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# A Collection Of Poems In Six Volumes. By Several Hands

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An Epistle from Florence. To T. A. Esq; Tutor to the Earl of P. Written in the Year 1740. By the Honourable .

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#### [ 75 ]



## An EPISTLE from FLORENCE.

To T. A. Efq; Tutor to the Earl of P-

Written in the Year 1740.

By the Honourable ----

7Hen flourish'd with their state th' ATHENIAN name, And Learning and Politeness were the same, Philosophy with gentle art refin'd The honest roughness of th' unpractis'd mind: She call'd the latent beams of Nature forth. Guided their ardor and infur'd their worth. She pois'd th' impetuous Warrior's vengeful steel, Mark'd true Ambition from destructive Zeal, Pointed what lustre on that laurel blows, Which Virtue only on her fons bestows. Hence clement CIMON, of unfpotted fame, Hence ARISTIDES' ever-fav'rite name; Heroes, who knew to wield the righteous fpear, And guard their native tow'rs from foreign fear; Or in firm bands of focial Peace to bind Their Country's good, and benefit mankind. She trim'd the thoughtful Statesman's nightly oil, Confirm'd his mind beneath an empire's toil,

[ 76 ]

Or with him to his filent villa stole, Gilded his ev'ning hours, and harmoniz'd his foul.

To woods and caves she never bade retreat,
Nor fix'd in cloyster'd monkeries her seat:
No lonely precepts to her sons enjoin'd,
Nor taught them to be men, to shun mankind.
CYNICKS there were, an uncouth selfish race,
Of manners soul, and boastful of disgrace:
Brutes, whom no Muse has ever lov'd to name,
Whose Ignominy is their only same.
No hostile Trophies grace their honour'd urn,
Around their tomb no sculptur'd Virtues mourn;
Nor tells the marble into emblems grav'd,
An Art discover'd or a City sav'd.

Be this the goal to which the Briton-Peer Exalt his hope, and press his young career! Be this the goal to which, my Friend, may you With gentle skill direct his early view! Artful the various studies to dispense, And melt the schoolman's jargon down to sense.

See the pedantick Teacher, winking dull,
The letter'd Tyrant of a trembling fchool;
Teaching by force, and proving by a frown,
His lifted fasces ram the lesson down.
From tortur'd strains of eloquence he draws
Barbarick precepts and unmeaning laws,
By his own fense wou'd Tully's word expound,
And a new Vandal tramples classick ground.

Perhapi

#### [77]

Perhaps a Bigot to the learned page,
No modern custom can his thoughts engage;
His little farm by Georgick rules he ploughs,
And prunes by metre the luxuriant boughs,
Still from Aratus' sphere or Maro's signs,
The future calm or tempest he divines,
And sears if the prognostick Raven's found
a Expatiating alone along the dreary round.

What scanty precepts! studies how consin'd!
Too mean to fill your comprehensive mind:
Unfatisfy'd with knowing when or where
Some Roman Bigot rais'd a Fane to Fear;
On what green medal Virtue stands express'd,
How Concord's pictur'd, Liberty how dress'd;
Or with wise Ken judiciously define,
When Pius marks the honorary coin
Of Caracalla, or of Antonine.

Thrifting for knowledge, but to know the right,
Thro' judgment's optick guide th' illufive fight,
To let in rays on Reason's darkling cell,
And Prejudice's lagging mists dispel;
For this you turn the Greek and Roman page,
Weigh the contemplative and active Sage,
And cull some useful flow'r from each heroick Age.

Thence teach the Youth the necessary art, To know the Judge's from the Critick's part;

a Et sola in sicca secum spatiatur arena.

VIRG.

Show



#### [ 78 ]

Show how ignoble is the paffion, FEAR,
And place some patriot Roman's model near;
Their bright examples to his soul instil,
Who knew no Fear, but that of doing ill.
Tell him, 'tis all a cant, a trisle all,
To know the folds that from the Toga fall,
The Clavus' breadth, the Bulla's golden round,
And ev'ry leaf that ev'ry VIRTUE crown'd;
But shew how brighter in each honest breast
Than in her shrine, the Goddess stood confess'd.

Tell him, it is not the fantastick Boy, Elate with pow'r and swell'd with frantick joy, 'Tis not a slavish Senate, fawning, base, Can stamp with honest same a worthless race; Tho' the salse Coin proclaim him great and wise, The tyrant's life shall tell that Coin, it lyes.

But when your early Care shall have design'd To plan the Soul and mould the waxen Mind; When you shall pour upon his tender Breast Ideas that must stand an Age's Test, Oh! there imprint with strongest deepest dye The lovely form of Goddess Liberty! For her in Senates be he train'd to plead, For her in Battles be he taught to bleed. Lead him where Dover's rugged cliff resounds With dashing seas, fair Freedom's honest Bounds, Point to you azure Carr bedrop'd with gold, Whose weight the necks of Gallia's Sons uphold;

Where

#### [ 79 ]

Where proudly fits an iron-scepter'd Queen, And fondly triumphs o'er the prostrate scene, Cry, that is Empire! shun her baleful path, Her Words are Slavery, and her Touch is Death! Thro' wounds and blood the Fury drives her way, And murthers half, to make the rest her prey.

Thus fpoke each Spartan matron, as she dress'd With the bright cuirass her young soldier's breast; On the new warrior's tender-sinew'd thigh, Girt Fear of Shame and Love of Liberty.

Steel'd with fuch precepts, for a cause so good, What scanty Bands the Persian Host withstood! Before the Sons of Greece let Afia tell How fled her b Monarch, how her Millions fell ! When arm'd for LIBERTY, a Few how brave! How weak a Multitude, where each a Slave! No welcome Falchion fill'd their fainting hand, No Voice inspir'd of favourite Command: No Peafant fought for wealthy lands poffefs'd, No fond remembrance warm'd the Parent's breaft: They faw their lands for royal riot groan, And toil in vain for banquets, not their own; They faw their infant Race to bondage rife, And frequent heard the ravish'd Virgin's cries, Dishonour'd but to cool a transient gust Of fome luxurious Satrap's barb'rous luft.

b Xerxes.

The



#### T 80 ]

The greatest curses any Age has known;
Have issued from the Temple or the Throne;
Extent of ill from Kings at first begins,
But Priests must aid and consecrate their sins.
The tortur'd Subject might be heard complain,
When sinking under a new weight of chain,
Or more rebellious might perhaps repine,
When tax'd to dow'r a titled Concubine,
But the Priest christens all a Right Divine.

When at the altar a new Monarch kneels,
What conjur'd awe upon the people fleals!
The chosen HE adores the precious oil,
Meekly receives the solemn charm, and while
The Priest some blessed nothings mutters o'er,
Sucks in the sacred grease at ev'ry pore:
He seems at once to shed his mortal skin,
And seels Divinity transfus'd within.
The trembling Vulgar dread the royal Nod,
And worship God's anointed more than God.

Such Sanction gives the Prelate to fuch Kings! So Mischief from those hallow'd fountains springs. But bend your eye to yonder harras'd plains, Where King and Priest in one united reigns; See fair Italia mourn her holy state, And droop oppress'd beneath a papal weight: Where sat Celibacy usurps the foil, And sacred Sloth consumes the peasant's toil:

The holy Drones monopolize the sky,
And plunder by a vow of Poverty.
The Christian Cause their lewd profession taints,
Unlearn'd, unchaste, uncharitable saints.

Oppression takes Religion's hallow'd name, And Priestcraft knows to play the specious game. Behold how each enthusiastick fool Of ductile piety, becomes their tool: Observe with how much art, what sine pretence They hallow Foppery and combat Sense.

Some hoary Hypocrite, grown old in fin,
Whose thoughts of heav'n with his last hours begin,
Counting a chaplet with a bigot care,
And mumbling somewhat 'twixt a charm and pray'r,
Hugs a dawb'd image of his injur'd Lord,
And squeezes out on the dull idol-board
A fore-ey'd gum of tears; the slannel Crew
With cunning joy the fond repentance view,
Pronounce Him bless'd, his miracles proclaim,
Teach the slight crowd t' adore his hallow'd name,
Exalt his praise above the Saints of old,
And coin his finking conscience into Gold.

Or when some Pontiss with imperious hand
Sends forth his edict to excise the land,
The tortur'd Hind unwillingly obeys,
And mutters curses as his mite he pays!
The subtle Priest th' invidious name forbears,
Asks it for holy use or venal pray'rs;

Vol. III.

F

Exhibits

Exhibits all their trumpery to fale,
A bone, a mouldy morfel, or a nail:
'Th' idolatrous Devout adore the show,
And in full streams the molten off'rings flow.

No pagan object, nothing too profane;
To aid the Romish zeal for Christian gain.
Each Temple with new weight of idols nods,
And borrow'd Altars smoke to other Gods.
PROMETHEUS' Vultur MATTHEW'S Eagle proves:
And heav'nly Cherubs sprout from heathen Loves;
Young Ganymede a winged Angel stands
By holy Luke, and dictates God's commands:
c Apollo, tho' degraded, still can bless,
Rewarded with a Sainthood, and an S.
Each convert Godhead is apostoliz'd,
And Jove himself by d Peter's name baptiz'd,
Astarte shines in Jewish Mary's same,
Still Queen of heav'n, another and the same.

While the proud Priest the facred Tyrant reigns
Of empty cities and dispeopled plains,
Where setter'd Nature is forbid to rove
In the free commerce of productive Love:
Behold imprison'd with her barren kind,
In gloomy cells the votive Maid confin'd;

c St. Apollos.

d At St. Peter's an old flatue of Jupiter is turned into one of St. Peter.

#### [ 83 ]

Faint streams of blood, by long stagnation weak, Scarce tinge the fading damask of her cheek; In vain she pines, the holy Faith withstands, What Nature dictates and what God commands: But if some sanguine He, some lusty Priest Of jollier morals taste the tempting seast, From the strong grasp if some poor babe arise, Unwelcome, unindear'd, it instant dies, Or poisons blassing soon the hasty joy, Th' impersect seeds of infant life destroy.

Fair Modesty, thou virgin tender-ey'd, From thee the Muse the grosser acts must hide, Nor the dark cloister's mystick rites display, Whence num'rous brawny Monkhoods waste away, And unprolifick, tho' forsworn, decay.

BRITANNIA fimiling, views her golden plains

From mitred bondage free and papal chains;

Her jocund Sons pass each unburthen'd day

Securely quiet, innocently gay:

Lords of themselves the happy Rusticks sing,

Each of his little tenement the King.

Twice did usurping Rome extend her hand,

To reinslave the new-deliver'd land:

Twice were her sable bands to battle warm'd,

With pardons, bulls, and texts, and murthers arm'd:

e With Peter's sword and Michael's lance were sent,

And whate'er stores supply'd the Church's armament.

e Addit & Herculeos Arcus Hastamque Minervæ, Quicquid habent telorum armamentaria Cæli.

Juv. Twice

F

#### [ 84 ]

Twice did the gallant Albion race repelf The jesuit legions to the gates of hell; Or whate'er Angel, friend to Britain, took Or WILLIAM'S OF ELIZA'S guardian look.

Arife, young Peer! shine forth in such a cause! Who draws the sword for freedom, justly draws. Resect how dearly was that freedom bought; For that, how oft your ancestors have fought; Thro' the long series of our princes down, How wrench'd some right from each too potent Crown.

See abject John, that vafial-Monarch, fee!
Bow down the royal neck, and crouch the supple knee!
Oh! prostitution of imperial State!
To a vile Romish Priest's vile c Delegate.
Him the bold Barons scorning to obey,
And be the subjects of a subject sway;
Heroes whose names to latest same shall shine,
Aw'd by no visions of a Right Divine,
That bond by eastern Politicians wrought,
Which ours have learnt, and Rabbi Doctors taught,
To straiter banks restrain'd the Royal Will,
That great prerogative of doing ill.

To late example and experience dead, See f Henry in his Father's footsteps tread. Too young to govern, immature to pow'r, His early follies haunt his latest hour.



e The Pope's Nuncio.
f Henry III.

[ 85]

His nobles injur'd, and his realms oppress'd, No violated senate's wrongs redress'd, His hoary age finks in the feeble wane Of an inglorious, slighted, tedious reign.

The Muse too long with idle glories sed,
And train'd to trumpet o'er the warlike dead,
The wanton fain on giddy plumes would foar,
To Gallic Loire and Jordan's humbled shore;
Again would teach the Saracen and Gaul,
At g Edward's and at h Henry's name to fall;
Romantick heroes! prodigal of blood;
What numbers stain'd each ill-disputed flood!
Tools to a Clergy! warring but to feast,
With spoils of provinces each pamper'd Priest.
Be dumb, fond Maid; thy sacred ink nor spill
On specious Tyrants, popularly ill;
Nor be thy comely locks with Roses dight
Of either victor colour, Red or White.

Foil'd the assassing King, in union blow
The blended flowers on seventh Henry's brow.
Peace lights again on the forsaken strand,
And banish'd Plenty re-assumes the land.
No nodding crest the crouching infant frights,
No clarion rudely breaks the bride's delights;

g Edward I. and II.

h Henry V.

i Richard III.

#### [ 86 ]

Repofing fabres feek their ancient place To briftle round a gaping k Gorgon's face. The wearied arms grotefquely deck the wall, And tatter'd trophies fret the Royal 1 hall. But Peace in vain on the blood-fatten'd plains From her exuberant horn her treasures rains : She deals her gifts; but in an useless hour, To glut the iron hand of griping Pow'r: Such Lancaster, whom harrafs'd Britain faw, Mask'd in the garb of antiquated Law: More politick than wife, more wife than great : A legislator to enslave the state; Cooly malicious; by defign a knave; More mean than false, ambitious more than brave; Attach'd to Interest's more than Honour's call; More strict than just, more covetous than all.

Not so the Reveller profuse, his m Son,
His contrast course of tyranny begun;
Robust of limb, and slush'd with florid grace,
Strength nerv'd his youth, and squar'd his jovial face.
To feats of arms and carpet-combats prone,
In either field the vig'rous monarch shone:
Mark'd out for riot each luxurious day
In tournaments and banquets danc'd away.
But shift the scene, and view what slaughters stain
Each frantick period of his barb'rous reign:

A Tyra



k Medufa's head in the armory at the Tower.

<sup>1</sup> Westminster-Hall.

m Henry VIII.

#### [ 87 ]

A 'Tyrant to the people whom he rul'd,
By ev'ry potentate he dealt with, fool'd;
Sold by one n minister, to all unjust;
Sway'd by each dictate of distemper'd lust;
Changing each worship that controul'd the bent
Of his adult'rous will, and lewd intent;
Big in unwieldy majesty and pride,
And smear'd with Queens and Martyrs blood, He dy'd,

Pass we the pious o Youth too slightly seen;
The murd'rous zeal of a weak Romish P Queen:
Nor with faint pencil, impotently vain,
Shadow the glories of ELIZA's reign,
Who still too great, tho' some few faults she had,
To catalogue with all those Royal bad.

Arife! great James! thy course of wisdom run!
Image of David's philosophic Son!
He comes! on either hand in seemly state,
Knowledge and Peace his sondled handmaids wait;
Obscurely learn'd, elaborately dull,
Of quibbling cant and grace fanatick full,
Thron'd in full senate, on his pedant tongue,
These for fix hours each weighty morning hung;
For these each string of royal pow'r he strain'd,
For these he fold whate'er Eliza gain'd;
For these he squander'd ev'ry prudent store
The frugal Princes had reserv'd before,

F 4

On

n Cardinal Woolfey.

o Edward VI.

P Mary.

On penfion'd fycophants and garter'd boys, Tools of his will, and minions of his joys. For these he let his beggar'd q daughter roam; Bubbled for these by Spanish art at home; For these, to sum the blessings of his reign, Poison'd one Son r, and t' other sent to Spain.

Retire, strict Muse, and thy impartial verse In pity spare on Charles's bleeding herse; Or all his faults in blackest notes translate To tombs where rot the authors of his fate; To lustful Henrietta's Romish shade, Let all his acts of lawless pow'r be laid; Or to the s Priest more Romish still than her; And whoe'er made his gentle virtues err.

On the next t Prince expell'd his native land. In vain Affliction laid her iron hand; Fortune or fair or frowning, on his foul Cou'd ftamp no virtue, and no vice controul: Honour, or morals, gratitude, or truth, Nor learn'd his ripen'd age, nor knew his youth; The care of Nations left to whores or chance, Plund'rer of Britain, penfioner of France; Free to buffoons, to ministers deny'd, He liv'd an atheist, and a bigot dy'd.

q Queen of Bohemia.

r Prince Henry, and Charles I.

Archbishop Laud.

#### [ 89 ]

The reins of Empire, or refign'd or stole,
Are trusted next to James's weak controul;
Him, meditating to subvert the laws,
His Hero u Son in Freedom's beauteous cause
Rose to chastise: w unhappy still! howe'er
Posterity the gallant action bear.

Thus have I try'd of Kings and Priests to sing,
And all the ills that from their vices spring;
While victor George thunders o'er either Spain,
Revenges Britain and afferts the Main;
To x willing Indians deals our equal laws,
And from his Country's voice affects applause;
y What time fair Florence on her peaceful shore,
Free from the din of war and battle's roar,
Has lap'd me trister in inglorious ease,
Modelling precepts that may serve and please;
Yours is the task—and glorious is the plan,
To build the Free, the Sensible, Good Man.

w William III.
w Infelix utcumque ferent ea facta minores! VIRG.
x
Per populos dat jura viamque affectat Olympo. VIRG.
y Illo Virgilium me tempore dulcis alebat
Parthenope, studiis storentem ignobilis oti. VIRG.

### ETANTO ETANTO ETANTO ETANTO ETANTO ETANTO

## The BEAUTIES.

An Epistle to Mr. Eckardt the Painter,

By the Same.

Esponding artist, talk no more Of Beauties of the days of yore, Of Goddesses renown'd in Greece, And ZEUXIS' composition-piece, Where every nymph that could at most Some fingle grace or feature boaft, Contributed her favourite charm To perfect the ideal form. 'Twas Cynthia's brow, 'twas Lesbia's eye, 'Twas CLOE's cheeks' vermilion dye; ROXANA lent the noble air. Dishevell'd flow'd Aspasia's hair, And CUPID much too fondly press'd His mimick mother THAIS' breaft. Antiquity, how poor thy use! A fingle Venus to produce! Friend Eckardt, ancient flory quit, Nor mind whatever Pliny writ; Felibien and Fresnoy declaim, Who talk of Raphael's matchless fame,

Of Titian's tints, Corregio's grace,
And Carlo's each Madonna face
As if no Beauties now were made,
But Nature had forgot her trade.
'Twas Beauty guided Raphael's line
From heavenly Women, ftyl'd divine;
They warm'd old Titian's fancy too,
And what he could not tafte he drew:
Think you Devotion warm'd his breaft
When Carlo with fuch looks express'd
His virgins, that her vot'ries feel
Emotions—not, I'm sure, of zeal?

In Britain's isle observe the Fair,
And curious chuse your models there;
Such patterns as shall raise your name
To rival sweet Corregio's same:
Each single piece shall be a test,
And Zeuxis' patchwork be a jest;
Who ransack'd Greece, and cull'd the age
To bring one Goddess on the stage:
On your each canvass we'll admire
The charms of the whole heav'nly choir.

Majestick Juno shall be seen In a Harvey's glorious aweful mien. Where b Fitzroy moves, resplendent Fair; So warm her bloom, sublime her air;

Her



a Miss Harwey, now Mrs. Phipps. b Lady Caroline Fitzroy.

Her ebon treffes, form'd to grace,
And heighten while they shade her face:
Such troops of martial youth around,
Who court the hand that gives the wound;
'Tis Pallas, Pallas stands confes'd,
Tho' c Stanhoff's more than Paris bles'd.
So d Cleveland shown in warlike pride,
By Lilly's pencil deify'd:
So c Grafton, matchles dame, commands
The fairest work of Kneller's hands:
The blood that warm'd each amorous court,
In veins as rich still loves to sport:
And George's age beholds restor'd,
What William boasted, Charles ador'd,
For Venuses the Trojan ne'er

For Venuses the Trojan ne'er Was half so puzzled to declare: Ten Queens of Beauty, sure I see! Yet sure the true is f Emily: Such majesty of youth and air, Yet modest as the village fair: Attracting all, indulging none, Her beauty like the glorious Sun

Thron'd

c Lord Petersham.

d The Duchess of Cleveland like Pallas among the beautier at Windsor.

c The Duchess of Grafton, among the beauties at Hampton Court.

f Lady Emily Lenox, now Countess of Kildare.

#### [ 93 ]

Thron'd eminently bright above, Impartial warms the world to love.

In fmiling & Capel's beauteous look
Rich Autumn's Goddess is mistook,
With poppies and with spiky corn,
Eckardt, her nut-brown curls adorn;
And by her side, in decent line,
Place charming h Berkley, Proferpine.
Mild as a summer sea, serene,
In dimpled beauty next be seen,

i AYLESBURY like hoary Neptune's Queen. With her the light-difpenfing Fair, Whose beauty gilds the morning air,

And bright as her attendant fun, The new Aurora, k LYTTLETON.

Such <sup>1</sup> Guido's pencil beauty-tip'd, And in etherial colours dip'd.

In measur'd dance to tuneful fong Drew the sweet Goddes, as along

Heaven's azure 'neath their light feet spread,

The buxom Hours she fairest led. The crescent on her brow display'd,

In curls of loveliest brown inlaid,

With every charm to rule the night,

Like Dian, m STRAFFORD woos the fight;

g Lady Mary Capel.

h Countess of Berkley.

k Mrs. Lyttleton.

Guido's Aurora in the Respigliori Palace at Rome.

m Countess of Strafford.

Ì

The

#### [ 94 ]

The eafy shape, the piercing eye;
The snowy bosom's purity,
The unaffected gentle phrase
Of native wit in all she says;
Eckardt, for these thy art's too faint:
You may admire, but cannot paint.

How Hebe fmil'd, what bloom divine
On the young Goddes lov'd to shine,
From n Carpenter we guess, or see
All-beauteous o Manners beam from thee.
How pretty Flora, wanton maid,
By Zephyr woo'd in noon-tide shade,
With rosy hand coquetly throwing
Pansies, beneath her sweet touch blowing;
How blithe she look'd let P Fanny tell;
Let Zephyr own if half so well.

Another q Goddes of the year,
Fair Queen of Summer, fee, appear;
Her auburn locks with fruitage crown'd,
Her panting bosom loosely bound,
Etherial beauty in her face,
Rather the beauties of her race,
Whence ev'ry Goddes, envy smit,
Must own each Stonehouse meets in Pritt,

n Miss Carpenter.

o Miss Manners.

P Miss Fanny Maccartney.

<sup>9</sup> Pomona.

<sup>\*</sup> Miss Atkins, now Mrs. Pitt.

#### [ 95 ]

Exhausted all the heav'nly train, How many Mortals yet remain, Whose eyes shall try your pencil's art, And in my numbers claim a part! Our fifter Muses must describe 8 Chudleigh, or name her of the tribe; And t JULIANA with the Nine Shall aid the melancholy line, To weep her dear u Resemblance gone, Where all thefe beauties met in Onc. Sad fate of beauty! more I fee, Afflicted, lovely family! Two beauteous Nymphs, here, Painter, place, Lamenting o'er their w fifter Grace, x One, matron-like, with fober grief; Scarce gives her pious fighs relief; While y t'other lovely Maid appears In all the melting pow'r of tears; The foftest form, the gentlest grace, The fweetest harmony of face; Her fnowy limbs, and artless move Contending with the Queen of Love, While bashful Beauty shuns the prize, Which Emily might yield to Evelyn's eyes.

EPI-

s M. Chudleigh.

t L. Juliana Farmor.

<sup>&</sup>quot; L. Sophia Farmor, Countess of Granville.

w Miss Mary Evelyn.

x Mrs. Boone.

y Mrs. Elizabeth Evelyn.