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The Works Of The Right Honourable Joseph Addison, Esq.

In Four Volumes

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Florence.

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French King, support them in their attempts, there is no government in Italy that would dare to interpose. This Republick, for the extent of its dominions, is esteemed the richest and best peopled State of Italy. The whole administration of the government passes into different hands at the end of every two months, which is the greatest security imaginable to their liberty, and wonderfully contributes to the quick dispatch of all publick affairs: But in any exigence of state, like that they are now pressed with, it certainly asks a much longer time to conduct any design, for the good of the Common-wealth, to its maturity and perfection.

FLORENCE.

Had the good luck to be at Florence when there was an Opera acted, which was the eighth that I had feen in Italy. I could not but fmile to read the folemn protestation of the Poet in the first page, where he declares that he believes neither in the Fates, Deities, or Destinies; and that if he has made use of the words, it is purely out of a poetical liberty, and not from his real sentiments, for that in all these particulars he believes as the Holy Mother Church believes and commands.

PROTESTA.

Le voci Fato, Deità, Destino, e simili, che per entro questo Drama trovarai, son messe per ischerzo poetico, e non per sentimento vero, credendo sempre in tutto quello, che crede, e comanda Santa Madre chiesa.

There are some beautiful Palaces in Florence; and as Tuscan pillars and Rustic work owe their original to this country, the Architects always take care to give them a place in the great Edifices that are raised in Tuscany. The Duke's new palace is a very noble pile, built after this manner, which makes it look extremely solid and majestick. It is not unlike that of Luxemburg at Paris, which was built by Mary of Medicis, and for that reason perhaps the workmen fell into the Tuscan humour. I found in the court of this palace what I could not meet with

any where in Rome. I mean an antique Statue of Hercules lifting up Anteus from the earth, which I have already had occasion to speak of. It was found in Rome, and brought hither under the reign of Leo the tenth. There are abundance of pictures in the several apartments, by

the hands of the greatest masters.

But 'tis the famous gallery of the old palace, where are perhaps the noblest collections of curiofities to be met with in any part of the whole world. The gallery it felf is made in the shape of an L, according to Mr. Lassei, but, if it must needs be like a letter, it resembles the Greek II most. It is adorned with admirable pieces of sculpture, as well modern as ancient. Of the last fort I shall mention those that are rarest, either for the person they represent, or the beauty of the sculpture. Among the Bufts of the Emperors and Empereffes there are thefe that follow, which are all very fcarce, and fome of them almost fingular in their kind. Acrippa, Caligula, Otho, Nerva, Elius Verus, Pertinax, Geta, Didius Julianus, Albinus extremely well wrought, and, what is feldom feen, in alabaster, Gordianus Africanus the elder, Eliogabalus, Galien the elder, and the younger Pupienus. I have put Agrippa among the Emperors, because he is generally ranged so in sets of Medals, as some that follow among the Emperesses have no other right to the company they are joined Domitia, Agrippina wife of Germanicus, Antonia, Matidia, Plotina, Mallia Scantilla, falfely inscribed under her Bust Julia Severi, Aguilia Severa, Julia Mæfa. I have generally observed at Rome, which is the great magazine of these antiquities, that the same heads which are rare in Medals are also rare in Marble, and indeed one may commonly aslign the fame reason for both, which was the shortness of the Emperors reigns, that did not give the workmen time to make many of their figures; and as the shortness of their reigns was generally occasioned by the advancement of a rival, it is no wonder that no body worked on the figure of a deceased Emperor, when his enemy was in the throne. This observation however does not always hold. An Agrippa or Caligula, for example, is a common Coin, but a very extraordinary Buft; and a Tiberius a rare Coin, but a common Buft, which one would the more wonder at, if we confider the indignities that were offered to this Emperor's statues after his death. The Tiberius in Tiberim is a known instance.

Among the Busts of such Emperors as are common enough, there are several in the gallery that deserve to be taken notice of for the excellence of the sculpture, as those of Augustus, Vespasian, Adrian, Marcus Aure-

lius, Lucius Verus, Septimius Severus, Caracalla, Geta. There is in the fame gallery a beautiful Bust of Alexander the Great, casting up his face to Heaven, with a noble air of grief or discontentedness in his looks. I have feen two or three antique Busts of Alexander in the same air and posture, and am apt to think the Sculptor had in his thoughts the Conqueror's weeping for new worlds, or fome other the like circumstance of his history. There is also in Porphyry the head of a Faun, and of the God Pan. Among the entire figures I took particular notice of a Vestal Virgin, with the holy fire burning before her. This statue, I think, may decide that notable controversie among the Antiquaries, whether the Vestals, after having received the Tonfure, ever suffered their hair to come again, for it is here full grown, and gathered under the veil. The brazen figure of the Conful, with the Ring on his finger, reminded me of Juvenal's majoris pondera gemmæ. There is another statue in brass, supposed to be of Apollo, with this modern infcription on the pedestal, which I must confess I do not know what to make of. Ut potui huc veni musis et fratre relicto. I saw in the same gallery the samous figure of the wild Boar, the Gladiator, the Narcissus, the Cupid and Psyche, the Flora, with some modern statues that feveral others have described. Among the antique figures there is a fine one of Morpheus in touchstone. I have always observed, that this God is represented by the ancient Statuaries under the figure of a Boy afleep, with a bundle of Poppy in his hand. I at first took it for a Cupid, 'till I had taken notice that it had neither a bow nor quiver. I suppose Doctor Lister has been guilty of the same mistake in the reflections he makes on what he calls the fleeping Cupid with Poppy in his hands.

—— Qualia namque Corpora nudorum tabulâ pinguntur Amorum Talis erat, sed nè faciat discrimina cultus, Aut huic adde leves aut illis deme Pharetras.

Ov. Met. L. 10.

Such are the *Cupids* that in paint we view; But that the likenefs may be nicely true, A loaden Quiver to his fhoulders tie, Or bid the *Cupids* lay their quivers by.

'Tis probable they chose to represent the God of sleep under the figure of a Boy, contrary to all our modern designers, because it is that age which has its repose the least broken by cares and anxeties. Statius,

in his celebrated invocation of Sleep, addresses himself to him under the fame figure.

Crimine quo merui, juvenis placidissime Divam, Quove errore miser, donis ut solus egerem Somne tuis? tacet omne pecus, volucresque feraque, &c. Silv. Lib. 5.

Tell me, thou best of Gods, thou gentle Youth, Tell me my fad offence; that only I, While hush'd at ease thy drowsie subjects lye, In the dead filence of the night complain, Nor tafte the bleffings of thy peaceful reign.

I never faw any figure of Sleep, that was not of black marble, which has probably fome relation to the night, which is the proper feafon for rest. I should not have made this remark, but that I remember to have read in one of the ancient Authors, that the Nile is generally represented in stone of this colour, because in flows from the country of the Ethiopians; which shows us that the Statuaries had sometimes an eye to the perfon they were to reprefent, in the choice they made of their marble. There are still at Rome some of these black Statues of the Nile which are cut in a kind of Touchstone.

Ofque coloratis amnis devenus ab Indis. Virg. Geor. 4. de Nilo.

At one end of the gallery stand two antique marble pillars, curiously wrought with the figures of the old Roman arms and instruments of war. After a full furvey of the gallery, we were led into four or five chambers of Curiofities that stand on the side of it. The first was a Cabinet of Antiquities, made up chiefly of Idols, Talifmans, Lamps and Hieroglyphics. I faw nothing in it that I was not before acquainted with, except the four

following figures in brafs.

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I. A little Image of Juno Sispita, or Sospita, which perhaps is not to be met with any where elfe but on Medals. She is cloathed in a Goatsskin, the horns flicking out above her head. The right arm is broken that probably supported a shield, and the left a little defaced, though one may fee it held fomething in its grasp formerly. The feet are bare. I remember Tully's description of this Goddess in the following words. Hercle inquit quam tibi illam nostram Sospitam quam tu nunquam ne in Somniis vides, nisi cum pelle Caprina, cum basta, cam scutulo, cum calceolis repandis, the bus personal as ford files

II. An



A Medal
of Juno Sifpita. Vid. Fulv.
Ursin. in Familià Thorià & Porcilià.
This is a
Reverse of
Anton. Pius.

II. An antique Model of the famous Laocöon and his two Sons, that stands in the Belvidera at Rome. This is the more remarkable, as it is entire in those parts where the statue is maim'd. It was by the help of this Model that Bandinelli finished his admirable copy of the Laocöon, which stands at one end of this gallery.

III. An Apollo or Amphion. I took notice of this little figure for the fingularity of the Instrument, which I never before saw in ancient sculpture. It is not unlike a Violin, and played on after the same manner. I doubt however whether this sigure be not of a later date than the rest, by the meanness of the workmanship.

IV. A Corona Radialis with only eight spikes to it. Every one knows the usual number was twelve, some say in allusion to the signs of the Zodiac, and others to the labours of Hercules.

—— Ingenti mole Latinus Quadrijugo vehitur curru; cui tempora circùm Aurati bis sex radii fulgentia cingunt, Solis avi specimen——

Virg. Æn. 12.

Four fleeds the Chariot of Latinus bear: Twelve golden beams around his temples play, To mark his lineage from the God of day.

Mr. Dryden.

The two next chambers are made up of feveral artificial Curiofities in Ivory, Amber, Chrystal, Marble, and precious stones, which all voyage-writers are full of. In the chamber that is shown last stands the celebrated Venus of Medicis. The statue seems much less than the life, as being perfectly naked, and in company with others of a larger make: It is not-withstanding as big as the ordinary size of a woman, as I concluded from the measure of her wrist; for from the bigness of any one part it is Vol. II.

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easie to guess at all the rest, in a figure of such nice proportions. The softness of the slesh, the delicacy of the shape, air and posture, and the correctness of design in this statue, are inexpressible. I have several reasons to believe that the name of the Sculptor on the pedestal is not so old as the statue. This sigure of Venus put me in mind of a speech she makes in one of the Greek Epigrams.

Τυμνίω διδε Πάρις με η Ανχίσης η "Αδανίς, Τες τρείς διδα μόνες. Πραξιίδης δε πόθε;

Anchifes, Paris, and Adonis too

Have feen me naked, and expos'd to view;

All these I frankly own without denying: Ishow suping in A.M.

But where has this Praxiteles been prying?

There is another Venus in the same circle, that would make a good figure any where else. There are among the old Roman Statues several of Venus in different postures and habits, as there are many particular figures of her made after the same design. I fancy it is not hard to find among them some that were made after the three statues of this Goddess, which Pliny mentions. In the same chamber is the Roman Slave whetting his knife and listning, which from the shoulders upward is incomparable. The two Wrestlers are in the same room. I observed here likewise a very curious Bust of Annius Verus, the young Son of Marcus Aurelius, who dyed at nine years of age. I have seen several other Busts of him

at Rome, though his Medals are exceeding rare.

The Great Duke has ordered a large chamber to be fitted up for old Inscriptions, Urns, Monuments, and the like sets of Antiquities. I was shown several of them which are not yet put up. There are the two samous Inscriptions that give so great a light to the histories of Appius, who made the High-way, and of Fabius the Dictator; they contain a short account of the honours they passed through, and the actions they performed. I saw too the Busts of Tranquillina, Mother to Gordianus Pius, and of Quintus Herennius, Son to Trajan Decius, which are extremely valuable for their rarity, and a beautiful old figure made after the celebrated Hermaphrodite in the Villa Borghese. I saw nothing that has not been observed by several others in the Argenteria, the Tabernacle of St. Laurence's chapel, and the chamber of Painters. The chapel of St. Laurence will be perhaps the most costly piece of work on the face of the earth when compleated, but it advances so very slowly, that 'tis not

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not impossible but the family of Medicis may be extinct before their buri-

The Great Duke has lived many years feparate from the Dutchefs, who is at prefent in the court of France, and intends there to end her days. The Cardinal his brother is old and infirm, and could never be induced to refign his purple for the uncertain prospect of giving an Heir to the Dukedom of Tuscany. The Great Prince has been married several years without any children, and notwithstanding all the precautions in the world were taken for the marriage of the Prince his younger brother (as the finding out a Lady for him who was in the vigour and flower of her age, and had given marks of her fruitfulness by a former Husband) they have all hitherto proved unsuccessful. There is a branch of the family of Medicis in Naples: The head of it has been owned as a kinsman by the Great Duke, and it is thought will succeed to his dominions, in case the Princes his sons die childless; though it is not impossible but in such a conjuncture, the Common-wealths, that are thrown under the

Great Dutchy, may make fome efforts towards the recovery of their an-

cient liberty. I was in the library of manuscripts belonging to St. Laurence, of which there is a printed Catalogue. I looked into the Virgil which disputes its antiquity with that of the Vatican. It wants the Ille ego qui quondam, &c. and the twenty two lines in the fecond Eneid, beginning at Jamque adeo super unus eram-I must confess I always thought this passage left out with a great deal of judgment by Tucca and Varius, as it feems to contradict a part in the fixth Eneid, and reprefents the Heroe in a passion, that is, at least, not at all becoming the greatness of his character. Besides, I think the apparition of Venus comes in very properly to draw him away immediately after the fight of Priam's murder; for without fuch a machine to take him off, I cannot fee how the Heroe could, with honour, leave Neoptolemus triumphant, and Priam unrevenged. But fince Virgil's friends thought fit to let drop this incident of Helen, I wonder they would not blot out, or alter a line in Venus's speech, that has a relation to the rencounter, and comes in improperly without it.

Non tibi Tyndaridæ facies invifa Lacænæ, Culpatusve Paris———

Æn. 2.

Florence for modern statues I think excels even Rome, but these I shall pass over in silence, that I may not transcribe out of others.

uneque in gemini fi argiige Waria conti.

The



Luc, L. 3.

The way from Florence to Bolonia runs over several ranges of mountains, and is the worst road, I believe, of any over the Appennines; for this was my third time of crossing them. It gave me a lively idea of Silius Italicus's description of Hannibal's march.

Quoque magis subiere jugo atque evadere nisi Erexere gradum, crescit labor, ardua supra Sese aperit, sessis et nascitur altera moles:

L. 3:

From steep to steep the troops advanc'd with pain, In hopes at last the topmost cliff to gain:
But still by new ascents the mountain grew,
And a fresh toil presented to their view.

I shall conclude this chapter with the descriptions which the Latin Poets have given us of the Appennines. We may observe in them all the remarkable qualities of this prodigious length of mountains, that run from one extremity of Italy to the other, and give rise to an incredible variety of rivers that water this delightful country.

-Nubifer Appenninus.

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Ov. Met. L. 2.

— Qui Siculum porrectus ad usque Pelorum. Finibus ab Ligurum populos amplectitur omnes Italiæ, geminumque latus stringentia longè Utraque perpetuo discriminat æquora tractu.

Clau. de Sexto Conf. Hon.

Alpibus aquatum attollens caput Apenninus.

Sil. It. L. 2.

Horrebat glacie saxa inter lubrica summo Piniferum cœlo miscens caput Apenninus: Condiderat nix alta trabes, et vertice celso Canus apex strictà surgebat ad astra pruinà.

Li. 4. Id.

Umbrosis mediam quà collibus Apenninus Erigit Italiam, nullo quâ vertice tellus Altius intumuit, propiùsque accessit Olympo, Mons inter geminas medius se porrigit undas Inferni superique maris: collesque coercent Hinc Tyrrhena vado frangentes aquora Pisa, Illinc Dalmaticis obnoxia sluctibus Ancon. Fontibus hic vastis immensos concipit amnes, Fluminaque in gemini sfarzit divortia ponti.

Luc. L. 2.

In

In pomp the shady Appennines arise, And lift th' aspiring nation to the skies; No land like Italy erects the fight By fuch a vast ascent, or swells to such a height: Her num'rous states the tow'ring hills divide, And fee the billows rife on either fide; At Pisa here the range of mountains ends,
And here to high Ancona's shores extends:
In their dark womb a thousand rivers lye, That with continu'd streams the double fea supply,

be feen as well as any thing of that nature in Bery. The Pheater think, the most parious of any I ever thy, and as the fame time of Bolonia, Modena, Parma, Turin, &c.

FTER a very tedlous journey over the Appennines, we at last came to the river that runs at the foot of them, and was formerly called the little Rhine. Following the course of this river we arrived in a short time at Bolonia.

Parvique Bononia Rheni. Sil. It. 8.

Bolonia water'd by the petty Rhine.

We here quickly felt the difference of the northern from the fouthern fide of the mountains, as well in the coldness of the air, as in the badness of the wine. This town is famous for the richness of the foil that lyes about it, and the magnificence of its Convents. It is likewise esteemed the third in Italy for pictures, as having been the school of the Lombard painters. I faw in it three rarities of different kinds, which pleafed me more than any other shows of the place. The first was an authentick silver Medal of the younger Brutus, in the hands of an eminent Antiquary. One may fee the character of the person in the features of the face, which is exquisitely well cut. On the reverse is the cap of liberty, with a dagger on each fide of it, fubscribed Id. Mar. for the Ides of March, the famous date of Cafar's murder. The fecond was a picture of Raphel's