evils so great result from the violation of that fidelity, that whatever contributes in any degree to its preservation, must be agreeable to Him who, in establishing the laws of nature, intended them to be subservient to the real happiness of all his creatures. But nothing contributes so much to pre­serve the fidelity of wives to their husbands, as the impress­ing upon the minds of women the highest veneration for the virtue of chastity. She who, when unmarried, has been accustomed to grant favours to different men, will not find it easy, if indeed possible, to resist afterwards the allure­ments of variety. It is therefore a wise institution, and agreeable to the will of Him who made us, to train up wo­men so that they may look upon the loss of their chastity as the most disgraceful of all crimes ; as that which sinks them in the order of society, and robs them of all their va­lue. In this light virtuous women actually look upon the loss of chastity. The importance of that virtue has been so deeply impressed upon their minds, and is so closely as­sociated with the principle of honour, that they cannot think but with abhorrence upon the very deed by which it is lost. He therefore who by fraud and falsehood persuades the un­suspecting girl to deviate in one instance from the honour of the sex, weakens in a great degree her moral principle ; and if he reconcile her to a repetition of the crime, he destroys that principle entirely, as she has been taught to consider all other virtues as inferior to that of chastity. Hence it is that the hearts of prostitutes are generally steeled against the miseries of their fellow-creatures ; that they lend their aid to the seducer in his practices upon other girls ; that they lie, and swear, and steal without com­punction ; and that too many of them hesitate not to com­mit murder, if it can serve any selfish purpose of their own.

The loss of virtue, though the greatest that man or wo­man can sustain, is not the only injury which the seducer bringe upon the girl whom he deceives. She cannot at once reconcile herself to prostitution, or even to the loss of character, and whilst a sense of shame remains in her mind, the misery which she suffers must be exquisite. She knows that she has forfeited what in the female character is most valued by both sexes ; and she must be under the perpe­tual dread of a discovery. She cannot even confide in the honour of her seducer, who may reveal her secret in a fit of drunkenness, and thus rob her of her fame as well as of her virtue ; and whilst she is in this state of anxious uncer­tainty, the agony of her mind must be insupportable. That it is so in fact, the many instances of child-murder by un­married women of every rank leave us no room to doubt. The affection of a mother to her new-born child is one of the strongest and most unequivocal instincts in human na­ture ; and nothing short of the extremity of distress can

prompt any one so far to oppose nature as to embrue her hands in the blood of her imploring infant.

Even this deed of horror seldom prevents a detection of the mother’s frailty, which is indeed commonly discovered, though no child has been the consequence of her intrigue. He who can seduce is base enough to betray ; and assuredly no woman can part with her honour and yet retain any well- grounded hope that her amour shall be kept secret. The villain to whom she surrendered will glory in his victory, if it was with difficulty obtained ; and if she surrendered at discretion, her own behaviour will reveal her secret. Her reputation is then irretrievably lost, and no future circum­spection will be of the smallest avail to recover it. She will be shunned by the virtuous part of her own sex, and treated as a mere instrument of pleasure by the other. In such circumstances she cannot expect to he married with advantage. She may perhaps be able to captivate the heart of a heedless youth, and prevail upon him to unite his fate to hers, before the delirium of his passion shall give him time for reflection; she may be addressed by a man who is a stranger to her story, and married while he has no

suspicion of her secret ; or she may be solicited by one of a station inferior to her own, who, though acquainted with every thing that has befallen her, can barter the delicacy of wedded love for some pecuniary advantage. But from none of these marriages can she look for happiness. The delirium which prompted the first will soon vanish, and leave the husband to the bitterness of his own reflections, which can hardly fail to produce cruelty to the wife. Of the secret to which, in the second case, the lover was a stranger, the husband will soon make a discovery, or at least find room for harbouring strong suspicions ; and sus­picions of having been deceived in a point so delicate have hitherto been uniformly the parents of misery. In the third case, the man married her merely for her money, of which having got the possession, he has no further induce­ment to treat her with respect. Such are some of the con­sequences of seduction, even when the person seduced has the good fortune afterwards to get a husband. But this is a fortune which few in her circumstances can reasonably expect. By far the greater part of those who have been defrauded of their virtue by the arts of the seducer sink deeper and deeper into guilt, till they become at last com­mon prostitutes. The public is then deprived of their ser­vices as wives and parents ; and instead of contributing to the population of the state, and to the sum of domestic fe­licity, these outcasts of society become seducers in their turn, corrupting the morals of every young man whose ap­petites they can inflame, and of every young woman whom they can entice to their own practices.

All this complication of evil is produced at first by arts which, if employed to deprive a man of his property, would subject the offender to the execration of his fellow-subjects, and to an ignominious death. But while the forger of a bill is pursued with relentless rigour by the ministers of justice, and the swindler loaded with universal reproach, the man who by fraud and forgery has enticed an innocent girl to gratify his desires at the expense of her virtue, and thus introduced her into a path which must infallibly lead to her own ruin, as well as to repeated injuries to the public at large, is not despised by his own sex, and is too often caressed even by the virtuous part of the other. Yet the loss of property may be easily repaired ; whilst the loss of honour is irreparable. It is vain to plead in alleviation of this guilt, that women should be on their guard against the arts of the seducer. Most unquestionably they should ; but arts have been used which hardly any degree of caution would have been sufficient to counteract. It may as well be said that the trader should be on his guard against the arts of the forger, and accept of no bill without previously con­sulting him in whose name it is written. Cases, indeed, occur in trade, in which this caution would be impossible. But he must be little acquainted with the workings of the human heart, who does not know that situations likewise occur in life, in which it is equally impossible for a girl of tenderness and virtue to resist the arts of the man who has completely gained her affections.

SEE Amol, a small island in the Eastern Seas, near the east coast of Borneo. Long. 118. 48. E. Lat. 5. 27. N.

See Bangog, a small island in the Eastern Seas, near the east coast of Borneo. Long. 118. 24. E. Lat. 4. 18. N.

See Beeroo Isle, an island that lies off the west coast of Sumatra, and is situated principally between the first and second degrees of south latitude, and the ninety-eighth and ninety-ninth of east longitude. It is seventy miles in length by ten in average breadth, and contains a volcano, which renders it conspicuous at a distance.

SEEASSEE Isle, a small island in the Eastern Seas, one of the Sooloo archipelago. It is a woody island, well supplied with water, and yields many cowries and small baat, named Seeassee.

SEEBAH, a town and district in the Sikh territories, in