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A Collection Of Poems In Six Volumes. By Several Hands

Dodsley, Robert

London, 1758

From Caelia to Cloe.

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They err, who think the MUSES not ally'd
 To THEMIS ; both are of celestial birth :
 Both give peace, order, harmony to earth ;
 Both by one heav'nly fountain are supply'd ;
 And men and angels hymn, in general quire,
 What law ordains, and what the NINE inspire.



From CÆLIA to CLOE,

By the Same.

IRural life enjoy, the town's your taste,
 In this we differ, twins in all the rest.
 Yet when the dog-star brings diseases on,
 And each fond mother trembles for her son ;
 Now when the Mall's forlorn, the beaux and belles
 All for retirement crowd to Tunbridge-Wells ;
 Say, will not CLOE for awhile withdraw
 From dear Vaux-hall and charming Ranelagh ?
 Sure at this homely hutt one may contrive
 Awhile not only to exist but live ;
 For not dull landscapes here my thoughts engross,
 Woods, lawns, and rills, and grottoes green with moss.



No, the same appetite that courts infuse,
 Haunts in retreat, and to the shade pursues.
 Here all my cares are to receive and pay
 Visits, my studies a romance or play.
 And then to pass the live-long Sunday off,
 Walks or a ride, nay church serves well enough,
 At church, one has a chance to see cockades,
 Lur'd thither in pursuit of country maids :
 Or tall Hibernian, smit with fond desire
 To wed the only daughter of a squire.
 Cards have their turn, to kill a tedious hour,
 If baulk'd of whist, piquette is in my pow'r ;
 For oft the captain, fresh from town, bestows
 A friendly week upon his friend my spouse.
 Then gaily glide the days on downy feet,
 For sure the captain has prodigious wit ;
 O I could hear his sweet discourse for ever,
 Of all that's done, and who and who's together,
 Oft far and wide for new delights I range,
 True sex, and constant, to the love of change.
 Is there within ten miles a troop review'd
 An auction of old goods, an interlude
 By strolling players, an horse-race, or a ball !
 There to be seen I have an urgent call.
 The labours of the plough are then forgot,
 And THOMAS mounts the box in liv'ry coat.