

Nutzungsbedingungen

The Works Of Alexander Pope Esq.

In Nine Volumes Complete. With His Last Corrections, Additions, And Improvements; As they were delivered to the Editor a little before his Death

Containing His Satires &c.

Pope, Alexander London, 1751

The Second Book of the Satires of Horace, Sat. II.

urn:nbn:de:hbz:466:1-56609

THE MAN SAUTON

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SECOND SATIRE

OFTHE

SECOND BOOK

O F

HORACE.

Ne official character to be accepted to appear

SATIRA II.

U A E virtus et quanta, boni, sit vivere parvo,
(Nec meus hic sermo; sed quae praecepit
Ofellus,

Rusticus, de abnormis Sapiens, crassaque Minerva)

Discite, en non inter lances mensasque nitentes;

Cum stupet insanis acies fulgoribus, et cum

Acclinis falsis animus meliora recusat:

e Verum hic impransi mecum disquirite. Cur hoc?

Dicam, si potero. male verum examinat omnis

Corruptus judex. Leporem sectatus, equove

Lassus ab indomito; vel (si Romana fatigat

Militia assuetum graecari) seu pila velox,

Molliter austerum studio fallente laborem;

Seu te discus agit, pete cedentem aera disco:

Cum labor extulerit fastidia; siccus, inanis,

Sperne cibum vilem: nisi Hymettia mella Falerno,

Ne biberis, diluta. foris est promus, et atrum

NOTES.

VER. 5. a gilt Buffet's reflected pride Turns you from found Philosophy aside; More forcibly and happily expressed than the original, acclinis falsis; tho' that be very elegant.

SATIRE II.

To Mr. BETHEL.

To live on little with a chearful heart;

b (A doctrine fage, but truly none of mine)

Let's talk, my friends, but talk 'before we dine.

'Not when a gilt Buffet's reflected pride

Turns you from found Philosophy aside;

Not when from plate to plate your eyeballs roll,

And the brain dances to the mantling bowl.

Hear BETHEL's Sermon, one not vers'd in schools,

But strong in sense, and wise without the rules. 10

h Go work, hunt, exercise! (he thus began)

Then fcorn a homely dinner, if you can.

Your wine lock'd up, your Butler stroll'd abroad,

Or fish deny'd (the river yet unthaw'd)

NOTES.

VER. 9. BETHEL.] The same to whom several of Mr. Pope's Letters are addressed.

Defendens pisces hiemat mare: cum sale panis
Latrantem stomachum bene leniet. unde putas, aut
Quî partum? non in caro nidore voluptas
Summa, sed in teipso est. tu pulmentaria quaere
Sudando. pinguem vitiis albumque neque ostrea,
Nec scarus, aut poterit peregrina juvare lagois.

k Vix tamen eripiam, posito pavone, velis quin

Hoc potius quam gallina tergere palatum;

Corruptus vanis rerum: quia veneat auro

Rara avis, et picta pandat spectacula cauda:

Tamquam ad rem attineat quidquam. Num vesceris

ista,

Quam laudas, pluma? coctove num adest honor idem?

Carne tamen quamvis distat nihil hac, magis illa;
Imparibus formis deceptum te patet. esto.
Unde datum sentis, lupus hic, Tiberinus, an alto
Captus hiet? pontesne inter jactatus, an amnis
Ostia sub Tusci? ¹ laudas, insane, trilibrem
Mullum; in singula quem minuas pulmenta necesse est.
Ducit te species, video. quo pertinet ergo
Proceros odisse lupos? quia scilicet illis
Majorem natura modum dedit, his breve pondus.
Jejunus raro stomachus vulgaria temnit.

If then plain bread and milk will do the feat, 15
The pleasure lies in you, and not the meat.

* Preach as I please, I doubt our curious men
Will chuse a pheasant still before a hen;
Yet hens of Guinea sull as good I hold,
Except you eat the seathers green and gold.
Of carps and mullets why prefer the great,
(Tho' cut in pieces 'ere my Lord can eat)
Yet for small Turbots such esteem profess?
Because God made these large, the other less.

^m Porrectum magno magnum spectare catino

Vellem, ait Harpyiis gula digna rapacibus, at vos

ⁿ Praesentes Austri, coquite horum opsonia: quamquam

Putet aper rhombusque recens, mala copia quando Aegrum sollicitat stomachum; cum rapula plenus Atque acidas mavult inulas. o necdum omnis abacta Pauperies epulis regum: nam vilibus ovis
Nigrisque est oleis hodie locus. Haud ita pridem Galloni praeconis erat acipensere mensa Infamis. quid? tum rhombos minus aequora alebant?

P Tutus erat rhombus, tutoque ciconia nido,
Donec vos auctor docuit praetorius. ergo

Si quis nunc mergos suaves edixerit asso,
Parebit pravi docilis Romana juventus.

r Sordidus a tenui victus distabit, Ofello Judice: nam frustra vitium vitaveris istud,

NOTES.

VER. 25. Oldfield This eminent Glutton ran thro' a fortune of fifteen hundred pounds a year in the fimple luxury of good eating.

VER. 26. a whole Hog barbecu'd! The Poet has here given

a beauty equivalent to that in the Original,

Porrectum magno magnum spectare catino,
which, by the flowness of the Syllables, where four spondees follow one another, well expresses the enormous bulk of the fish
which the Glutton pray'd for.

Ibid. Hog barbecu'd, etc.] A West Indian term of gluttony,

m Oldfield with more than Harpy throat endu'd, 25 Cries "Send me, Gods! a whole Hog barbecu'd!" Oh blast it, " South-winds! till a stench exhale Rank as the ripeness of a rabbit's tail. By what Criterion do ye eat, d'ye think, If this is priz'd for fweetness, that for slink? When the tir'd glutton labours thro' a treat, He finds no relish in the sweetest meat, He calls for fomething bitter, fomething four, And the rich feast concludes extremely poor: ° Cheap eggs, and herbs, and olives still we see; Thus much is left of old Simplicity! P The Robin-red-breast till of late had rest, And children facred held a Martin's nest, Till Becca-ficos fold fo dev'lish dear To one that was, or would have been a Peer. 40 9 Let me extol a Cat, on oysters fed, I'll have a party at the Bedford-head; Or ev'n to crack live Crawfish recommend, I'd never doubt at Court to make a friend. 'Tis yet in vain, I own, to keep a pother 45 About one vice, and fall into the other:

NOTES.

a hog roasted whole, stuffed with spice, and basted with Madera wine. P.

VER. 27. Oh blast it, South-winds! This has not the force, nor gives us the pleasant allusion in the original, coquite.

VER. 42. Bedford-head;] A famous Eating-house. P. VER. 43. Or ev'n to crack live Crawfish] There is force

Si te alio pravus de torseris. Avidienus,

Cui Canis ex vero ductum cognomen adhaeret,

Quinquennes oleas est, et sylvestria corna;

Ac, nisi mutatum, parcit defundere vinum; et

Cujus odorem olei nequeas perferre (licebit

Ille repotia, natales, aliosque dierum

Festos albatus celebret) cornu ipse bilibri

Caulibus instillat, veteris non parcus aceti.

Quali igitur victu sapiens utetur, et horum

Utrum imitabitur? hac urget lupus, hac canis, aiunt.

Mundus erit, qua non offendat sordibus, atque

In neutram partem cultus miser. ^a Hic neque servis

Albuti senis exemplo, dum munia didit,

Saevus erit; nec sic ut simplex ^b Naevius, unctam

Convivis praebebit aquam: vitium hoc quoque magnum.

NOTES.

and humour in dixerit and parebit, which the imitation does not reach.

Between Excess and Famine lies a mean; Plain, but not fordid; tho' not splendid, clean.

Sell their prefented partridges, and fruits,
And humbly live on rabbits and on roots:

One half-pint bottle ferves them both to dine,
And is at once their vinegar and wine.

But on fome w lucky day (as when they found 55
A loft Bank bill, or heard their Son was drown'd)
At fuch a feaft, * old vinegar to spare,
Is what two souls so gen'rous cannot bear:
Oyl, tho' it stink, they drop by drop impart, 60
But sowse the cabbage with a bounteous heart.

Y He knows to live, who keeps the middle state, And neither leans on this side, nor on that;

Nor a stops, for one bad cork, his butler's pay,

Swears, like Albutius, a good cook away;

65

Nor lets, like Nævius, ev'ry error pass,

The musty wine, soul cloth, or greafy glass.

NOTES.

VER. 50. For him you'll call a dog, and her a bitch] One cannot but admire the lively turn here given to the Original.

Accipe nunc, victus tenuis quae quantaque secum

Afferat. d In primis valeas bene; nam variae res

Ut noceant homini, credas, memor illius escae,

Quae simplex e olim tibi sederit. at simul assis

Miscueris elixa, simul conchylia turdis;

Dulcia se in bilem vertent, stomachoque tumultum

Lenta feret pituita. f Vides, ut pallidus omnis

Coena desurgat dubia? quin corpus onustum

Hesternis vitiis animum quoque praegravat una,

Atque affigit humo divinae particulam aurae.

8 Alter, ubi dicto citius curata sopori

Membra dedit, vegetus praescripta ad munia surgit.

NOTES.

VER. 80. The Soul fubfides, and wickedly inclines To feem but mortal ev'n in found Divines.] Horace was an Epicurean, and laughed at the immortality of the foul. He therefore describes that languor of the mind proceeding from intemperance, on the idea, and in the Terms of Plato,

affigit humo divinae particulam aurae.
To this his ridicule is pointed. Our Poet, with more sobriety

^c Now hear what bleffings Temperance can bring:

(Thus faid our Friend, and what he faid I fing)

^d First Health: The stomach (cramm'd from ev'ry dish,

A tomb of boil'd and roast, and sless and sish,
Where bile, and wind, and phlegm, and acid jar,
And all the man is one intestine war)
Remembers oft e the School-boy's simple fare,
The temp'rate sleeps, and spirits light as air.

How pale, each Worshipful and Rev'rend guest Rise from a Clergy, or a City feast! What life in all that ample body, say? What heav'nly particle inspires the clay? The Soul subsides, and wickedly inclines 80 To seem but mortal, ev'n in sound Divines.

on morning wings how active springs the Mind That leaves the load of yesterday behind? How easy ev'ry labour it pursues? How coming to the Poet ev'ry Muse?

NOTES.

and judgment, has turned the ridicule, from the Doctrine, which he believed, upon those Preachers of it, whose feasts and compotations in Taverns did not edify him: and so has added surprizing humour and spirit to the easy elegance of the Original.

VER. 82. On morning wings etc.] Much happier and nobler than the original.

Sive diem festum rediens advexerit annus,

Seu recreare volet tenuatum corpus: ubique

Accedent anni, et tractari mollius aetas

Imbecilla volet. i Tibi quidnam accedet ad istam,

Quam puer et validus praesumis, mollitiem; seu

Dura valetudo inciderit, seu tarda senectus?

* Rancidum aprum antiqui laudabant: non quia

Illis nullus erat; fed, credo, hac mente, quod hospes
Tardius adveniens vitiatum commodius, quam
Integrum edax dominus consumeret. 1 hos utinam

Heroas natum tellus me prima tuliffet.

Das aliquid famae, quae carmine gratior aurem Occupet humanam? grandes rhombi, patinaeque Grande ferunt una " cum damno dedecus. adde " Iratum patruum, vicinos, te tibi iniquum, Et frustra mortis cupidum, cum deerit egenti

NOTES.

VER. 87. Or tir'd in fearch of Truth, or fearch of Rhyme.] A fine ridicule on the extravagance of human pursuits; where the

h Not but we may exceed, some holy time,
Or tir'd in search of Truth, or search of Rhyme;
Ill health some just indulgence may engage,
And more the sickness of long life, Old age;
i For fainting Age what cordial drop remains, 95
If our intemp'rate Youth the vessel drains?

^k Our fathers prais'd rank Ven'son. You suppose Perhaps, young men! our fathers had no nofe. Not fo: a Buck was then a week's repast, And 'twas their point, I ween, to make it last; 100 More pleas'd to keep it till their friends could come, Than eat the sweetest by themselves at home. Why had not I in those good times my birth, 'Ere coxcomb-pyes or coxcombs were on earth? Unworthy he, the voice of Fame to hear, 105 m That sweetest music to an honest ear: (For 'faith, Lord Fanny! you are in the wrong, The world's good word is better than a fong) Who has not learn'd, " fresh sturgeon and ham-pye Are no rewards for want, and infamy! IIO When Luxury has lick'd up all thy pelf, Curs'd by thy o neighbours, thy trustees, thyself,

NOTES.

most trifling and most important concerns of life succeed one another, indifferently.

P As, laquei pretium,

q Jure, inquit, Trausius istis

Jurgatur verbis: ego vectigalia magna,

Divitiasque habeo tribus amplas regibus. 1 Ergo,

Quod superat, non est melius quo insumere possis?

Cur eget indignus quisquam, te divite? quare

* Templa ruunt antiqua Deûm? cur, improbe, carae

Non aliquid patriae tanto emetiris acervo?

Uni nimirum tibi recte semper erunt res?

NOTES.

VER. 123. Oh Impudence of wealth! with all thy store, How dar'st thou let one worthy man be poor?

Cur eget indignus quifquam, te divite? is here admirably paraphrased. And it is observable in these Imitations, that where our Poet keeps to the sentiments of Horace, he rather piques himself in excelling the most finished touches of his Original, than in correcting or improving the more inserior parts. Of this uncommon excellence all his Writings bear such marks, that it gave countenance to an invidious imputation, as if his chief talent lay in copying finely. But if ever there was an inventive genius in Poetry it was Pope's. But his fancy was so corrected by his judgment and his imitation so

To friends, to fortune, to mankind a shame, Think how posterity will treat thy name; And P buy a rope, that future times may tell 115 Thou hast at least bestow'd one penny well.

q " Right, cries his Lordship, for a rogue in need

"To have a Taste is insolence indeed:

" In me 'tis noble, suits my birth and state,

"My wealth unwieldy, and my heap too great." Then, like the Sun, let Bounty spread her ray,

And shine that superfluity away. 122 Oh Impudence of wealth! with all thy store, How dar'ft thou let one worthy man be poor? Shall half the new-built churches round thee fall? Make Keys, build Bridges, or repair White-hall: Or to thy Country let that heap be lent,

As M * *o's was, but not at five per cent.

NOTES.

spirited by his genius, that what he improved struck the vulgar eye more strongly than what he invented.

VER. 128. As M* *o's was, etc.] I think this light stroke of fatire ill placed; and hurts the dignity of the preceding morality. Horace was very ferious, and properly fo, when he faid, cur, Improbe! carae

Non aliquid patriae tanto emetiris acervo. He remembered, and hints with just indignation, at those luxurious Patricians of his old party; who, when they had agreed to eltablish a fund in the cause of Freedom, under the conduct of Brutus, could never be perfuaded to withdraw from their expenfive pleasures what was sufficient for the support of so great a

O magnus posthac inimicis risus! uterne

" Ad casus dubios sidet sibi certius? hic, qui

Pluribus affuerit mentem corpusque superbum;

An qui contentus parvo metuensque futuri,

In pace, ut sapiens, aptarit idonea bello?

V Quo magis his credas: puer hunc ego parvus

Ofellum

Integris opibus novi non latius usum,

Quam nunc " accifis. Videas, metato in agello,

Cum pecore et gnatis, fortem mercede colonum,

Non ego, narrantem, temere edi luce profesta

Quidquam, praeter * olus fumosae cum pede pernae.

NOTES. .

cause. He had prepared his apology for this liberty, in the preceding line, where he pays a fine compliment to Augustus:

Templa ruunt antiqua Deûm?

Who thinks that Fortune cannot change her mind,

Prepares a dreadful jest for all mankind.

And "who stands safest? tell me, is it he
That spreads and swells in puff'd Prosperity,
Or blest with little, whose preventing care
In peace provides fit arms against a war?

Thus Bethel spoke, who always speaks his thought,

And always thinks the very thing he ought:
His equal mind I copy what I can,
And as I love, would imitate the Man.
In South-fea days not happier, when furmis'd
The Lord of Thousands, than if now "Excis'd; 140
In forest planted by a Father's hand,
Than in five acres now of rented land.
Content with little, I can piddle here
On * brocoli and mutton, round the year;

NOTES.

which oblique Panegyric the Imitator has very properly turned into a just stroke of satire.

VER. 139. In South-sea days not happier, etc.] Mr. Pope had South-sea stock, which he did not sell out. It was valued at between twenty and thirty thousand pounds when it sell.

Ac mihi seu y longum post tempus venerat hospes,

Sive operum vacuo gratus conviva per imbrem

Vicinus; bene erat, non piscibus urbe petitis,

Sed pullo atque hoedo: tum z penfilis uva secundas

Et nux ornabat mensas, cum duplice ficu.

Post hoc ludus erat ' cuppa potare magistra:

Ac venerata Ceres, ita culmo surgeret alto,

Explicuit vino contractae seria frontis.

Saeviat atque novos moveat Fortuna tumultus!

Quantum hinc imminuet? quanto aut ego parcius, aut vos,

O pueri, nituistis, ut huc o novus incola venit?

NOTES.

VER. 156. And, what's more rare, a Poet shall say Grace.] The pleasantry of this line consists in the supposed rarity of a Poet's having a table of his own; or a sense of gratitude for the bles-

But y ancient friends (tho' poor, or out of play)
That touch my bell, I cannot turn away.
'Tis true, no 'Turbots dignify my boards,
But gudgeons, flounders, what my Thames affords:
To Hounflow-heath I point and Bansted-down,
Thence comes your mutton, and these chicks my
own:

^a From yon old walnut-tree a show'r shall fall;
And grapes, long ling'ring on my only wall,
And figs from standard and espalier join;
The dev'l is in you if you cannot dine:
Thenbchearful healths (your Mistress shall have place)
And, what's more rare, a Poet shall say Grace. 156
Fortune not much of humbling me can boast;
Tho' double tax'd, how little have I lost?
My Life's amusements have been just the same,
Before, and after c Standing Armies came. 160
My lands are sold, my father's house is gone;
I'll hire another's; is not that my own,
And yours, my friends? thro' whose free-opening gate
None comes too early, none departs too late;

NOTES.

fings he receives. But it contains, too, a fober reproof of People of Condition, for their unmanly and brutal disuse of so natural a duty. Nam d propriae telluris herum natura neque illum,

Nec me, nec quemquam statuit. nos expulit ille;

Illum aut e nequities aut f vafri inscitia juris,

Postremum expellet certe 8 vivacior beres.

Nunc ager Umbreni sub nomine, nuper Ofelli

Dictus erat: nulli proprius; sed cedit in usum

NOTES.

VER. 171. Well, if the use be mine, etc.] In a letter to this Mr. Bethel, of March 20, 1743, he says, "My Landlady, Mrs. "Vernon, being dead, this Garden and House are offered me in sale; and, I believe (together with the cottages on each side my grass-plot next the Thames) will come at about a thousand pounds. If I thought any very particular friend would be pleased to live in it after my death (for, as it is, it serves all my purposes as well during life) I would purchase it; and more particularly could I hope two things, That

(For I, who hold fage Homer's rule the best, 165 Welcome the coming, speed the going guest.) " Pray heav'n it last! (cries Swift!) as you go on; " I wish to God this house had been your own: " Pity! to build, without a fon or wife: "Why, you'll enjoy it only all your life." Well, if the use be mine, can it concern one, Whether the name belong to Pope or Vernon? What's d Property? dear Swift! you fee it alter From you to me, from me to e Peter Walter; Or, in a mortgage, prove a Lawyer's share; 175 Or, in a jointure, vanish from the heir; Or in pure fequity (the case not clear) The Chanc'ry takes your rents for twenty year: At best, it falls to some gungracious son, Who cries, "My father's damn'd, and all's my own. h Shades, that to BACON could retreat afford, 181 Become the portion of a booby Lord;

NOTES.

the Friend who should like it, was so much younger and healthier than myself, as to have a prospect of its continuing his
fome years longer than I can of its continuing mine. But
most of those I love are travelling out of the world, not into
it; and unless I have such a view given me, I have no vanity nor pleasure that does not stop short of the Grave."
So that we see, what some of his Friends would not believe, his
thoughts in prose and verse were the same.

Ver. 175. Or, in a jointure, vanish from the heir; The ex-

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Nunc mihi, nunc alii. i quocirca vivite fortes,

Fortiaque adversis opponite pectora rebus.

Notes.

pression well describes the surprize an heir must be in, to find himself excluded by that Instrument which was made to secure his succession. For Butler humourously defines a fointure to be the act whereby Parents

Or, in a montrage, prove a Lawyer's there p

Or an traine equality (the rate not clear)

At both, it fails to found amoregious

Their Childrens Tenants, e're they're born-

And Hemsley, once proud Buckingham's delight, Slides to a Scriv'ner or a city Knight.

i Let lands and houses have what Lords they will, Let Us be fix'd, and our own masters still.

NOTES.

VER. 183. proud Buckingham's etc.] Villers Duke of Buckingham. P.

VER. 185. Let lands and houses etc.] The turn of his imitation, in the concluding part, obliged him to diversify the sentiment. They are equally noble: but Horace's is expressed with the greater force.

PIRST HP17T INTERNAL PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY

FIRST BOOK

HORACL

VI TO