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

**Dodsley, Robert**

**London, 1758**

Education. A Poem: in two Cantos. Written in Imitation of the Style and Manner of Spenser's Fairy Queen. Inscribed to Lady Langham, Widow of Sir John Langham, Bart. By Gilbert West, Esq;

**urn:nbn:de:gbv:45:1-1993**



E D U C A T I O N.  
 A P O E M:  
 I N T W O C A N T O S.

Written in Imitation of the Style and Manner of  
 SPENSER'S FAIRY QUEEN.

Inscribed to Lady LANGHAM, Widow of Sir JOHN  
 LANGHAM, Bait.

By GILBERT WEST, Esq;

*Unum studium vere liberale est, quod liberum facit. Hoc sapientiæ studium est, sublime, forte, magnanimum: cætera pusilla & puerilia sunt.—Plus scire velle quam sit satis intemperantiæ genus est. Quid, quod ista liberalium artium consecratio molestos, verbosos, intempestivos, sibi placentes facit, & ideo non dicentes necessaria, quia supervacua didicerunt.*

SEN. Ep. 88.

O Goodly DISCIPLINE! from heav'n y-sprong!  
 Parent of Science, queen of Arts refin'd!  
 To whom the *Graces*, and the *Nine* belong:  
 O! bid those *Graces*, in fair chorus join'd

With



With each bright *Virtue* that adorns the mind !  
 O bid the *Muses*, thine harmonious train,  
 Who by thy aid erst humaniz'd mankind,  
 Inspire, direct, and moralize the strain,  
 That doth essay to teach thy treasures how to gain !

And THOU, whose pious and maternal care,  
 The substitute of heavenly Providence,  
 With tenderest love my orphan life did rear,  
 And train me up to manly strength and sense ;  
 With mildest awe, and virtuous influence,  
 Directing my unpractis'd wayward feet  
 To the smooth walks of Truth and Innocence ;  
 Where Happiness heart-felt, Contentment sweet,  
 Philosophy divine aye hold their blest retreat.

THOU, most belov'd, most honour'd, most rever'd !  
 Accept this verse, to thy large merit due !  
 And blame me not, if by each tie endear'd,  
 Of nature, gratitude, and friendship true,  
 The whiles this *moral thesis* I pursue,  
 And trace the *plan* of goodly <sup>a</sup> *Nurture* o'er,  
 I bring thy *modest virtues* into view ;  
 And proudly boast that from *thy* precious store,  
 Which erst enrich'd my heart, I drew this sacred lore,

<sup>a</sup> *Nurture*, Education.

And

And thus, I ween, thus shall I best repay  
 The valued gifts, thy careful love bestow'd;  
 If imitating THEE, well as I may,  
 I labour to diffuse th' important good  
 'Till this great truth by all be understood;  
 " That all the pious duties which we owe,  
 " Our parents, friends, our country and our God;  
 " The seeds of every virtue here below,  
 " From *Discipline* alone, and early *Culture* grow.

## CANTO I.

## ARGUMENT.

*The Knight, as to <sup>b</sup> PÆDIA's house  
 He his young Son conveys,  
 Is staid by CUSTOM; with him fights,  
 And his vain pride dismays.*

A Gentle KNIGHT there was, whose noble deeds  
 O'er *Fairy Land* by Fame were blazon'd round:  
 For warlike enterprize, and sage <sup>c</sup> areeds  
 Among the chief alike was he renown'd;

<sup>b</sup> Pædia is a Greek word, signifying Education.

<sup>c</sup> Areeds, counsels.

Whence

Whence with the marks of highest honours crown'd  
 By GLORIANA, in domestick peace,  
 That port, to which the wise are ever bound,  
 He anchor'd was, and chang'd the tossing seas  
 Of bustling busy life, for calm sequester'd ease.

## II.

There in domestick virtue rich and great  
 As erst in publick, 'mid his wide domain,  
 Long in primæval patriarchal state,  
 The lord, the judge, the father of the plain,  
 He dwelt; and with him, in the golden chain  
 Of wedded faith y-link'd, a *matron* sage  
 Aye dwelt; sweet partner of his joy and pain,  
 Sweet charmer of his youth, friend of his age,  
 Skill'd to improve his blifs, his sorrows to assuage.

## III.

From this fair union, not of fordid gain,  
 But merit similar and mutual love,  
 True source of lineal virtue, sprung a train  
 Of youths and virgins; like the beauteous grove,  
 Which round the temple of *Olympick Jove*,  
 Begirt with youthful bloom the <sup>d</sup> parent tree,  
 The *sacred olive*; whence old *Elis* wove

<sup>d</sup> Parent tree, the sacred olive.] This tree grew in the  
 Altis, or sacred grove of Olympick Jupiter at Olympia.  
 having, as the Eleans pretended, been originally planted  
 there by Hercules. It was esteem'd sacred, and from that  
 were taken the Olympick crowns. See Pausanias. Eliac.  
 and the Dissertation on the Olympick Games,

Her

Her verdant crowns of peaceful victory,  
The e guerdons of bold strength, and swift activity.

## IV.

So round their noble parents goodly rose  
These generous scyons; they with watchful care  
Still, as the swelling passions 'gan disclose  
The buds of future virtues, did prepare  
With prudent culture the young shoots to rear:  
And aye in this endearing pious toil  
They by a f Palmer sage instructed were,  
Who from deep thought and studious search erewhile  
Had learnt to mend the heart, and till the human foil.

## V.

For by cœlestial *Wisdom* whilom led  
Through all th' apartments of th' immortal mind,  
He view'd the secret stores, and mark'd the ssted  
To judgment, wit, and memory assign'd;  
And how sensation and reflection join'd  
To fill with images her darksome *grotte*,  
Where variously disjointed or combin'd,  
As reason, fancy, or opinion wrought,  
Their various masks they play'd, and fed her pensive thought.

e *Guerdons*, rewards.

f *Palmer*, pilgrim. *The person here signified is Mr. Locke, characteriz'd by his works.*

g *Sted*, place, station.

VI. *Alse*

h Alse through the fields of *Science* had he stray'd  
 With eager search, and sent his piercing eye  
 Through each learn'd *school*, each *philosophick shade*,  
 Where *Truth* and *Virtue* erst were deem'd to lie ;  
 If haply the fair vagrants he <sup>i</sup> mote spy,  
 Or hear the musick of their charming lore :  
 But all unable there to satisfy  
 His curious soul, he turn'd him to explore  
 The *sacred writ of Faith* ; to learn, believe, adore,

## VII.

Thence foe profess'd of *Falsbood* and *Deceit*,  
 Those sly artificers of tyranny,  
 k Aye holding up before uncertain feet  
 His faithful light, to *Knowledge*, *Liberty*,  
 Mankind he led, to *Civil Policy*,  
 And mild *Religion's* charitable law ;  
 That fram'd by *Mercy* and *Benignity*  
 The persecuting sword forbids to draw,  
 And free-created souls with penal terrors awe.

## VIII.

l Ne with these glorious gifts elate and vain  
 Lock'd he his wisdom up in churlish pride ;  
 But, stooping from his height, would even deign  
 The feeble steps of *Infancy* to guide.

h *Alse*, also, further.  
 k *Aye*, ever.

i *Mote*, might.  
 l *Ne*, nor.

Eternal

Eternal glory Him therefore betide !  
 Let every generous youth *his* praise proclaim !  
 Who, wand'ring through the world's rude forest wide,  
 By him hath been y-taught his course to frame  
 To *Virtue's* sweet abodes, and heav'n-aspiring *Fame* !

## IX.

For this the FAIRY KNIGHT with anxious thought,  
 And fond paternal care his counsel pray'd ;  
 And him of gentlest courtesy besought  
 His guidance to vouchsafe and friendly aid ;  
 The while his tender offspring he convey'd,  
 Through devious paths to that secure retreat ;  
 Where sage PÆDIA, with each tuneful maid,  
 On a wide mount had fix'd her rural seat,  
 'Mid flow'ry gardens plac'd, untrod by vulgar feet.

## X.

And now forth-pacing with his blooming heir,  
 And that same virtuous *Palmer* them to guide ;  
 Arm'd all to point, and on a courser fair  
 Y-mounted high, in military pride,  
 His little train before he slow did ride.  
 Him eke behind a gentle *Squire*<sup>1</sup> ensues,  
 With his young *lord* aye marching side by side,  
 His counsellour and guard, in goodly<sup>m</sup> *thews*,  
 Who well had been brought up, and nurs'd by every *Muse*.

<sup>1</sup> *Ensues*, follows.<sup>m</sup> *Thews*, manners.

## XI. Thus





## XI.

Thus as their pleasing journey they pursued,  
 With chearful argument beguiling pain ;  
 Ere long descending from an hill they view'd  
 Beneath their eyes out-stretch'd a spacious plain,  
 That fruitful shew'd, and apt for every grain,  
 For pastures, vines and flow'rs ; while Nature fair  
 Sweet-smiling all around with count'nance o' fain  
 Seem'd to demand the tiller's art and care,  
 Her wildness to correct, her lavish waste repair.

## XII.

Right good, I ween, and bounteous was the soil,  
 Aye wont in happy season to repay  
 With tenfold usury the peasant's toil.  
 But now 'twas ruin all, and wild decay ;  
 Untill'd the garden and the fallow lay,  
 The sheep-thorne down with barren p brakes o'ergrown ;  
 The whiles the merry peasants sport and play,  
 All as the publick evil were unknown,  
 Or every publick care from every breast was flown.

## XIII.

Astonish'd at a scene at once so fair  
 And so deform'd ; with wonder and delight  
 At man's neglect, and Nature's bounty rare,  
 In studious thought a-while the Fairy Knight,

o' *Fain*, earnest, eager.

p *Brakes*, briars.

Bent

Bent on that goodly a lond his eager fight :  
 Then forward rush'd, impatient to descry  
 What towns and castles there-in were b empight ;  
 For towns him seem'd, and castles he did spy,  
 As to th' horizon round he stretch'd his roaming eye,

## XIV.

Nor long way had they travell'd, ere they came  
 To a wide stream, that with tumultuous roar  
 Emongst rude rocks its winding course did frame.  
 Black was the wave and fordid, cover'd o'er  
 With angry foam, and stain'd with infants' gore,  
 Thereto along th' unlovely margin flood  
 A birchen grove that waving from the shore,  
 Aye cast upon the tide its falling bud,  
 And with its bitter juice empoison'd all the flood.

## XV.

Right in the centre of the vale empight,  
 Not distant far a *forked mountain* rose ;  
 In outward form presenting to the sight  
 That fam'd *Parnassian* hill, on whose fair brows  
 The *Nine Aonian Sisters* wont repose ;  
 List'ning to sweet *Castalia's* sounding stream,  
 Which through the plains of *Cirrha* murm'ring flows.  
 But This to That compar'd mote justly seem  
 Ne fitting haunt for gods, ne worthy man's esteem.

<sup>a</sup> *Lond*, land.<sup>b</sup> *Empight*, placed.

## XVI.

For this nor founded deep, nor spreaden wide,  
 Nor high up-rai'd above the level plain,  
 By toiling art through tedious years applied,  
 From various parts compil'd with studious pain,  
 Was <sup>e</sup> erst up-thrown ; if so it mote attain,  
 Like that *poetick mountain*, to be <sup>d</sup> hight  
 The noble feat of *Learning's* goodly train.  
 Thereto, the more to captivate the sight,  
 It like a gârden fair most curiously was <sup>e</sup> dight.

## XVII.

In figur'd plots with leafy walls inclos'd,  
 By measure and by rule it was out-lay'd ;  
 With fymmetry fo regular dispos'd,  
 That plot to plot still answer'd, shade to shade ;  
 Each correspondent twain alike array'd  
 With like embellishments of plants and flow'rs,  
 Of statues, vases, spouting founts, that play'd  
 Through shells of Tritons their ascending show'rs,  
 And labyrinths involv'd and trelice-woven bow'rs.

## XVIII.

There likewise mote be seen on every side  
 The yew obedient to the planter's will,  
 And shapely box of all their branching pride  
 Ungently shorne, and with preposterous skill

<sup>e</sup> *Erst*, formerly. <sup>d</sup> *Hight*, called, named. <sup>e</sup> *Dight*, drest.

To

To various beasts and birds of fundry quill  
 Transform'd, and human shapes of monstrous size ;  
 Huge as that giant-race, who, hill on hill  
 High-heaping, fought with impious vain f emprize,  
 Despight of thund'ring *Jove*, to scale the steepy skies.

## XIX.

Alse other wonders of the sportive shears  
 Fair Nature mis-adorning there were found ;  
 Globes, spirial columns, pyramids and piers  
 With sprouting urns and budding statues crown'd ;  
 And horizontal dials on the ground  
 In living box by cunning artists trac'd ;  
 And gallies trim, on no long voyage bound,  
 But by their roots there ever anchor'd fast,  
 All were their bellying sails out-spread to every blast.

## XX.

O'er all appear'd the mountain's forked brows  
 With terrasses on terrasses up-thrown ;  
 And all along arrang'd in order'd rows,  
 And vists broad, the velvet slopes adown  
 The ever-verdant trees of *Daphne* shone.  
 But aliens to the clime, and brought of old  
 From *Latian* plains, and *Grecian Helicon*,  
 They shrunk and languish'd in a foreign mold,  
 By changeful summers starv'd, and pinch'd by winter's cold.

f *Emprize*, enterprize, attempt.

g *All, used frequently by the old English poets for all-though.*



## XXI.

Amid this verdant grove with solemn state,  
 On golden thrones of antique form reclin'd,  
 In mimick majesty *Nine Virgins* fate,  
 In features various, as unlike in mind :  
 Alse boasted they themselves of heav'nly kind,  
 And to the sweet *Parnassian Nymphs* allied ;  
 Thence round their brows the *Delphick bay* they twin'd,  
 And matching with high names their apish pride,  
 O'er every learned *school* aye claim'd they to preside,

## XXII.

In antique garbs, for modern they disdain'd,  
 By Greek and Roman artists <sup>h</sup> whilom made,  
 Of various woofs, and variously distain'd  
 With tints of ev'ry hue, were they array'd ;  
 And here and there ambitiously display'd  
 A purple shred of some rich robe, prepared  
 Erst by the *Muses* or th' *Aonian Maid*,  
 To deck great *Tullius* or the *Mantuan Bard* ;  
 Which o'er each motley vest with uncouth splendor glared,

## XXIII.

And well their outward vesture did express  
 The bent and habit of their inward mind,  
 Affecting Wisdom's antiquated dress,  
 And usages by Time cast far behind.

<sup>h</sup> *Whilom*, formerly.

Thence,

Thence, to the charms of younger Science blind,  
 The customs, laws, the learning, arts and phrase  
 Of their own countries they with scorn declin'd ;  
 Ne *sacred Truth* herself would they embrace,  
 Unwarranted, unknown in their fore-fathers' days.

## XXIV.

Thus ever backward casting their survey ;  
 To *Rome's* old ruins and the groves forlorn  
 Of elder *Athens*, which in prospect lay  
 Stretch'd out beneath the mountain, would they turn  
 Their busy search, and o'er the rubbish mourn.  
 Then gathering up with superstitious care,  
 Each little scrap, however foul or torn,  
 In grave harangues they boldly would declare,  
 This *Ennius*, *Varro* ; This the *Stagyrite* did wear.

## XXV.

Yet, under names of venerable sound,  
 Wide o'er the world they stretch'd their awful rod ;  
 Through all the provinces of *Learning* own'd  
 For *teachers* of whate'er is wise and good.  
 Alse from each region to their dread abode  
 Came youth unnumber'd, crowding all to taste  
 The *streams* of *Science* ; which united flow'd  
 Adown the *mount*, from *nine* rich sources cast ;  
 And to the vale below in one rude torrent pass'd.

<sup>i</sup> *Dread*, dreadful.



## XXVI.

O'er every source, protectress of the stream,  
 One of those *Virgin Sisters* did preside ;  
 Who, dignifying with her noble *name*  
 Her proper flood, aye pour'd into the tide  
 The heady vapours of *scholastick pride*  
 Despotical and abject, bold and blind,  
 Fierce in debate, and forward to decide ;  
 Vain love of praise, with adulation join'd,  
 And disingenuous scorn, and impotence of mind,

## XXVII.

Extending from the hill on every side,  
 In circuit vast a verdant valley spread ;  
 Across whose uniform flat bosom glide  
 Ten thousand streams, in winding mazes led,  
 By various sluices from one common head ;  
 A turbid mass of waters, vast, profound,  
 Hight of *Philology* the lake ; and fed  
 By that rude torrent, which with roaring sound  
 Came tumbling from the hill, and flow'd the level round.

## XXVIII.

And every where this spacious valley o'er,  
 Fast by each stream was seen a numerous throng  
 Of beardless striplings to the birch-crown'd shore,  
 By nurses, guardians, fathers dragg'd along :

Who helpless, meek, and innocent of wrong,  
 Were torn reluctant from the tender side  
 Of their fond mothers, and by <sup>k</sup> *faitours* strong,  
 By pow'r made insolent, and hard by pride,  
 Were driv'n with furious rage, and lash'd into the tide.

## XXIX.

On the rude bank with trembling feet they stood,  
 And casting round their oft-reverted eyes,  
 If haply they mote 'scape the hated flood,  
 Fill'd all the plain with lamentable cries;  
 But far away th' unheeding father flies,  
 Constrain'd his strong compunctions to repress;  
 While close behind, assuming the disguise  
 Of nurturing care, and smiling tenderness,  
 With secret scourges arm'd those grievously *faitours* press.

## XXX.

As on the steepy margin of a brook,  
 When the young sun with flowery *Maia* rides,  
 With innocent dismay a bleating flock  
 Crowd back, affrighted at the rolling tides:  
 The shepherd-swain at first exhorting chides  
 Their <sup>l</sup> feely fear; at length impatient grown,  
 With his rude crook he wounds their tender sides;  
 And all regardless of their piteous moan,  
 Into the dashing wave compels them furious down.

<sup>k</sup> *Faitour*, doer, from *faire* to do, and *fait* deed, commonly used by Spenser in a bad sense. <sup>l</sup> *Seely*, simple.





## XXXI.

Thus urg'd by masting *Fear* and dol'rous <sup>1</sup> *Teen*  
 Into the current plung'd that infant crowd.  
 Right piteous was the spectacle, I ween,  
 Of tender striplings stain'd with tears and blood,  
 Perforce conflicting with the bitter flood ;  
 And labouring to attain the distant shore,  
 Where holding forth the *gown* of *manhood* stood  
 The *fiery Liberty*, and ever-more  
 Solicited their hearts with her enchanting lore.

## XXXII.

Irksome and long the passage was, perplex'd  
 With rugged rocks on which the raving tide  
 By sudden bursts of angry tempests vex'd  
 Oft dash'd the youth, whose strength mote ill abide  
 With head up-lifted o'er the waves to ride.  
 Whence many wearied ere they had o'er-past  
 The middle stream (for they in vain have tried)  
 Again return'd <sup>m</sup> astounded and aghast ;  
 Ne one regardful look would ever backward cast.

## XXXIII.

Some, of a rugged, more enduring frame,  
 Their toilsome course with patient pain pursu'd ;  
 And tho' with many a bruise and <sup>n</sup> muchel blame,  
 Est hanging on the rocks, and est embru'd

<sup>1</sup> *Teen*, pain, grief. <sup>m</sup> *Astounded*, astonish'd. <sup>n</sup> *Muchel*, much.

Deep in the muddy stream, with hearts subdu'd  
 And quail'd by labour, gain'd the shore at last,  
 But in life's practick °lear unskill'd and rude,  
 Forth to that *forked bill* they silent pac'd ;  
 Where hid in studious shades their fruitless hours they waste,

## XXXIV.

Others of rich and noble lineage bred,  
 Though with the crowd to pass the flood constrain'd,  
 Yet o'er the crags with fond indulgence led  
 By *hiring* guides and in all depths sustain'd,  
 Skimm'd lightly o'er the tide, undipt, unstain'd,  
 Save with the sprinkling of the wat'ry spray :  
 And aye their proud prerogative maintain'd,  
 Of ignorance and ease and wanton play,  
 Soft harbingers of vice, and præmature decay.

## XXXV.

A few, alas, how few ! by heav'n's high will  
 With subtle spirits endow'd and sinews strong,  
 p *Albe* fore q mated by the tempests shrill,  
 That bellow'd fierce and rife the rocks among,  
 By their own *native vigour* borne along  
 Cut briskly through the waves ; and forces new  
 Gathering from toil, and ardor from the throng  
 Of rival youths, outfripped the labouring crew,  
 And to the true † *Parnassè*, and heav'n-thron'd glory flew.

° *Lear*, learning.p *Albe*, although.q *Mated*, amaz'd, scared. † *Parnassè*, Parnassus.

## XXXVI. Dire

## XXXVI.

Dire was the tumult, and from every shore  
 Discordant echoes struck the deafen'd ear,  
 Heart-thrilling cries, with sobs and <sup>s</sup> singults fore  
 Short-interrupted, the imploring tear,  
 And furious stripes, and angry threats severe,  
 Confus'dly mingled with the jarring sound  
 Of all the various speeches that <sup>t</sup> while-ere  
 On *Sbinar's* wide-spread champain did astound  
 High *Babel's* builders vain, and their proud works confound.

## XXXVII.

Much was the KNIGHT empassion'd at the scene,  
 But more his blooming son, whose tender breast  
 Empierced deep with sympathizing teen  
 On his pale cheek the signs of dread impress'd,  
 And fill'd his eyes with tears, which fore distress'd  
 Up to his fire he rais'd in mournful wife;  
 Who with sweet smiles paternal soon redress'd  
 His troublous thoughts, and clear'd each sad fummise;  
 Then turns his ready steed, and on his journey hies.

## XXXVIII.

But far he had not march'd ere he was stay'd  
 By a rude voice, that like th' united sound  
 Of shouting myriads, through the valley bray'd,  
 And shook the groves, the floods, and solid ground:

<sup>s</sup> Singults, sighs,      <sup>t</sup> While-ere, formerly.

The distant hills rebellow'd all around.

“ Arrest, *Sir Knight*, it cried, thy fond career,

“ Nor with presumptuous disobedience wound

“ That awful majesty, which all revere !

“ In my commands, *Sir Knight*, the voice of nations hear !

## XXXIX

Quick turn'd the KNIGHT, and saw upon the plain

Advancing towards him with impetuous gate,

And visage all inflamed with fierce disdain,

A monstrous GIANT, on whose brow elate

Shone the bright ensign of imperial state ;

Albeit lawful kingdom he had none ;

But laws and kingdoms wont he oft create,

And oft'times over both erect his throne,

While senates, priests and kings his <sup>u</sup> sov'ran sceptre own

## XL.

CUSTOM he hight ; and aye in every land

Usurp'd dominion with despotick sway

O'er all he holds ; and to his high command

Constrains even stubborn *Nature* to obey ;

Whom dispossessing oft, he doth assay

To govern in her right : and with a pace

So soft and gentle doth he win his way,

That she unwares is caught in his embrace,

And tho' deflowr'd and thrall'd nought feels her foul disgrace.

<sup>u</sup> *Sovran*, for sovereign.

XLI. For



## XLI.

For nurt'ring, even from their tend'rest age,  
 The docile fons of men withouten pain,  
 By disciplines and rules to every stage  
 Of life accommodate, he doth them train  
 Insensibly to wear and hug his chain.  
 Alse his behests or gentle or severe,  
 Or good or noxious, rational or vain,  
 He craftily persuades them to revere,  
 As institutions sage, and venerable lear.

## XLII.

Protector therefore of that *forked bill*,  
 And mighty patron of those *Sisters Nine*,  
 Who there enthron'd, with many a copious rill  
 Feed the full streams, that through the valley shine,  
 He deemed was; and aye with rites divine,  
 \* Like those, which *Sparta's* hardy race of yore  
 Were wont perform at fell *Diana's* shrine,  
 He doth constrain his vassals to adore  
 Perforce their sacred names, and learn their sacred lore.

## XLIII.

And to the FAIRY KNIGHT now drawing near,  
 With voice terriffick and imperious mien,  
 (All was he wont less dreadful to appear,  
 When known and practised than at distance seen)

And

\* *The Lacedemonians in order to make their children hardy and endure pain with constancy and courage, were accustomed to cause them to be scourged very severely. And I myself*

And kingly stretching forth his sceptre sheen,  
 Him he commandeth, upon threat'ned pain  
 Of his displeasure high and vengeance keen,  
 From his rebellious purpose to refrain,  
 And all due honours pay to *Learning's* rev'rend train.

## XLIV.

So saying and forestalling all reply,  
 His peremptory hand without delay,  
 As one who little cared to justify  
 Upon the *Fairy Youth* with great dismay  
 In every quaking limb convuls'd, he lay'd:  
 And proudly stalking o'er the verdant y lay,  
 Him to those *scientifick streams* convey'd,  
 With many his young compeers therein to be <sup>z</sup> embay'd.

## XLV.

The KNIGHT his tender son's distressful a stour  
 Perceiving, swift to his assistance flew:  
 Ne vainly stay'd to deprecate that pow'r,  
 Which from submission aye more haughty grew.  
 For that proud GIANT's force he wisely knew,  
 Not to be meanly dreaded, nor defy'd  
 With rash presumption; and with courage true,  
 Rather than step from Virtue's paths aside,  
 Oft had he singly scorn'd his all-dismaying pride.

*myself* (says Plutarch, in his life of Lycurgus) have seen  
 several of them endure whipping to death, at the foot of the  
 altar of Diana surnamed Orthia.

y Lay, mead. z Embay'd, bathed, dipt. a Stour,  
 trouble, misfortune, &c.



## XLVI.

And now, disdain'g parle, his courser hot  
 He fiercely prick'd, and couch'd his vengeful spear;  
 Where-with the GIANT he so rudely smot;  
 That him perforce constrain'd to <sup>b</sup>wend arrear:  
 Who, much abash'd at such rebuke severe,  
 Yet his accustom'd pride recov'ring soon,  
 Forth-with his massy sceptre 'gan up-rear;  
 For other warlike weapon he had none,  
 Ne other him behoved to quell his boldest <sup>c</sup>foe.

## XLVII.

With that enormous *mace* the FAIRY KNIGHT  
 So fore he <sup>d</sup>bet, that all his armour <sup>d</sup>bray'd,  
 To pieces well-nigh riven with the might  
 Of so tempestuous strokes: but He was stay'd,  
 And ever with deliberate valour weigh'd  
 The sudden changes of the doubtful fray;  
 From cautious prudence oft deriving aid,  
 When force unequal did him hard assay:  
 So lightly from his steed he leapt upon the lay.

## XLVIII.

Then swiftly drawing forth his <sup>e</sup>trenchant blade,  
 High o'er his head he held his senceful shield;  
 And warily fore-casting to evade  
 The GIANT's furious arm, about him wheel'd,

<sup>b</sup> *Wend arrear*, move backwards. <sup>c</sup> *Foe*, foes.  
<sup>d</sup> *Bet*, beat; *bray'd*, resounded. <sup>e</sup> *Trenchant*, cutting.

With

With reflés steps aye traverfing the field.  
 And ever as his foe's intemperate pride,  
 Through rage defencelefs, mote advantage yield,  
 With his fharp fword fo oft he did him <sup>f</sup> gride,  
 That his gold-fandal'd feet in crimfon floods were dyed.

## XLIX.

His bafér parts he maim'd with many a wound;  
 But far above his utmoft reach were <sup>g</sup> pight  
 The forts of life: ne ever to confound  
 With utter ruin, and abolifh quite  
 A power fo puiffant by his fingle might  
 Did he présume to hope: Himfelf alone  
 From lawlefs force to free, in bloody fight  
 He flood; content to bow to *CUSTOM's* throne,  
 So *REASON* mote not blufh his foveran rule to own.

## L.

So well he warded, and fo fiercely préf'd  
 His foe, that weary wex'd he of the fray;  
 Yet hould he algates lower his haughty creft;  
 But marking in contempt his fore difmay,  
 Difdainfully releas'd the trembling prey,  
 As one unworthy of his princely care:  
 Then proudly cafting on the warlike *i fay*  
 A fmile of fcorn and pity, through the air  
 'Gan blow his fhripping horn; the blaft was heard afar.

<sup>f</sup> *Gride*, cut, hack.    <sup>g</sup> *Pight*, placed.    <sup>h</sup> *Nould*  
 he *algates*, would not by any means.    <sup>i</sup> *Fay*, fairy.





## LI.

Eftoons astonish'd at th' alarming found,  
 The fignal of diftrefs and hostile wrong,  
 Confusedly trooping from all quarters round,  
 Came pouring o'er the plain a numerous throng  
 Of every fex and order, old and young;  
 The vaffals of great CUSTOM's wide domain,  
 Who to his lore inur'd by ufage long,  
 His every fummons heard with pleasure fain,  
 And felt his every wound with fymphetick pain.

## LII.

They, when their bleeding *king* they did behold,  
 And faw an armed KNIGHT him ftanding near,  
 Attended by that *Palmer* fage and bold;  
 Whole vent'rous fearch of devious Truth while-e'er  
 Spread through the realms of *Learning* horrors drear,  
 Y-feized were at firft with terrors great;  
 And in their boding hearts began to fear,  
 Diffention factious, controverfial hate,  
 And innovations ftrange in CUSTOM's peaceful ftate.

## LIII.

But when they faw the KNIGHT his fauchion fheathe,  
 And climbing to his fteed march thence away,  
 With all his hostile train, they 'gan to breathe  
 With freer fpirit, and with afpect gay

Soon chased the gathering clouds of black affray,  
 Alse their great monarch, cheared with the view  
 Of myriads, who confefs his sovran sway,  
 His ruffled pride began to plume anew ;  
 And on his bugle clear a strain of triumph blew.

## LIV.

There-at the multitude, that stood around,  
 Sent up at once a univerfal roar,  
 Of boisterous joy: the sudden-burfting found,  
 Like the explofion of a warlike store  
 Of nitrous grain, th' afflicted <sup>k</sup> welkin tore.  
 Then turning towards the KNIGHT, with scoffings lewd,  
 Heart-piercing insults, and revilings fore,  
 Loud burfts of laughter vain, and hisses rude,  
 As through the throng he pafs'd, his parting steps purfued.

## LV.

Alse from that *farked bill* the boasted feat  
 Of studious *Peace*, and mild *Philosophy*,  
 Indignant murmurs mote be heard to threat,  
 Mustering their rage; eke baleful *Infamy*,  
 Rouz'd from her den of base obscurity  
 By those same *Maidens Nine*, began to found  
 Her brazen trump of black'ning obloquy:  
 While *Satire*, with dark clouds encompass round,  
 Sharp, secret arrows shot, and aim'd his back to wound.

<sup>k</sup> *Welkin*, sky.

## LVI.

But the brave FAIRY KNIGHT no whit difmay'd  
 Held on his peaceful journey o'er the plain ;  
 With curious eye obferving, as he fray'd  
 Through the wide provinces of CUSTOM's reign,  
 What mote afrefh admonifh him remain  
 Faft by his virtuous purpofe ; all around  
 So many objects mov'd his juft difdain ;  
 Him feem'd that nothing ferious, nothing found  
 In city, village, bow'r, or caftle mote be found.

## LVII.

In village, city, caftle, bow'r and hall,  
 Each fex, each age, each order and degree,  
 To vice and idle fport abandon'd all,  
 Kept one perpetual general jubilee.  
 Ne fuffered ought disturb their merry glee ;  
 Ne fenfe of private lofs, ne publick woes,  
 Restraint of law, Religion's drad decree,  
 Intefine defolation, foreign foes, [throws.  
 Nor heav'n's tempeftuous threats, nor earth's convulfive

## LVIII.

But chiefly they whom Heav'n's difpofing hand  
 Had feated high on Fortune's upper ftage ;  
 And plac'd within their call the facred band  
 That waits on Nature and Inftitution fage,

If happy their wife<sup>1</sup> hefts mote them engage  
 To climb through knowledge to more noble praise;  
 And as they mount, enlighten every age  
 With the bright influence of fair Virtue's rays;  
 Which from the awful heights of Grandeur brighter blaze.

## LIX.

They, O perverse and base ingratitude!  
 Despising the great ends of Providence,  
 For which above their mates they were endued  
 With wealth, authority, and eminence,  
 To the low services of brutal sense  
 Abused the means of pleasures more refin'd,  
 Of knowledge, virtue, and beneficence;  
 And fettering on her throne th' immortal mind,  
 The guidance of her realm to passions wild resign'd.

## LX.

Hence thoughtless, shameless, reckless, spiritless,  
 Nought worthy of their kind did they assay;  
 But or benumb'd with palsied Idleness  
 In meerly living loiter'd life away.  
 Or by false taste of pleasure led astray,  
 For-ever wandering in the sensual bow'rs  
 Of feverish Debauch, and lustful Play,  
 Spent on ignoble toils their active pow'rs,  
 And with untimely blasts diseas'd their vernal hours.

<sup>1</sup> *Hefts, behests*, precepts, commands.



## LXI.

Ev'n they to whom kind Nature did accord  
 A frame more delicate, and purer mind,  
 Though the foul brothel and the wine-stain'd board  
 Of beastly *Comus* loathing they declin'd,  
 Yet their soft hearts to idle joys resign'd ;  
 Like painted insects, through the summer-air  
 With random flight aye ranging unconfin'd ;  
 And tasting every flower and blossom fair,  
 Withouten any choice, withouten any care.

## LXII.

For choice them needed none, who only fought  
 With vain amusements to beguile the day ;  
 And wherefore should they take or care or thought,  
 Whom Nature prompts, and Fortune calls to play ?  
 “ Lords of the earth, be happy as ye may !  
 So learn'd, so taught the leaders of mankind ;  
 Th' unreasoning vulgar willingly obey,  
 And leaving toil and poverty behind,  
 Ran forth by different ways the blissful boon to find.

## LXIII.

Nor tedious was the search ; for every where,  
 As nigh great *CUSTOM*'s royal tow'rs the *KNIGHT*  
 Pass'd through th' adjoining hamlets, mote he hear  
 The merry voice of festival Delight

Saluting the return of morning bright  
 With matin-revels, by the mid-day hours  
 Scarce ended; and again with dewy night,  
 In cover'd theatres, or leafy bow'rs  
 Offering her evening-vows to *Pleasure's* joyous pow'rs.

## LXIV.

And ever on the way mote he espy  
 Men, women, children, a promiscuous throng  
 Of rich, poor, wise and simple, low and high,  
 By land, by water, passing aye along  
 With mummers, anticks, musick, dance and song,  
 To *Pleasure's* numerous temples, that beside  
 The glistening streams, or tufted groves among,  
 To every idle foot stood open wide,  
 And every gay desire with various joys supplied.

## LXV.

For there each heart with diverse charms to move,  
 The sly inchantress summoned all her train:  
 Alluring *Venus*, queen of vagrant love,  
 The boon companion *Bacchus* loud and vain,  
 And tricking *Hermes*, god of fraudful gain,  
 Who, when blind *Fortune* throws, directs the die,  
 And *Phæbus* tuning his soft *Lydian* strain  
 To wanton motions, and the lover's sigh,  
 And thought-beguiling shew, and masking revelry.

## LXVI.

Unmeet associates there for noble youth,  
 Who to true honour meaneth to aspire;  
 And for the works of virtue, faith, and truth  
 Would keep his manly faculties entire.  
 The which avizing well, the cautious fire  
 From that soft *fire-land* of *Pleasance* vain,  
 With timely haste was minded to retire,  
 m Or ere the sweet contagion mote attain  
 His son's unpractic'd heart, yet free from vicious stain.

## LXVII.

So turning from that beaten road aside,  
 Through many a devious path at length he paced,  
 As that experienc'd *Palmer* did him guide,  
 'Till to a mountain hoare they come at last;  
 Whose high-rai's'd brows with silvan honours graced,  
 Majestically frown'd upon the plain,  
 And over all an awful horror cast.  
 Seem'd as those villas gay it did disdain,  
 Which spangled all the vale like *Flora's* painted train.

## LXVIII.

The hill ascended frait, ere-while they came  
 To a tall grove, whose thick-embow'ring shade,  
 Impervious to the sun's meridian flame  
 Ev'n at mid-noon a dubious twilight made;

m Or ere, before.

Like

Like to that sober light, which difarray'd  
 Of all its gorgeōus robe, with blunted beams,  
 Through windows dim with holy acts pourtray'd,  
 Along ſome cloiſter'd abby faintly gleams,  
 Abſtracting the rapt thought from vain earth-muſing themes.

## LXIX.

Beneath this high o'er-arching canopy  
 Of cluſt'ring oaks, a ſilvan colonnade,  
 Aye liſt'ning to the native melody  
 Of birds ſweet-echoing through the lonely ſhade,  
 On to the centre of the grove they ſtray'd ;  
 Which, in a ſpacious circle opening round,  
 Within it's ſhelt'ring arms ſecurely laid,  
 Diſclos'd to ſudden view a vale profound,  
 With Nature's artleſs ſmiles and tranquil beauties crown'd.

## LXX.

There, on the baſis of an ancient pile,  
 Whoſe croſs ſurmounted ſpire o'erlook'd the wood,  
 A venerable MATRON they ere-while  
 Discover'd have, beſide a murm'ring flood  
 Reclining in right ſad and penſive mood.  
 Retir'd within her own abſtracted breaſt,  
 She ſeem'd o'er various woes by turns to brood ;  
 The which her changing chear by turns expreſt,  
 Now glowing with diſdain, with grief now n over-keſt.

<sup>n</sup> *Over-keſt*, for over-caſt.





## LXXI.

Her thus immers'd in anxious thought profound  
 When-as the *Knigh*t perceiv'd, he nearer drew;  
 To weet what bitter bale did her astound,  
 And whence th' occasion of her anguish grew.  
 For that right noble *MATR*ON well he knew;  
 And many perils huge, and labours fore  
 Had for her sake endured; her vassal true,  
 Train'd in her love, and practiced evermore  
 Her honour to respect, and reverence her lore.

## LXXII.

O dearest dad! he cried, fair *island queen*!  
 Mother of heroes! *empres*s of the main!  
 What means that stormy brow of troublous teen?  
 ° Sith heav'n-born *Peace*, with all her smiling train  
 Of sciences and arts, adorns thy reign  
 With wealth and knowledge, splendour and renown?  
 Each port how throng'd! how fruitful every plain!  
 How blithe the country! and how gay the town!  
 While *Liberty* secures and heightens every boon!

## LXXIII.

Awaken'd from her trance of pensive woe  
 By these fair flattering words, she rais'd her head;  
 And bending on the *KNIGHT* her frowning brow,  
 Mock't thou my sorrows, *Fairy's Son*? she said,

° *Sith*, since.

Or is thy judgment by thy heart misled  
 To deem that certain, which thy hopes suggest ?  
 To deem them full of life and lustihead,  
 Whose cheeks in *Hebe's* vivid tints are dress'd,  
 And with *Joy's* careless mien, and dimpled smiles impress ?

## LXXIV.

Thy unsuspecting heart how nobly good  
 I know, how sanguine in thy country's cause !  
 And mark'd thy virtue, single how it stood  
 Th' assaults of mighty *CUSTOM*, which o'er-awes  
 The faint and timorous mind, and oft withdraws  
 From *Reason's* lore th' ambitious and the vain  
 By the sweet lure of popular applause,  
 Against their better knowledge, to maintain  
 The lawless throne of *Vice*, or *Folly's* childish reign.

## LXXV.

How vast his influence ! how wide his sway !  
 Thy self ere-while by proof didst understand :  
 And saw'st, as through his realms thou took'st thy way,  
 How *Vice* and *Folly* had o'er-spread the land.  
 And can'st thou then, O *Fairy's Son*, demand  
 The reason of my woe ? or hope to ease  
 The throbbings of my heart with speeches bland,  
 And words more apt my sorrows to increase,  
 The once-dear names of *Wealth*, and *Liberty*, and *Peace* ?

¶ *Lustibeard*, strong health, vigour.

LXXVI. *Peace*,



## LXXVI.

*Peace, Wealth, and Liberty*, that noblest boon,  
 Are blessings only to the *wife* and *good*.  
 To weak and vicious minds their worth unknown  
 And thence abused but serve to furnish food  
 For riot and debauch, and fire the blood  
 With high-spiced luxury; whence strife, debate,  
 Ambition, envy, Faction's vip'rous brood,  
 Contempt of order, manners profligate;  
 The symptoms of a foul, diseased and bloated state.

## LXXVII.

Ev'n *Wit* and *Genius*, with their learned train  
 Of Arts and Muses, though from heav'n above  
 Descended, when their talents they prophane  
 To varnish folly, kindle wanton love,  
 And aid excentrick sceptic *Pride* to rove  
 Beyond *caelestial Truth's* attractive sphere,  
 This *moral system's central sun*, aye prove  
 To their fond votaries a curse severe,  
 And only make mankind more obstinately err.

## LXXVIII.

And stand my sons herein from censure clear?  
 Have They consider'd well, and understood  
 The use and import of those blessings dear,  
 Which the great *Lord of Nature* hath bestow'd

As well to prove, as to reward the good ?  
 Whence are these torrents then, these billowy seas  
 Of vice, in which, as in his proper flood,  
 The fell *leviathan* licentious plays,  
 And upon ship-wreck'd faith, and sinking virtue preys ?

## LXXIX.

To you, ye Noble, Opulent and Great !  
 With friendly voice I call, and honest zeal !  
 Upon your vital influences wait  
 The health and sickness of the common-weal ;  
 The maladies you cause, yourselves must heal.  
 In vain to the unthinking harden'd crowd  
 Will *Truth* and *Reason* make their just appeal ;  
 In vain will *sacred Wisdom* cry aloud ;  
 And *Justice* drench in vain her vengeful sword in blood.

## LXXX.

With You must reformation first take place :  
 You are the head, the intellectual mind  
 Of this vast body politick ; whose base,  
 And vulgar limbs, to drudgery consign'd,  
 All the rich stores of Science have resign'd  
 To You, that by the craftsman's various toil,  
 The sea-worn mariner, and sweating hind,  
 In peace and affluence maintain'd, the while  
 You, for yourselves and them, may dress the mental soil.

LXXXI. Be-



## LXXXI.

Bethink you then, my children, of the trust  
 In you repos'd: ne let your heav'n-born mind  
 Consume in pleasure, or unactive rust;  
 But nobly rouse you to the task assign'd,  
 The godlike task to teach and mend mankind:  
 Learn that ye may instruct: to virtue lead  
 Yourselfes the way: the herd will crowd behind,  
 And gather precepts from each worthy deed:  
 " Example is a lesson, that all men can read.

## LXXXII.

But if (to All or Most I do not speak)  
 In vain and sensual habits now grown old,  
 The strong *Circæan charm* you cannot break,  
 Nor re-assume at will your native  $\eta$  mould,  
 Yet envy not the state, you could not hold;  
 And take compassion on the rising age:  
 In them redeem your errours manifold;  
 And, by due discipline and nurture sage,  
 In Virtue's lore betimes your docile sons engage.

## LXXXIII.

You chiefly, who like me in secret mourn  
 The prevalence of *CUSTOM* lewd and vain;  
 And you, who, though by the rude torrent borne  
 Unwillingly along you yield with pain

$\eta$  Mould, shape, form,

To

To his behests, and act what you disdain,  
 Yet nourish in your hearts the gen'rous love  
 Of piety and truth, no more restrain  
 The manly zeal ; but all your sinews move  
 The present to reclaim, the future race improve !

## LXXXIV.

Eftsoons by your joint efforts shall be quell'd  
 Yon haughty GIANT, who so proudly sways  
 A sceptre by repute alone upheld ;  
 Who where he cannot dictate strait obeys.  
 Accustom'd to conform his flattering phrase  
 To numbers and high-plac'd authority,  
 Your party he will join, your maxims praise,  
 And drawing after all his menial fry,  
 Soon teach the general voice your act to ratify.

## LXXXV.

Ne for th' atchievement of this great emprize  
 The want of means or counsel may ye dread.  
 From my TWIN-DAUGHTERS' fruitful wombs shall rise  
 A race of letter'd sages, deeply read  
 In *Learning's* various writ : by whom y-led  
 Through each well cultur'd plot, each beauteous grove,  
 Where *antique Wisdom* whilom wont to tread,  
 With mingled glee and profit may ye rove,  
 And cull each virtuous plant, each tree of knowledge prove.

LXXXVI. Your-



## LXXXVI.

Yourself with virtue thus and knowledge fraught  
 Of what, in ancient days of good or great  
 Historians, bards, philosphers have taught ;  
 Join'd with whatever else of modern date  
 Maturer judgment, search more accurate  
 Discover'd have of Nature, Man, and God,  
 May by new laws reform the time-worn state  
 Of cell-bred discipline, and smoothe the road  
 That leads through *Learning's* vale to *Wisdom's* bright abode.

## LXXXVII.

By you invited to her secret bow'rs  
 Then shall PÆDIA reascend her throne  
 With vivid laurels girt and fragrant flow'rs ;  
 While from their *forked mount* descending down  
 Yon supercilious *pedant train* shall own  
 Her empire paramount, ere long by Her  
 Y-taught a lesson in their schools unknown,  
 " To *Learning's* richest treasures to prefer  
 " The *knowledge* of the *world*, and *man's* great *business* there.

## LXXXVIII.

On this prime science, as the final end  
 Of all her discipline, and nurturing care,  
 Her eye PÆDIA fixing aye shall bend  
 Her every thought and effort to prepare

Her

Her tender pupils for the various war,  
 Which *Vice* and *Folly* shall upon them wage,  
 As on the perilous march of life they fare  
 With prudent lore fore-arming every age  
 'Gainst *Pleasure's* treacherous joys, and *Pain's* embattled rage.

## LXXXIX.

Then shall my youthful sons, to Wisdom led  
 By fair example and ingenuous praise,  
 With willing feet the paths of *Duty* tread ;  
 Through the world's intricate or rugged ways  
 Conducted by *Religion's* sacred rays ;  
 Whose soul-invigorating influence  
 Shall purge their minds from all impure allays  
 Of fordid selfishness and brutal sense,  
 And swell th' ennobled heart with blest benevolence.

## XC.

Then also shall this *emblematick pile*,  
 By *magick* whilom fram'd to sympathize  
 With all the fortunes of this changeful isle,  
 Still, as my sons in fame and virtue rise,  
 Grow with their growth, and to th' applauding skies  
 It's radiant cross up-lift ; the while, to grace  
 The *multiplying niches*, fresh supplies  
 Of *worthies* shall succeed, with equal pace  
 Aye following their *fires* in virtue's glorious race.

XCI. Fir'd





## XCI.

Fir'd with th' idea of her future fame  
 She rose majestic from her lowly sted;  
 While from her vivid eyes a sparkling flame  
 Out-beaming, with unwonted light o'erspread  
 That *monumental pile*; and as her head  
 To every *front* she turn'd, discover'd round  
 The venerable *forms* of heroes dead;  
 Who for their various merit erst renown'd,  
 In this bright fane of glory shrines of honour found.

## XCII.

On *these* that *royal dame* her ravish'd eyes  
 Would often feast; and ever as she spy'd  
 Forth from the ground the *length'ning structure* rise  
 With *new-plac'd statues* deck'd on every side,  
 Her parent-breast would swell with gen'rous pride.  
 And now with her in that sequester'd plain,  
 The *Knight* awhile constraining to abide,  
*She* to the *Fairy Youth* with pleasure fain  
 Those *sculptur'd chiefs* did shew, and their great lives explain.<sup>r</sup>

<sup>r</sup> Great lives explain.] I cannot forbear taking occasion from these words to make my acknowledgements to the writers of Biographia Britannica, for the pleasure and profit I have lately received from perusing the two first volumes of that useful and entertaining work, of which the monumental structure above mentioned, decorated with the statues of great and good men, is no improper emblem. This work, which contains the lives of the most eminent persons, who have flourished in Great Britain and Ireland, from the earliest ages, down to the present time, appears to me, as far as it

it has hitherto gone, to be executed with great spirit, accuracy, and judgment; and deserves, in my opinion, to be encouraged by all, who have at heart the honour of their country, and that of their particular families and friends; and who can any ways assist the ingenious and laborious authors, to render as perfect as possible, a design so apparently calculated to serve the publick, by setting in the truest and fullest light the characters of persons already generally, though perhaps too indistinctly known; and reviving from obscurity and oblivion, examples of private and retired merit, which, though less glaring and ostentatious than the former, are not, however, of a less extensive or less beneficial influence. To those, who may happen not to have seen this repository of British glory, I cannot give a better idea of it, than in the following lines of Virgil:

Hic manus ob patriam pugnando vulnera passi;

Quique sacerdotes casti, dum vita manebat;

Quique pii vates & Phæbo digna locuti;

Inventas aut qui vitam excoluere per artes;

Quique sui memores alios fecere merendo.

Virg. Æn. L. 6.

The End of the FIRST CANTO.

