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A Collection Of Poems In Six Volumes. By Several Hands

Dodsley, Robert

London, 1758

Another on the same Subject, written with more Judgment, but fewer good Manners. By the Same.

urn:nbn:de:gbv:45:1-1957

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By the Same.

HOW strangely doth the pow'r of custom rule,
And prejudice our wisest thoughts controul !
How does one country with contempt deride
What other nations count their chiefest pride.

Our European ladies think they're fine,
When in the entrails of a worm they shine ;
Yet laugh to see conceited Hottentots
Grow vain, tho' shining in far nobler guts.

In turgid pomp their strutting limbs are deck'd,
And unctuous splendour from their robes reflect :
The balmy gloss, which on the surface shines,
Regales the smell, and smooths the ladies' skins.
Richly, yet wisely drefs'd ! for of the cost
They suffer not a remnant to be lost ;

But eat each tatter, as it wears away,
And sup upon the fragments of the day :
Frugal of time, at once they' undress and feed,
Gnaw off their cloaths, and put themselves to bed.
Their wedding garments prove their wedding feasts,
And the bride's fin'ry entertains the guests ;

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