

P R E F A C E.

they have either mistaken Mr. Lock's Principles, or the true Grounds of Morality, and write out of too great a Fondness of their own Hypothesis, or Ignorance of his.

But as there are no Reflections so weak or ill grounded, that some or other may not be deceiv'd by, I have met with two or three, who upon reading some Remarks on the Essay of Human Understanding (which fell but lately into my Hands) concluded it contain'd very dangerous Principles, and without farther Examination, condemn'd the Essay, having never read, or as they own'd, very little consider'd it; on which account, several who have a great respect for Mr. Lock, have wish'd he had leisure to answer the Difficulties objected against his Principles by the Remarker; But as I did not think them strong enough to need so great a Hand to remove them, I perswaded my self I might do something towards it, which at first I design'd only for my own satisfaction, and those few Friends who had spoke to me of them, But in examining their Force I found them so much grounded on Mistakes, not only of the Principles the Author contends against, but of the Foundation of those Grand Points he contends for, that it fell unavoidably in my way to make some Reflections upon the True Grounds of Morality, and the danger of establishing a Point of so great Concern as that, and the Immortality of the Soul, upon false or uncertain Hypothesis, which having been frequently attempted, and by well designing Men, made me think it might not be unuseful to publish these Papers; And I hope, whatever may tend to removing any Prejudices against a Book of so great use as the Essay of Human Understanding,

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