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A Collection Of Poems In Six Volumes. By Several Hands

Dodsley, Robert London, 1758

Ut Pictura Poesis. By Mr. Nourse, late of All-Souls College Oxon,

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[93]

Let opening rofes, drooping lillies tell,

Like those she bloom'd, and ah! like these she fell.

In circling wreaths let the pale ivy grow,

And distant yews a fable shade bestow;

Round her, ye Graces, constant vigils keep,

And guard (fair Innocence!) her facred sleep:

Till that bright morn shall wake the beauteous clay,

To bloom and sparkle in eternal day.

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A S once the Muse, reclining on her lyre,
Observ'd her fav'rite bards, a num'rous choir;
The conscious pleasure swell'd her filent breast,
Her secret pride exulting smiles consest.

When thus her fifter spoke, whose care presides O'er the mixt pallat, and the pencil guides, Just, Goddess, is thy joy, thy train, we own, Approaches nearest to Apollo's throne.

Foremost in Learning's ranks they sit sublime, Honour'd and lov'd thro' every age of time:

Yet let me say, some sav'rite son of mine
Has more than follow'd every son of thine.

Thy Homer needs not grieve to hear his same Exceeds not Raphael's widely honour'd name:

Raphael

[94]

Raphael like him 'midft ages wrapt in night, Rose father of his science to the light; With matchless grace, and majesty divine, Bade Painting breathe, and live the bold design; To the clay-man the heavenly fire apply'd, And gave it charms to Nature's self deny'd.

With judgment, genius, industry and art,
Does Virgil captivate his reader's heart?
With rival talents my Caracci blest
Fires with like transport the spectator's breast.
The youthful Lucan, who with rapid force
Urg'd to Pharsalia's field the Muse's horse,
An equal fire, an equal strength of mind,
In Angelo's congenial soul will find:
Whose wild imagination could display
Fierce giants whirl'd from heaven—the world's last day.

With more fuccess does tender Ovid move
The melting foul to softness and to love;
Than wanton Titian, whose warm colours shew
That gods themselves the amorous riot know?
Thy grandeur, Paulo, and thy happy stroke,
I proudly own my emulation spoke,
For I bestow'd them, that the world might see,
A Horace too of mine arise in thee.

Lo! where Pouffin his magic colours fpreads,
Rife tower'd towns, rough rocks, and flow'ry meads:
What leagues between those azure mountains lie,
(Whose less'ning tops invade the purple sky)

And