

The SPECTATOR.

Adde tot egregias urbes, operumque laborem: Virg.

Thursday, June 26. 1712.

HAVING already shewn how the Fancy is affected by the Works of Nature, and afterwards considered in general both the Works of Nature and of Art, how they mutually assist and compleat each other, in forming such Scenes and Prospects as are most apt to delight the Mind of the Beholder, I shall in this Paper throw together some Reflections on that Particular Art, which has a more immediate Tendency, than any other, to produce those primary Pleasures of the Imagination, which have hitherto been the Subject of this Discourse. The Art I mean is that of Architecture, which I shall consider only with regard to the Light in which the foregoing Speculations have placed it, without entering into those Rules and Maxims which the great Masters of Architecture have laid down, and explained at large in numberless Treaties upon that Subject.

Greatness, in the Works of Architecture, may be considered as relating to the Bulk and Body of the Structure, or to the *Manner* in which it is built. As for the first, we find the Antients, especially among the Eastern Nations of the World, infinitely superior to the Moderns.

Not to mention the Tower of *Babel*, of which an old Author says, there were the Foundations to be seen in his time, which looked like a Spacious Mountain; what could be more noble than the Walls of *Babylon*, its hanging Gardens, and its Temple to *Jupiter Belus*, that rose a Mile high by Eight several Stories, each Story a Furlong in height, and on the Top of which was the *Babylonian* Observatory? I might here, likewise, take Notice of the huge Rock that was cut into the Figure of *Semiramis*, with the smaller Rocks that lay by it in the Shape of Tributary Kings; the Prodigious Basin, or artificial Lake, which took in the whole *Euphrates*, till such time as a new Canal was formed for its Reception, with the several Trenches through which that River was conveyed. I know there are Persons who look upon some of these Wonders of Art as Fabulous, but I cannot find any Grounds for such a Suspicion, unless it be that we have no such Works among us at present. There were indeed many greater Advantages for Building in those Times, and in that Part of the World, than have been met with ever since. The Earth was extremely fruitful, Men lived generally on Pasturage, which requires a much smaller number of Hands than Agriculture: There were few Trades to employ the busy Part of Mankind, and fewer Arts and Sciences to give Work to Men of Speculative Tempers; and what is more than all the rest, the Prince was absolute; so that when he went to War, he put himself at the Head of a whole People: As we find *Semiramis* leading her two Millions to the Field, and yet overpower'd a much greater Number of her Enemies. 'Tis no wonder, therefore, when she was at Peace, and turned her Thoughts on Building, that she could accomplish so great Works, with such a prodigious Multitude of Labourers: Besides that, in her Climate, there

was small Interruption of Frosts and Winters, which make the Northern Workmen lie half the Year Idle. I might mention too, among the Benefits of the Climate, what Historians say of the Earth, that it sweated out a Bitumen or natural kind of Mortar, which is doubtless the same with that mentioned in Holy Writ, as contributing to the Structure of *Babel*. *Slime they used instead of Mortar.*

In *Egypt* we still see their Pyramids, which answer to the Descriptions that have been made of them; and I question not but a Traveller might find out some Remains of the Labyrinth that covered a whole Province, and had a hundred Temples disposed among its several Quarters and Divisions.

The Wall of *China* is one of these Eastern Pieces of Magnificence, which makes a Figure even in the Map of the World, altho' an Account of it would have been thought Fabulous, were not the Wall it self still extant.

We are obliged to Devotion for the noblest Buildings, that have adorned the several Countries of the World. It is this that has set Men at work on Temples and Publick Places of Worship, not only that they might, by the Magnificence of the Building, invite the Deity to reside within it, but that such stupendous Works might, at the same time, open the Mind to vast Conceptions, and fit it to converse with the Divinity of the Place. For every thing that is Majestick, imprints an Awfulness and Reverence on the Mind of the Beholder, and strikes in with the Natural Greatness of the Soul.

In the Second place we are to consider *Greatness of Manner* in Architecture, which has such force upon the Imagination, that a small Building, where it appears, shall give the Mind nobler Ideas than one of twenty times the Bulk, where the Manner is ordinary or little. Thus, perhaps, a Man would have been more astonished with the Majestick Air that appeared in one of *Protogenes's* Statues of *Alexander*, tho' no bigger than the Life, than he might have been with Mount *Athos*, had it been cut into the Figure of the Heroe, according to the Proposal of *Phidias*, with a River in one Hand, and a City in the other.

Let any one reflect on the Disposition of Mind he finds in himself, at his first Entrance into the *Pantheon* at *Rome*, and how his Imagination is filled with something Great and Amazing; and, at the same time, consider how little, in proportion, he is affected with the Inside of a *Garlick* Cathedral, tho' it be five times larger than the other; which can arise from nothing else, but the Greatness of the Manner in the one, and the Meaneness in the other.

I have seen an Observation upon this Subject in a *French* Author, which very much pleased me. It is in *Monsieur Freart's* Parallel of the Ancient and Modern Architecture. I shall give it the Reader with the same Terms of Art which he has made use of. *I am observing (says he) a thing which, in my Opinion, is very curious, whence it proceeds, that in the same quantity of Superficies, the one Manner seems*

great and magnificent, and the other poor and trifling; the Reason is fine and uncommon. I say then, that to introduce into Architecture this Grandeur of Manner, we ought so to proceed, that the Division of the Principal Members of the Order may consist but of few Parts, that they be all great and of a bold and ample Relief, and Swelling; and that the Eye, beholding nothing little and mean, the Imagination may be more vigorously touched and affected with the Work that stands before it. For Example; In a Cornice, if the Gola or Cymatium of the Corona, the Coping, the Modillions or Dentelli, make a noble Show by their graceful Projections, if we see none of that ordinary Confusion which is the Result of those little Cavities, Quarter Rounds of the Astragal, and I know not how many other intermingled Particulars, which produce no effect in great and massy Works, and which very unprofitably take up Place to the prejudice of the Principal Member, it is more certain that this Manner will appear Solemn and Great, as on the contrary, that will have but a poor and mean Effect, where there is a Redundancy of those smaller Ornaments, which divide and scatter the Angles of the Sight into such a Multitude of Rays, so pressed together that the whole will appear but a Confusion.

Among all the figures in Architecture, there are none that have a greater Air than the Concave and the Convex; and we find in all the Ancient and Modern Architecture, as well in the remote Parts of China, as in Countries nearer home, that round Pillars and Vaulted Roofs make a great part of those Buildings which are designed for Pomp and Magnificence. The Reason I take to be, because in these Figures we generally see more of the Body, than in those of other Kinds. There are, indeed, Figures of Bodies, where the Eye may take in two Thirds of the Surface; but as in such Bodies the Sight must split upon several Angles, it does not take in one uniform Idea, but several Ideas of the same kind. Look upon the Outside of a Dome, your Eye half surrounds it; look up into the Inside, and at one Glance you have all the Prospect of it; the entire Concavity falls into your Eye at once, the Sight being as the Center that collects and gathers into it the Lines of the whole Circumference: In a Square Pillar, the Sight often takes in but a Fourth part of the Surface, and, in a Square Concave, must move up and down to the different Sides, before it is Master of all the inward Surface. For this Reason, the Fancy is infinitely more struck with the view of the open Air, and Skies, that passeth through an Arch, than what comes through a Square, or any other Figure. The Figure of the Rainbow does not contribute less to its Beauty, than the Colours, as it is very Poetically described by the Son of Sirach: *Look upon the Rainbow, and praise him that made it; very beautiful it is in its Brightness; it encompasses the Heavens with a Glorious Circle, and the Hands of the Almighty have bended it.*

Having thus spoken of that Greatness which affects the Mind in Architecture, I might next shew the Pleasure that arises in the Imagination from what appears new and beautiful in this Art; but as every Beholder has naturally a greater Taste of these two Perfections in every Building which offers it self to his View, than of that which I have hitherto considered, I shall not trouble my Reader with any Reflections upon it. It is sufficient for my present purpose, to observe, that there is nothing in this whole Art which pleases the Imagination, but as it is Great, Uncommon, or Beautiful.

ADVERTISEMENT S.

For Sale by the Candle.

The Sale of the Fine Batavia Arrack, which was to have been this Afternoon, at Garraway's Coffee-house in Exchange-Alley, is Adjourned to Tuesday next, being the 1st of July, at 3 a Clock in the Afternoon at the same place. An Account of the Sale of the South Sea Ships Interacting at the same time. Catalogues of the Sale to be had gratis at John's Coffee-house in Swicking's-Ally in Cornhill, the Sun Coffee-house behind the Royal Exchange, the Rainbow Coffee-house at Temple-bar, Squire's Coffee-house in Fuller's Row in Holborn, Tom's Coffee-house in Covent Garden, St. James's Coffee-house by St. James's Gate, the Warehouses, and Place of Sale. To be sold by G. Smith, Broker, who is to be spoken with at John's Coffee-house in Swicking's Alley in Cornhill.

At the Lace-Chamber on Ludgate-Hill, kept by Mary Parsons, is lately come over great Quantities of Handkerchiefs, Laces, with variety of new Fashion Patterns: She bought them there her self, so will sell them as Peany worth by Wholesale or Retail.

The Subscribers to the Consort of Musick, at Sadler's-Hall, for Prizes, the 27th of this Instant June, have desired it may be put off till Monday the 30th following. All the Tickets that were delivered out for Wednesday the 25th and Friday the 27th, will be taken on Monday next, at the Hall Door, Beginning at 7 a Clock.

An assured Cure for Leanness; which proceeds from a Cause that few know, but easily removed by an unparallel'd Specifick Tincture, which striketh the Stomach, purifies the Blood, takes off Fretfulness in the Mind, occasions Rest and easy Sleep, and as certainly disposes and causes the Body to thrive and become plump and fleshy, if no manifest Distemper afflicts the Patients, a Water will quench Fire; 'tis also the best Remedy in Nature for all Chronick Lueses that take their Rise from a bad Digestion in the Stomach, which this Specifick Tincture Infallibly rectifies, and thereby cures. It is pleasant to taste, and is sold only at Mr. Taylor's Tostshop at the Angel and Crown in St. Paul's Church-yard near Cheap-side. Price 3s 6d. a Bottle with Directions.

A parcel of very fresh and fashionable Mechten Laces, to be bought 5s. in a Dozen than any where else in London. At Mrs. Darnley's at the Sign of the 3 Kings on the Royal Exchange in Cornhill, short walk, on the Right Hand the further end of the Walk, being the Goods of a Merchant who has left off his Trade.

The Household Goods and Lining belonging to John Kelland Esq. deceased, to be sold by Auction, at his House in Bond-street St. James's, this Day the 26th of this Instant June, by Order of his Executors; the Goods to be seen on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday before the Sale.

This Day is Published,

A Cruising Voyage round the World, first to the South Seas, thence to the East-Indies, and homewards by the Cape of Good Hope. Begun in 1708, and finished in 1711. Containing a Journal of all the remarkable Transactions, particularly of the taking of Puna and Guinquil of the Acapulco Ship, and other Prizes. A more particular Account of Alexander Selkirk's living alone four Years and four Months in an Island, than has hitherto been given. Also a brief Description of several Countries in our Course noted for Trade, especially in the South Sea. Together with a Table of every Days run on the great Ocean from California to the Island Guam in the East Indies. Also Maps of all the Coasts of South America for 6000 Miles, taken from the best Spanish Manuscript Draughts. And an Introduction relating to the South Sea Trade. By Capt. Woodes Rogers Commander in chief of this Expedition with the Ships Duke and Dutchess of Bristol. Printed for A. Bell and Bernard Lintott, and sold by Mr. Horn, Mr. Parker, and Mr. Philips by the Exchange, Mr. Mouton on Tower-hill, and Mr. Tracey on London-bridge. Price bound 6s.

Whereas John Prince, John Sadler, and William Jodrell, Mercers, at the Black Lion in Kingstreet Covent Garden, have resolved to leave off the Mercers Trade, These are to give Notice, That at the said Shop are to be sold at very low Prices, all Sorts of the newest Fashion Gold and Silver Silks, and Attaches, Flowered and plain Velvets, Silk Brocades, A wares and plain Satins, Damasks, Watered Tabbies, Farendines and M. hairs, Shugreens, Sarfets, Perfians, Silk Night Gowns, Thread Satins, Poplins, Norwich Crapes, Silk and other Druggs, Hair and Worsted Comblets, Hair Shags and Shaloons.

The Works of Mr. Francis Beaumont and Mr. John Fletcher, in 7 Volls. 8v. adorn'd with Curts. Plutarch's Lives in 5 Volls. translated by several hands. Seneca's Morals translated by Sir Roger L' Eitrange. The Sayrs of Demetrius Junius Juvenalis, &c. translated into English Verse by Mr. Dryden and several other eminent Hands. The Works of Mr. Congreve in 3 Volls. consisting of his Plays and Poems. Poems on several Occasions written by Mr. Prior: Paradise-lost, a Poem, in 12 Books, by Mr. John Milton. The Christian Hero, written by Mr. Steele, N. B. The three last are printed with a neat Elizabeth Letter in small Pocket Volumes: All Printed for Jacob Tonson at Shakespear's head over-against Catharine-street in the Strand.

LONDON: Printed for Sam. Buckley, at the Dolphin in Little-Britain; and Sold by A. Baldwin in Warwick-Lane; where Advertisements are taken in, as also by Charles Lillie, Perfumer, at the Corner of Beauford-Buildings; the Strand.