



UNIVERSITÄTS-  
BIBLIOTHEK  
PADERBORN

## Universitätsbibliothek Paderborn

**The Works Of The Right Honourable Joseph Addison, Esq.**

In Four Volumes

**Addison, Joseph**

**London, 1721**

No 108. Wednesday, July 15.

[urn:nbn:de:hbz:466:1-53597](https://nbn-resolving.org/urn:nbn:de:hbz:466:1-53597)

“ great, and so many ships have been lost by it, and this has been so long  
 “ and so sensibly known by trading nations, that great rewards are said to  
 “ be publickly offered for its supply. We are well satisfied, that the dis-  
 “ covery we have to make as to this matter, is easily intelligible by all,  
 “ and readily to be practised at sea as well as at land; that the Latitude  
 “ will thereby be likewise found at the same time; and that with proper  
 “ charges it may be made as universal as the world shall please; nay, that  
 “ the Longitude and Latitude may be generally hereby determined to a  
 “ greater degree of exactness than the Latitude itself is now usually found  
 “ at sea. So that on all accounts we hope it will appear very worthy the  
 “ publick consideration. We are ready to disclose it to the world, if we  
 “ may be assured that no other persons shall be allowed to deprive us of  
 “ those rewards which the publick shall think fit to bestow for such a dis-  
 “ covery; but do not desire actually to receive any benefit of that na-  
 “ ture, untill Sir *Isaac Newton* himself, with such other proper persons as  
 “ shall be chosen to assist him, have given their opinion in favour of this  
 “ discovery. If Mr. IRONSIDE pleases so far to oblige the publick as  
 “ to communicate this proposal to the world, he will also lay a great obli-  
 “ gation on

*His very humble Servants,*  
 Will. Whiston,  
 Humphry Ditton.

---

N<sup>o</sup> 108. *Wednesday, July 15.*

---

*Abjetibus juvenes patriis et montibus æqui.* Virg.

---

**I** Do not care for burning my fingers in a quarrel, but since I have com-  
 municated to the world a plan, which has given offence to some Gen-  
 tlemen whom it would not be very safe to disoblige, I must insert  
 the following remonstrance; and at the same time promise those of my  
 correspondents who have drawn this upon themselves, to exhibit to the  
 publick any such answer as they shall think proper to make to it.

Mr.

Mr. GUARDIAN,

“ I Was very much troubled to see the two letters which you lately published concerning the Short Club. You cannot imagine what  
 “ airs all the little pragmatistical fellows about us have given themselves  
 “ since the reading of those papers. Every one cocks and struts upon it,  
 “ and pretends to over-look us who are two foot higher than themselves.  
 “ I met with one the other day who was at least three inches above five  
 “ foot, which you know is the statutable measure of that club. This o-  
 “ ver-grown runt has struck off his heels, lowered his foretop, and con-  
 “ tracted his figure, that he might be looked upon as a member of this  
 “ new erected society; nay so far did his vanity carry him, that he talk-  
 “ ed familiarly of *Tom Tiptoe*, and pretends to be an intimate acquaint-  
 “ tance of *Tim. Tuck*. For my part, I scorn to speak any thing to the  
 “ diminution of these little creatures, and should not have minded them  
 “ had they been still shuffled among the croud. Shrubs and underwoods  
 “ look well enough while they grow within the shade of oaks and cedars,  
 “ but when these pigmies pretend to draw themselves out from the rest  
 “ of the world, and form themselves into a body; it is time for us, who  
 “ are men of figure, to look about us. If the Ladies should once take  
 “ a liking to such a diminutive race of lovers, we should, in a little time,  
 “ see mankind epitomized, and the whole species in miniature; daisie  
 “ roots would grow a fashionable diet. In order therefore to keep our  
 “ posterity from dwindling, and fetch down the pride of this aspiring  
 “ race of upstarts; we have here instituted a Tall Club.

“ As the short club consists of those who are under five foot, ours is  
 “ to be composed of such as are above six. These we look upon as the  
 “ two extremes and antagonists of the species; considering all those as  
 “ Neuters who fill up the middle space. When a man rises beyond  
 “ six foot he is an *Hypermeter*, and may be admitted into the tall club.

“ We have already chosen thirty members, the most sightly of all her  
 “ Majesty's subjects. We elected a President, as many of the ancients  
 “ did their Kings, by reason of his height, having only confirmed him  
 “ in that station above us which nature had given him. He is a *Scotch*  
 “ *Highlander*, and within an inch of a show. As for my own part I am  
 “ but a feskippedal, having only six foot and a half of stature. Being the  
 “ shortest member of the club, I am appointed Secretary. If you saw  
 “ us alltogether you would take us for the sons of *Anak*. Our meetings  
 “ are held like the old *Gothick* Parliaments, *sub dio*, in open air; but  
 “ we shall make an interest, if we can, that we may hold our assemblies  
 Vol. IV. Y “ in

“ in *Westminster-Hall* when it is not term-time. I must add to the honour of our club, that it is one of our society who is now finding out the longitude. The device of our publick seal is a Crane grasping a Pigmy in his right foot.

“ I know the short club value themselves very much upon Mr. *Distick*, who may possibly play some of his *Pentameters* upon us, but if he does he shall certainly be answered in *Alexandrines*. For we have a Poet among us of a Genius as exalted as his stature, and who is very well read in *Longinus* his treatise concerning the sublime. Besides, I would have Mr. *Distick* consider, that if *Horace* was a short man, *Museus*, who makes such a noble figure in *Virgil's* sixth *Æneid*, was taller by the head and shoulders than all the people of *Elizium*. I shall therefore confront his *lepidissimum homuncionem* (a short quotation and fit for a member of their club) with one that is much longer, and therefore more suitable to a member of ours.

*Quos circumfusos sic est affata Sibylla,  
Museum ante omnes: medium nam plurima turba  
Hunc habet, atque humeris extantem suspicit altis.*

“ If, after all, this society of little men proceed as they have begun to magnifie themselves and lessen men of higher stature, we have resolved to make a detachment, some evening, or other, that shall bring away their whole club in a pair of panniers, and imprison them in a cupboard which we have set apart for that use, till they have made a publick recantation. As for the little bully, *Tim. Tuck*, if he pretends to be choleric, we shall treat him like his friend little *Dicky*, and hang him upon a peg till he comes to himself. I have told you our design, and let their little *Machiavel* prevent it if he can.

“ This is, Sir, the long and the short of the matter. I am sensible I shall stir up a nest of wasps by it, but let them do their worst. I think that we serve our country by discouraging this little breed, and hindring it from coming into fashion. If the fair sex look upon us with an eye of favour, we shall make some attempts to lengthen out the human figure, and restore it to its ancient procerity. In the mean time we hope old age has not inclined you in favour of our Antagonists, for I do assure you Sir, we are all your high admirers, tho' none more than

S I R, Yours &c.

Thursday