2. *The Peasant and the Spar-Hawk.*

A Hawk eagerly pursuing a poor Pigeon over a corn field, was caught in a net planted there by a husbandman; who, when he saw the Hawk, came and took him. The Hawk endeavoured to justify his behaviour by saying, he had done no harm to the Pigeon. „But replied the Peasant," it was your design, — and I only prevented you from doing it, it is therefore but just, that you suffer the same punishment, you had deserved if your intention had succeeded.

Application.

The design of doing a bad action, is as punishable and criminal, as the deed itself, from which a villain is often deterred by accident, and from which no excuse can arise; because in the reverse case, he would certainly have committed the bad actions. A bad thought must never enter into the mind of an honest and good man.

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