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A Sentimental Journey Through France And Italy

Yorick, ...

London, 1768

Montriul.

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MONTRIUL

S La Fleur went the whole tour of France and Italy with me, and will be often upon the stage, I must interest the reader a little further in his behalf, by faying, that I had never less reason to repent of the impulses which generally do determine me, than in regard to this fellow-he was a faithful, affectionate, fimple foul as ever trudged after the heels of a philosopher; and notwithstanding his talents of drum-beating and spatterdash-making, which, tho' very good in themselves, happen'd to be of no great fervice to me, yet was

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was I hourly recompenced by the festivity of his temper-it supplied all defects—I had a conftant refource in his looks in all difficulties and diftreffes of my own-I was going to have added, of his too; but La Fleur was out of the reach of every thing; for whether 'twas hunger or thirst, or cold or nakedness, or watchings, or whatever stripes of ill luck La Fleur met with in our journeyings, there was no index in his physiognomy to point them out by-he was eternally the same; so that if I am a piece of a philosopher, which Satan now and then puts it into my head I amit always mortifies the pride of the conceit, by reflecting how much I owe to the complexional philosophy

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of this poor fellow, for shaming me into one of a better kind. With all this, La Fleur had a small cast of the coxcomb—but he seemed at first sight to be more a coxcomb of nature than of art; and before I had been three days in Paris with him—he seemed to be no coxcomb at all.

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