and finds, upon elighting at the inn, that he has still some mikes perhaps to go before he can see his friends, he is naturally anxious for advice how to reach them in asfety, with his huggage. But, if this be the case with those who have got friends, what is the dread of such as have a home to seek, husiness to look after, or a place of service to obtain, without a friend to guide their steps, or a candid person to warn them of their danger; to tell them of the precipices, pit falls, and moral turpitude, of a large proportion of the population of this great metropolis?

To supply the place of a *living friend*, and in some cases to perform the necessary part of one, by directing the stranger in the choice of companions, and what characters he should avoid, I have compiled these sheets; in which will be found "all I know about the matter," and all I could "learn out" by "fine-drawing" of others. In this work I have obtained the assist-

ance of an author by profession, who will newwrite it mostly all over. The gentleman will put all of it in order, fit to be read, and add a word or two, or a line or two, here and there, when I am out. This is but fair and proper, considering as I am not much used to the pen, I might make "a pretty kettle of fish of it ;" so, "I cares not, not I," says I to the gentleman as employs us both, "its all one to me, though he should strike out every word; for, as for me, as I mean to out with it all, he may put it down in what lingo he likes." This is all 1 shall say "of my own accord," seeing I am willing to make amends for my past life, by disclosing such secrets as never weramade public before, not upon paper; and I thought I would have a few words of my own put down in genuine, at the beginning, without any of his " making or meddling." So, as I have promised and mean to leave off the culling, and " live comfortable" upon the profits of this here book, I have just put an end to it by grabbing three or four books\* from the gentleman, my employer, which I have now got under my great coat, as I mean to borrow a word or two, and a few hints as I go on, as is usual in book-making.

Although one of them authors pretends to be up to

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\* 1. Report of the house of commons on the police; 2. A treatise on the police of the metropolis; 3. King's Frands of London; 4. Sir John Fielding's tructs; 5. New Monthly Magazine, 1st June, 1817, and Oct. Nov. Dec. and Jan. following.

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a great deal, yet he does not know more about the matter than one of us, nor half so much as myself of some things. He had his information from an interested, and therefore a polluted, source,-the officers. When he says. " there are twenty thousand persons of both sexes, who get up in the morning without knowing whereabout they shall sleep at night," he makes a decent good round numbered guess, as applied to one part of the year, but not so as to another, which shows want of discrimination. But what of the fact ? Does he propose a remedy? If he had pointed out the means of sheltering them at night, he would have been more beneficially employed ; as the statement now stands his readers are left to conclude, " that those twenty thousand houseless wretches are upon the look out for what they can appropriate to themselves." Agreed, as to this inference : and I can tell him, there are an equal number (more) who live in comparative affluence, who are equally upon the alert in actual robbery, to say nothing of mere cheats, mace-coves, and such like."

How to steer clear of and to detect these, and a multitude of others, who are always keeping a sharp look out to entrap the property of the honest part of the community, to take in and cheat the unwary,—to rob and perhaps murder the unprotected, and to make a prey of the unsuspecting,—are the motives for this publication. As the information it contains is faithful and genuiue, it cannot fail to be highly useful to the perambulator and resident Inhabitant, vuluable as a

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