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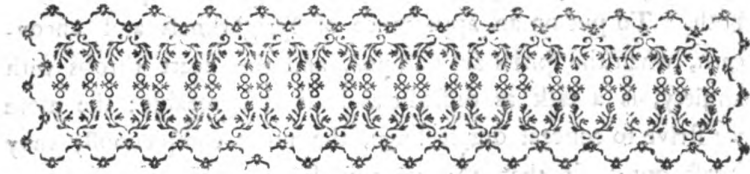
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TERRÆ FILIUS.

N U M B E R I.

To be continued every THURSDAY.

Price Three Pence.

*Quicquid agunt Homines votum, timor, ira, voluptas,
Gaudia, discursus, nostri farrago libelli.*

July,

THURSDAY, March 15.

THERE cannot easily be conceived a more ridiculous, and aukward situation, than that of a periodical writer, when he first pays his compliments to the public. He is so confounded with different and contrary emotions; so spurred on by Pride, and restrained by Modesty; animated with a desire to please, and chilled at the same time with a fear of offending; that it is no wonder if all his gestures are stiff and unnatural; destitute of that ease and
free.

freedom, which is as essential to good writing as to good breeding, and perhaps constitutes what is called politeness in both. To put on an appearance of sprightliness and unconcern, when the spirits are damped, and the heart throbs with anxiety, is a task as difficult as it is disagreeable: the more we strive to conceal our feelings, the more conspicuously they burst out; so that the very violence, which we do ourselves, generally betrays us. It is often with the very best of writers at their first appearance in public, as with men of the greatest wit and humour, when they are *served* up at table, as part of the entertainment. The only time that TRISTRAM SHANDY was ever known to be dull, was on such an occasion as this, when the whole company sat in silent expectation, waiting for those *flashes of merriment, that were wont to set them in a roar*. But how were they disappointed! a too great sollicitude to please had deprived him of the power; just as over-eager desire will sometimes make men impotent.

Happily for me this is not my situation: I may fairly be allowed to throw aside the Buckram of Ceremony, and address the Public with the easy freedom of an old acquaintance. It is now above forty years since I first stepped forth the Champion of Liberty, a sworn foe to Oppression, Tyranny, and arbitrary Power. I am still the same man, blessed with a green old age; my principles are unalter'd, and unalterable; and I can say, as DRYDEN did at sixty-eight, that the faculties of my Soul are as vigorous as ever. My Memory indeed is so far impaired, that I have almost forgotten the neglects and injuries, which I met with from an ungrateful and cruel party: a party, whom I served with the utmost zeal and fidelity for a number of years, without any other recompence than a pitiful daily subsistence, and the satisfaction of thinking that I was enlisted in a good Cause. But it was the principle of these men rather to win over their Enemies, than reward their Friends: so that what BUTLER said of the Government immediately after the restoration, may be applied to them with the strictest propriety, that they were better

pleas'd



pleas'd with the conversion of one sinner, than with ninety and nine just persons that needed no repentance.

However though I have well-nigh forgotten the wrongs which I suffer'd, 'tis to be hop'd that I can never forget to make a proper use of them. They have taught me the following important points of knowledge, NEVER TO DEPEND ON THE PROMISES OF THE GREAT, NOR TO SACRIFICE HONESTY TO INTEREST, OR TRUTH TO PARTY PREJUDICE. This is a lesson which I cannot help recommending to the Sons of ALMA at this juncture, when they feed themselves so plentifully on promises, and hopes. It is astonishing to see a number of men, in other respects not wholly contemptible, such Dopes, and Slaves to credulity; fancying themselves certain of succeeding to the highest preferments, ecclesiastical and civil; and all this for what? Why truly because they have an insignificant Vote at the insignificant election of an insignificant HIGH STEWARD! I would not have the Reader infer from hence that the disposal of this paltry office will not be attended with advantage to some few Particulars: no—I would only open the Eyes of THE MANY, and shew them, what they really are, poor servile creatures, holding the stirrup for two or three designing persons to get up and ride. An employment this, so vile and infamous, that I am at a loss whether more to admire the assurance of those Go-betweens, who solicit for Votes, or their meanness who promise them, upon such second-hand applications. There is no place upon the face of the earth where one would expect that men should act from the principles of honour and independence, if not at the two Universities: and yet certain I am, that in *one* of them at least, measures have been pursued (I blush to say with Success!) that would have disgraced the sordid Electors of a venal Borough: Men of Integrity have been wheedled, threatened, and ill-treated; and Men of Education bought and sold, for prices that would hardly have staggered the honour of a Cobler, or a Nightman. But I must defer laying these curious particulars before the Public, till my next paper: at present I have only room to set down the bill of fare, and acquaint my readers with

the

the Entertainment they are to expect, in the course of this undertaking.

The common beaten road of Politics I shall leave to those patient Pack-horses, the Monitor, Plain-dealer, and Spurious North-Briton; heartily wishing them a safe journey, and clean straw at night. They are certainly harmless and useful Animals, and as such should be well-treated. 'Tis owing to their labours that the wise citizens of London, from the Merchant who feeds upon Turtle, to the Duffman who lives on tripe and trotters, are supplied with those precious drugs, that enable them alike to set up for State-empirics, and cure every Disease in our crazy Constitution. For my part I do not pretend to work such mighty wonders; and shall never deal out my political Nostrums, except on the following interesting Occasions; when the Rights and Privileges of the People are in a *declining* state; when the LIBERTY OF THE PRESS (that Liberty, which enables me, O Reader, to publish these papers for thy Instruction and Entertainment) is just expiring, ready to breathe out her last, under the gripe of ministerial power; when the prerogative is swell'd to such an enormous size, that like a large Wen, or Imposthume, it exhausts the wholesome Juices of the body politic; in short, when Tory-madness rages so violently, that men openly, under the face of the Sun, proclaim aloud those Principles, which not long ago they would have been afraid *even at midnight to whisper in a treason tavern.*

But the field of Politics is cold, and barren, producing little or nothing spontaneously, except thorns and briars: I shall not therefore force my Reader into it too often; especially as the other walks of Science are nearer home, and far more fertile, and delightful. Our chief Subject shall be MEN, and MANNERS: The Passions, Pleasures, and Amusements of Life, with all the different dresses of Vanity, and modes of Vice, will afford us ample Matter to entertain and improve the Reader. The Abuses and Defects of an University-Education shall be laid be-

fore

fore the public so freely, that the Academic Knave shall tremble, and the Fool be astonish'd at our boldness. Characters will be exhibited, taken from the Life: Truth shall draw the outline, and the hand of Candour lay on the lights and shades: By this means every feature will be just and natural, while at the same time a certain softening is given, that will hinder the deformity from appearing too harsh and hideous. Indeed it is our opinion that Pictures of the Devil himself may be drawn too frightful.

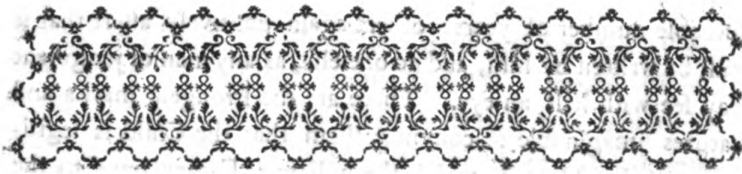
— But besides Subjects of this nature, we shall find room for lighter pieces, whether of Wit and Humour, or Poetry and Criticism: using our utmost endeavours that the former shall always be delicate, and the latter neither dull nor trifling. In short this Paper is dedicated to the cause of Liberty, Virtue, Learning, and the Belles Lettres.

Having thus sketched out the Plan of our Undertaking, it may not be amiss to speak a word or two about ourselves. Now tho', according to Mr. Addison, it very much conduces to the sale of a work (and we heartily wish that this paper may sell beyond every one that hath gone before or shall come after) to know whether the writer be fat or lean, short or tall, with a long nose like the hook of a walking-stick, or a Ciceronian one, scarce more prominent than a Wetch; tho' these are to be sure very important articles, yet we cannot gratify the reader's curiosity about them. The reason is ——— hark in your ear, can you keep a secret? ——— so can we, and therefore never expect to be acquainted with these particulars. As to our mental endowments we shall be more explicit, and assure our readers (the deuce is in them if they won't believe us) that we are possessed of much honour and more honesty, with boldness enough to speak the Truth, and Courage to maintain it. We declare ourselves too—perfectly independent in our circumstances, and not to be biassed by favour, nor warped with prejudice. While we act up to this character we shall never despair of success in our Undertaking; and shall think ourselves highly honoured if

the Vacant and Ingenious will occasionally favour us with their Correspondence. Their Letters directed to Terræ Filius, at, Wilson and Fell's, in Pater-noster-Row, will be received immediately; or if sent to Mr. Jackson, in Oxford, or Messrs. Fletcher and Hodson, in Cambridge, will be forwarded to the Author.

** * * The Second Number of this Paper, will be published in London on WEDNESDAY next, and early on THURSDAY Morning at Cambridge. Afterwards it will regularly come out every Week on Thursday in London, and at Oxford and Cambridge on Friday.*

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TERRÆ FILIUS.

By Scott

N U M B E R II.
To be continued every THURSDAY.
Price THREE-PENCE.

THURSDAY, *March 22,* 1764.

— — *Nunquam adeoque pudendis
Utinur exemplis, ut non pejora supersunt.*

JUV.

I Am acquainted by my Publisher, that the appearance of TERRÆ FILIUS again in the world has occasioned a strong debate amongst a set of men, who think it of greater importance to be acquainted with an Author, than with his Writings; and provided they can come at the knowledge of the one, never trouble their heads about the other. Some affirm strenuously that it cannot be written by AMHERST, and bring a tolerable

able good argument to prove it, because he has been *dead* a considerable number of years: others again positively assert that it must be written by him, and no one else, as any man of judgment may see with half an eye. There are the strongest marks and features imaginable to convince them that the Child is legitimate: "that Hatred, which the unhappy Father bore to the two Universities, after his Expulsion from Oxford; and that holy Spirit of Liberty and Independence, which breathes throughout his other productions,—are equally conspicuous in This. And then too the Style is so particular—so much Strength, and Spirit, and Ease, and Elegance, that it is impossible to be mistaken." We hope the Reader will own there is much beauty and force in this argument; which so agreeably tickles our Vanity, that we cannot help being of the same opinion with these ingenious critics. As to the report of our death, it refers only to our political capacity; in which respect, we have been a long time as absolutely dead, to all intents and purposes, as his Grace the Duke of Newcastle, or any other superannuated Statesman.

Thus much we thought it not improper to premise concerning the Author of this paper, before we proceed to fulfil the promise already made to the Public. Nothing would give us so sensible a concern as innocent persons being suspected of this undertaking; both as it would rob *us* of that pittance of praise, which we shall endeavour to deserve, and subject *them* to censures, which they have never incurred: and this is so double an injury, that it ought to make every man extremely cautious how he accuses any one, unless he has *absolute and positive proof* that he is the Author.

No person who has the cause of Learning and Liberty at heart, or is at all concerned in the welfare of posterity, can be made acquainted with those vile and unjustifiable Measures which have been pursued in the PRESENT CONTEST at Cambridge, without feeling much regret, and pain. It is with the greatest unwillingness that I have any thing to do with so ungrateful an office: but the hopes which I entertain that it may be of future
service



service to the sons of Learning, towards persuading them to maintain their Independence, and fortify themselves against the attacks of artful, and worldly-minded men, prevail with me to undertake it. Tho' I am not at present resident upon the spot, I have authentic accounts transmitted to me daily: the Reader therefore may be assured that the facts here represented are true, and at the same time must necessarily acquit me of all prejudice and partiality.

THE first step which was taken was to create a number of HONORARY FREEMEN, persons who had no connections or property in the place; and consequently could not be supposed to consult its independence, honour, and interest, whenever they should interfere with their own views of profit, or preferment. By a law passed in Senate a good many years ago, every Master of Arts whether resident or not, whose name had been written in the books of any College for three months, was entitled to a Vote. Now upon the strength of this unconstitutional decree, they were in the utmost danger of being over-run with aliens. Spruce and perfumed Courtiers; prig-Parsons from the city; protestant Missionaries, or rather mountaineers from the North; with whole boats-full of web-footed Levites from the Isle of Ely, were pouring in upon them every moment; and nobody knows what might have been the Event, had not a proceeding, so prejudicial to the credit of the whole body, been put a stop to, by two or three men of spirit; men who chose rather to run the risk of being accounted strange and turbulent fellows, than submit tamely to give up their rights and privileges. I cannot help lamenting that there is so little of this generous and patriotic turn, at a place where it would be of such peculiar service. For how can it be expected that our youth should be educated to principles of honour, and imbued with liberal, and free sentiments, while they have every day before their eyes such corrupt and slavish practices? Example we know is of the utmost prevalence, particularly with those whose Judgment is immature: and tho' every Vice carries with it at first view something disgustful and hideous, yet I know not how by degrees
we

we are reconciled to the deformity: Just as the foulest face loses its horrors, when set upon the shoulders of our favourite friend, or the beloved wife of our bosom. For this reason I could never approve of that unjust, and absurd custom, which Lycurgus introduced, of making the Helotes their slaves drunk, that the people might learn temperance and sobriety from the beastliness of their condition.

HAVING thus prevented such a number of HONORARY FREEMEN from being made, as would have deprived the resident Members of their power and importance; the next step was to secure as many votes as possible immediately. Now the methods, which were taken to accomplish this desirable end, were perfectly classical and Horatian,

Si possis, recède — si non quocunque modo —

IF a person was possessed of any little Office in College, and was so unfortunate as to differ from *his Master* in this important article, he was kicked out without ceremony, and another put into his place: if he was chaplain to a regiment abroad, he was threaten'd with immediate transportation: a Curate was taught to know the duty he owed to his Rector; and a PREACHER AT WHITEHALL TO HIS BISHOP. The Reader I am sure will pardon me, if I make him acquainted with the following little incident, which has something in it truly heroic and Roman. A Gentleman, who to a small income of thirty pounds a year was so fortunate as to get a pension added of forty, was apply'd to for his vote, and told that a refusal might be attended with some disagreeable circumstances. He expressed a sorrow that he was engaged, and at the same time a readiness to oblige his patron, on any future occasion. But it seems this was not sufficient—*a second opportunity of shewing himself ungrateful* was too much; and unless he instantly comply'd he must resign. Stung with this ungenerous and ungentleman-like treatment he boldly reply'd, that he had lived, before he got the pension, upon thirty pounds a year, and would try to live upon less,

less, rather than do any thing that bore the least shadow of dishonour and falsehood. But what renders these measures, bad enough in themselves, still more abominable, is that they have for the most part been adopted by men, who certainly ought to have been *candid enemies*; if their *modern* connections would not allow them to be *friends*: Men, who owe their preferment, and well being in life, to the very person whom they now so shamefully abuse: in short, men, who not long ago were seen at his GRACE's Levee bowing, cringing, and sneaking, the most supple and abject slaves, that ever vow'd Fidelity at the shrine of Greatness. But it seems they have put the favours which they received (along with their own baseness and falsehood) into the wallet behind their backs, thus removing them out of their sight, and remembrance: however by their good leaves I shall every now and then rummage the contents, and make a faithful report to the public. It is not fit that Ingratitude should go unpunished: there is no vice of more pernicious and fatal consequence to society; as it stops that circulation of benefits, by which every member receives its nourishment, and rejoices in its turn.

I CANNOT conclude this paper without acquainting my Readers, that, notwithstanding these violent proceedings, there are two or three Men, who have contrived to remain neuter; running exactly counter to the opinion of Thucydides, and Plato, and Demosthenes, and Aristotle, and Polybius, and Lucan, and Tacitus, and that great Historian Tite Livy, who expressly says, "ca non media, sed nulla via est; quippe qui eventum expectant, quo fortunæ consilia sua applicent." Indeed I am afraid this is the true reason of their standing out: they do not hesitate about the respective merits of the two Candidates, but that they may be sure to be of the *winning side*: imitating herein the cunning of Gilo, King of Syracuse, who never engaged in any war that was carry'd on between the Greeks and Barbarians; but kept an Ambassador, at a middle distance betwixt the contending powers, to be always ready,

Let Fortune incline which way she would, to compliment the Conquerors. Commend me rather to the blunt honesty of an odd mortal, who when he was apply'd to, by an eloquent, and *notify'd* Speechifyer, told him fairly, "I have had good offers, my Lord, from the other party; let me hear what you have to say.—Why, really my Lord, you do not bid up to my price, and therefore I shall accept of the proposals made me by the other side, and EVEN VOTE ACCORDING TO MY CONSCIENCE."

C

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TERRÆ FILIUS.

N U M B E R III.
To be continued every THURSDAY.
Price THREE-PENCE.

THURSDAY, *March* 29, 1764.

*Virtute me involvo, probamque
Pauperiem SINE DOTE quæro.* HOR.

I HAVE heard a very ingenious friend of mine, (to whom the public is likely to be obliged for many pleasing speculations in the course of this undertaking) maintain the following odd paradox, “That there are some Virtues, of so
“ fordid and selfish a nature, that a person who acts in a public
“ capacity may do more mischief to the community, by sub-
“ mitting himself always to their direction, than if he was
“ addicted to certain liberal and generous Vices.” I shall not take upon me to defend so strange a position ; as I almost doubt whether these *sordid Virtues*, as he is pleased to call them, are not really and absolutely Vices. We all know, that it is in the moral, as in the material world : the links, that unite the diffe-
E rent.

rent orders of Beings, are nice, and in some cases imperceptible; and Virtues and Vices are divided by such thin and slender partitions, that it is often difficult to say where the one begin and the other end. Besides, by what he calls *acting in a public capacity*, I suppose he means your Politicians, and Statesmen. Now it is by no means necessary that These should be always virtuous: nay the world is so crafty and corrupt, as to make some Vices absolutely requisite. A man would cut but a poor figure in fencing (tho' his hand and eye were ever so good, and he was acquainted with all the regular thrusts and parries) if he could not practise, and ward off every feint, and sleight, that can be made use of. It is just the same case in the management of the State, as of the Sword: a Minister would be hard put to it to defend his ground, if he was not a perfect master of all the arts of Hypocrisy, Dissimulation, Chicanery, and Double-dealing: These therefore should be considered only as so many ingenious Feints, whereby he is enabled to foil his Adversaries, and come off with flying colours. To expect that a Person in this situation should in all his dealings be open and ingenuous, sincere and upright; shews a strange ignorance of mankind, and unpractisedness in the ways of the world. No—it is necessary for him to put on an appearance of friendship, when his heart detests the object; to make a thousand, thousand promises, that he never even dreams of performing; to apply himself to the passions, follies, and vices of mankind; to understand all the windings, and doublings of the human heart; in short, to pervade like lightning the thin disguises that are worn by others, while he is wrapt up himself in a veil that is impenetrable. I remember when I was a boy (which is now some fifty years ago) I could not help admiring the prudence and address of Venus, who concealed her darling Æneas in a cloud, and thus introduced him into the court of Dido. By this means he had an opportunity of reading men and manners, and getting acquainted with the different characters of the different courtiers, without exposing his own to any disagreeable enquiries. Methinks a far more useful lesson might be collected from this little incident, than



than from a whole treatise written by Castiglioni professedly on this subject. Among a multitude of other qualifications he mentions sincerity, and plain-dealing, and fidelity, and truth, and other old-fashion'd, and out-of-the-way virtues, as necessary ingredients in a perfect courtier. I do not know what figure a Statesman, endow'd with these, might make at Urbino, or cross the water, among the gentle shepherds of Arcadia: but surely nowadays, here with us, they would not only expose a man to the utmost ridicule and derision, but oblige him very soon, in the *fashionable sense of the word*,—to resign. There is one single qualification, which if possessed in any degree of perfection, will be of more service to a man than all the family of Virtues together, and that is TREACHERY. This will make every kind of Friendship hang so loose about him, that he may easily shake them off, without running any hazard of being entangled: it will enable him to IMPEACH, nay, and HANG his most intimate acquaintance, when they stand in his way, and cross his dark purposes; will prompt him to make use of the dirty services of some dirty knave, whose Sister perhaps he may have debauched, and then laugh at, and leave him in the lurch. In short, there is nothing so great and glorious, which this *sacred* spirit of PERFDY will not put a man upon achieving: It will make him regard Oaths, only as springes to catch Woodcocks; Promises, as a honey-bottle to draw to it *silly* flies; Honour, as a pass-word to secure a man from the Bailiff; and Conscience, a mere bugbear to fright children.—

BUT there are other equally amiable qualities, which may be of service to a man, who sets up, and is determined for Greatness, such as PROPHANENESS, and BUFFONERY: the former of these will bring his greatest Enemy, Religion, into disrepute; and the latter make him idolised by a set of HONEST FELLOWS, who are always ready to prefer humour to good sense, and ridicule to decency. But above all I would recommend it to our Courtier to amuse himself a little with affairs of Gallantry and Intrigue; because it shews a soul either very cold, or very contracted

tracted, to be so immersed in business as to forswear pleasure; or so absorbed by pleasure as to be unfit for business.

THESE then are the endowments, which joined together complete the character of a PERFECT STATESMAN; one who is infinitely superior to Sejanus, or Mortimer, or Woolsey; and would cast an immortal radiance and glory, through the court of a Sforza, or a Borgia. I intend in some future paper to draw a whole length of this wonderful creature, and hold him out to the public: for the present my Readers must content themselves with this imperfect Miniature.

BUT tho' the accomplishments above mentioned are very useful and necessary to one, who has entered the lists, and is to run the race of Glory; they cannot surely be of much service or Ornament in the lowly walks of Academe. The seeds of Politics are of so hot and fiery a nature, that it is no wonder if they should burn up all the plants of Learning, and lay the gardens of Minerva waste and desolate. There seem to be no two lives more totally different, than that of a Court, and a College; no two Characters more diametrically opposite, than that of a disciple of Machiavel, and of Jesus. For this reason I have never been able to hear with patience any political doctrines from an University-pulpit: whether it was a hum-drum Head of a House figuring away with a page or two out of Clarendon; or a young upstart Orator making the freshmen stare at his sounding trifles.

EVERY place that is set apart for the Education of Youth, in the principles of Virtue and Piety, should be sacred from all wild and turbulent passions: No factious quarrels, or party divisions, should meet with the least encouragement; as they must infallibly destroy that sedateness, candour, and simplicity of mind, which is necessary for the search and examination of truth. For this reason every unprejudiced person, who hath the welfare of our university at heart, must be extremely hurt to find the
present.

