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The Works Of Mr. George Lillo; With Some Account Of His Life

Containing, The Fatal Curiosity. A Tragedy. Marina. A Tragedy. Elmerick.
A Tragedy. Britannia And Batavia. A Masque. And Arden Of Feversham. A
Tragedy

Lillo, George

London, 1775

Epilogue.

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E P I L O G U E.

Spoken by MR. MILWARD.

*YOU, who supreme o'er ev'ry work of wit,
In judgement here unaw'd, unbiass'd sit,
The palatines and guardians of the pit ;
If to your minds this merely-modern play,
No useful sense, no gen'rous warmth convey ;
If fustian here, thro' each unnat'ral scene,
In strain'd conceits sound high, and nothing mean ;
If lofty dulness for your vengeance call ;
Like Elmerick judge, and let the guilty fall.
But if simplicity, with force and fire,
Unlabour'd thoughts and artless words inspire ;
If, like the action which these scenes relate,
The whole appear irregularly great ;
If master strokes the nobler passions move,
Then, like the king, acquit us, and approve.*