

The life of Thomas Hollis / [Anon].

Contributors

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The Life of THOMAS HOLLIS.

THOMAS HOLLIS, of Corscombe, in the county of Dorset, Esquire, a most zealous and illustrious friend of civil and religious liberty, was born in London, in the year 1720. He was descended, by his father's side, from a respectable family, originally of Yorkshire, but which had been long settled in London. His mother was the daughter of Mr. Scott, of Wolverhampton, in whose family he was nurtured in his infancy, till he was four or five years of age. From Wolverhampton he was brought to London, and, after some time, was sent to the free-school at Newport in Shropshire, where he remained till he was eight or nine years old. He was then removed to St. Alban's, and, in his thirteenth or fourteenth year, he was sent to Amsterdam, to learn the Dutch and French languages, writing, arithmetick, and accompts; and having spent about fifteen months in that city, he returned to London, to his father, of whom he had the misfortune to be deprived, soon after; for he died in the year 1735 (a).

Mr. Hollis being left by his father to the care of a guardian, there seems to have been some doubt amongst his friends, whether he should not be bred in the mercantile way; but it was soon determined, that he should have another sort of education, suitable to the ample fortune he was to inherit, from his father, and his great uncle Thomas, a considerable merchant, who died without issue, a few years before. For this purpose he was put under the tuition of the learned Dr. Ward, Professor of Rhetorick, in Gresham College, where he studied the languages, but chiefly Latin, and went through a course of logick, rhetorick, history, and other branches of learning, agreeably to the liberal plan laid down for him (b). He was also intimately acquainted with Dr.

(a) Memoirs of Thomas Hollis, Esq; F. R. and A. S. S. 2 Vols. 4to. London MDCCLXXX.

(b) A grateful sense of the attention paid to his education by these worthy curators remained with Mr. Hollis all his life. In honour of his father and guardian, he caused to be inscribed, round a valuable diamond

ring, *Mnemofynon Patris Tutorisque*; and Dr. Ward he always mentioned with esteem and respect, as his old excellent master and much-honoured friend; and to preserve the memory of so valuable a man, he presented the Doctor's picture to the British Museum.—Memoirs, P. 5.

From vol X of

British Biography, 10 vols, London: R. Goadby.
etc. 1766-80.

Dr. Hunt, and afterwards with that eminent Minister's worthy successor, Dr. Foster, and other distinguished persons, whose company and conversation cherished that ardent love of liberty, and freedom of sentiment, which so strongly marked his character, through life, and of which the seeds appear to have been sown, at a very early age: For, in a letter to a friend, he says, "Even when a boy at school, I used to rob nature of her rest to read Plutarch, honest Plutarch, and read again the lives of his heroes. To him I owe, I willingly confess, the finest dispositions of my mind."

In February 1739—40, Mr. Hollis was admitted a student of Lincoln's Inn; but though he lived there till the year 1748, it does not appear that he applied himself professedly to the study of the law: Nor, on the other hand, did he waste this interval in idle amusements or dissipation. He seems to have formed his conduct on a benevolent and publick-spirited model, improved by his own accurate observation of the principles, manners, and pursuits of his contemporaries, and the tendencies and effects of them, with regard to the publick welfare.

In 1748, Mr. Hollis set out upon his travels, for the first time, in company with his friend Thomas Brand, Esq; and from the curious and copious Journal which he has left of this Tour, it appears, that very little escaped him, where he could have proper information, relating to arts and sciences, publick roads, manufactures, trade, antiquities, and what is called *Virtù*, of which he afterwards became a generous encourager, so far (to use his own words) as it might be useful to learning, but no farther.

In this Tour, he passed through Holland, Flanders, and part of France, to Switzerland, Savoy, and part of Italy, and returned through Provence, Britany, &c. to Paris, and thence to London.

In 1750, he set out upon a second Tour, much longer than the first; for he designed now to travel through the territories of the Dutch to Embden, Oldenburgh, Bremen, and Hamburgh; then through the principal cities of the north and east side of Germany; after that, throughout all Italy, (except those parts of it which he had already seen;) and finally to cross the Spanish and Portuguese kingdoms, and return by sea to what he calls his own charming native land, there to pass the residue of life as quietly and happily, and with as much fitness and decorum as he might be able, and as becomes a good private subject, and a lover of his country and its most excellent constitution.

He had taken a resolution, as most proper, upon the whole, to make this long Tour alone. In the course of it, however, he met with his old friend and fellow traveller, Mr. Brand, at Rome, whereupon they went to Naples together, and continued there seven weeks, but were then obliged to part; for having entered Italy by different routes, they could not make their schemes for seeing

seeing that country agree. Mr. Brand returned to Rome, and Mr. Hollis remained at Naples, the whole summer.

During the last month of his residence in this city, he was greatly afflicted with the jaundice, occasioned by the excessive heat of the climate, and was brought extremely low and weak. He determined therefore to try a change of air, and particularly sea air; for which purpose he embarked on board an English vessel, bound for Messina; intending, in case he grew better, to make the Tour of Malta and Sicily. From the moment he was aboard, he mended of his disorder; and having had a long passage of thirteen days, when he came to Messina, he had almost lost it. His recovery determined him to pursue his plan of making the Tour of Sicily and Malta; and his observations in that Tour are curious and interesting. Indeed Mr. Hollis's Account of his whole second Tour is much more full and circumstantial than that of his first. His Journals of both have been carefully preserved, and will probably at some future time be given to the publick; in which case they will afford much curious information to antiquaries, virtuosi, historians, and travellers, who may choose to compare the present state of the countries they visit with the accounts given of them thirty or forty years ago.

It has been said of our English travellers, especially those of the younger sort, that, captivated by the brilliancy of foreign manners, they have too often brought home with them a contempt of their own country, and of the more phlegmatick deportment of its inhabitants. But this was far from being the case with Mr. Hollis, who, though by no means blind to the defects of his native land, or the faults of his countrymen, had a strong attachment on the other side, and that not founded so much upon a supposed prejudice common to vulgar minds, as upon a judicious estimation of the more substantial advantages and disadvantages resulting from the constitution of government, and the modes of religion, in different countries, compared with those in his own.

Whilst Mr. Hollis was abroad, he made many valuable friendships with men of learning and eminence, favourers and promoters of polite arts and useful sciences. He also became acquainted with many of the Consuls and Ministers at foreign Courts, who were afterwards of great use to him in conveying his liberal presents to different parts.

Upon his return home, finding that he could not get into Parliament in the manner he wished; (for though, as he strongly expresses it, he would have almost given his right hand for a seat in the House of Commons, yet he could not give a single crown for it by way of bribe;) he turned his thoughts to another object. Being of opinion, that "next to performing good deeds one's self" "is the pleasure of preserving the memory of greater in others," he began to form a collection of books and medals, for the

purpose of illustrating and upholding Liberty, preserving the memory of its champions, and rendering tyranny and its abettors odious; in which noble undertaking he had also an eye to the extension of science and art, not only by keeping alive the honour and estimation of their patrons and protectors, but by propagating, as far as he might be able, the same benevolent spirit to posterity.—In the execution of this generous plan, he spared neither labour nor expence; and he had the satisfaction to reflect, that in these employments his time was spent without idleness or meanness; and from greater, says he, if able, such is the sad corruption of our day, I am effectually excluded; speaking with reference to his exclusion from Parliament by his aversion to the common methods of procuring a seat.

In the course of his travels, Mr. Hollis had been received, in Switzerland, with so much hospitality and politeness, and he had, at the same time, conceived so strong an affection for that country, on account of the freedom of its government, and the publick and private economy of the inhabitants, that, immediately on his return home, he began to prepare a valuable collection of books by English authors for the publick libraries of Berne and Zurich, particularly the former: And this collection was followed, from time to time, with other noble donations of the same kind, which were constantly committed to the care of some confidential friend abroad, who was to deliver the books into the libraries, free from every expence whatever; and the utmost precaution was taken to conceal the name of the donor.—But whatever share gratitude for his hospitable reception in Switzerland might have in these donations, it was manifest, from the books themselves, that the enlargement of their notions of civil and religious liberty was not the least part of his design, when Mr. Hollis thus expressed his regard for the people of that country. There was also generally scattered through many of the volumes a variety of manuscript notes, some for illustration, others for opinion; but all of them written, as he apprehended, in the spirit of truth and liberty alone.

The books which he sent to Berne were collected with much pains, and at a great expence; and they were accepted and deposited in the publick library with every mark of respect that such magnificent presents deserved.—Amongst his benefactions to the university of Zurich was a curious Collection of all the Books and Tracts that he could meet with against the Jesuits, amounting nearly to a hundred volumes of different sizes. Mr. Elmley, the French bookseller, was employed in forming this collection; and he executed his commission with great success. The collection was a noble one, and was sent to Zurich, in 1762; and, the next year, it was followed by a supplement, consisting of fifteen volumes of tracts, in duodecimo, uniformly bound, which Mr. Hollis

Hollis had received from Venice. He also sent fifty pounds to the University, some years after, in order to supply the deficiencies in his collection occasioned by the many tracts written on the event of the breaking up of the society; to which he afterwards added the further sum of twenty guineas, for the same purpose (c).

It was Mr. Hollis's original desire and intention to have lodged this singular collection in the British Museum; but the behaviour of a committee of the trustees (he tells us) was so strange towards him, on a particular occasion, that he could not resolve any longer, with any degree of magnanimity, to send it to that place; and in any other in this nation such a sort of collection would, he thought, have been almost lost. What this behaviour of the trustees was, Mr. Hollis does not say; nor did his resentment prevent his liberality to that noble repository, on many future occasions. On the contrary, the British Museum was an object of his particular regard. He considered it as a literary foundation calculated to do the highest honour to the British name; and, in that view, he contributed many things to its valuable stores from his own collections. He considered it likewise as a faithful depositary of the memory and remains of those great and eminent men who had been publick blessings to this country, either by their writings, their counsels, or other atchievements tending to assert and maintain publick liberty against all attempts of tyrants and oppressors; in pursuance of which idea, he presented the Museum, from time to time, with several valuable medals and prints.

Mr. Hollis's judgment of books forms a very distinguished part of his character; and he took great pains in making those collections which he sent as presents to the principal universities and publick libraries in various parts of Europe, and to many illustrious individuals, of different nations, with whom he had either contracted a personal acquaintance, during his travels, or whose fame and characters had recommended and endeared them to him. The books which he collected were chiefly such as had been designed by their authors to recommend in some cases the preservation, in others the recovery, of publick liberty; and they were mostly the works of English writers, in their native language; for, in Mr. Hollis's opinion, the principles of truth and liberty had been most ably and effectually discussed by English writers, and were little understood by the subjects of despotick governments abroad.

The English indeed are called by Voltaire *les Precepteurs des Nations*; but the proficiency of the nations must be very small, if

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they

(c) The Jesuits, hearing of this collection, sent to Zurich, requesting that their answers, and other books, written in their favour, might be deposited in the same library,

which was granted; and their collection appears in it now, handsomely and uniformly bound, as well as Mr. Hollis's.

they are unacquainted with the language of their preceptors; and our language not being much understood by foreigners, Mr. Hollis endeavoured to remedy this inconvenience, by engaging his bookseller to reprint Dr. Wallis's Latin Grammar of the English Tongue, for their benefit.—This Grammar was originally intended to obviate the same defect; and to that end the learned Author's instructions are conveyed in a tongue which all scholars, in all countries, and of all degrees, understand in some measure at least, and which was therefore the fittest to open the way for foreigners to the treasures of English learning. Mr. Hollis now revived this noble and benevolent purpose of the Author, by republishing his valuable Work; being extremely desirous that the English language should be understood all over Europe, for the sake of those incomparable books that are written in it, with whose intrinsic value foreigners could not otherwise be made acquainted, as many of them were never likely to be translated into any other language, and as, at the best, the spirit and sentiments of our writers are often erroneously, and always imperfectly, represented in translations: Nor were his laudable endeavours of this sort altogether without effect.—The short elegant Preface to this edition of Dr. Wallis's Grammar was written by the late learned Printer, Mr. Bowyer, at the request of Mr. Hollis, who made him a present for his trouble, and who likewise procured that beautiful engraving of the Head of the Author, by Signor Cipriani, which adorns the Work, being anxious to have it appear with every advantage that might gratify the eye or the taste of the purchaser. When it was completed, he took a great number of copies, for the noble purpose of distributing them where they might be most useful, and might do the greatest honour to his country. Many of these he sent to different parts abroad, and some he dispersed at home; this excellent grammar having been judged to be of benefit to natives as well as foreigners.

Mr. Hollis's ardent solicitude to promote publick liberty, civil and religious, not only led him to do all the honour and justice he could to the patrons and defenders of either, while living, but to the memory of those deceased patriots, whose noble exertions had been employed in emancipating mankind from the bonds of tyranny and superstition. His time, he thought, could not be passed more usefully or more honourably than in cherishing the works and memories of great and good publick Writers; and he was of opinion, that he could not do the glorious cause he espoused a better service, than by referring his countrymen to such immortal Authors as Milton, Sydney, and Locke, for instruction concerning the most proper method of preserving their invaluable rights and liberties, and by extending the knowledge of their inimitable Works as far as his influence could be supposed to reach. The Prose Works of Milton, in particular, he thought were too little

known, both at home and abroad, and that they wanted only to be better known, to be very highly esteemed. With this view therefore he generally distributed copies of them amongst his other benefactions; and he can hardly be sufficiently praised for endeavouring to spread as far and wide as he could the just estimation of a Collection of Discourses fraught with the truest principles of political happiness.—He had studied these Works perhaps more than any man in the kingdom, and being sensible of the imperfect state of the current Editions, he proposed to publish a new Edition of them, after the original Editions and Orthography, in three Volumes, Quarto; and he proceeded so far as to settle the whole manner of it completely with his bookseller: But when the press was set, and the first proof-sheet worked off, a disagreement arose, which put an end to the scheme, to the great disappointment and regret of Mr. Hollis, who had collected a number of curious and valuable Notes, with which he intended to enrich this new Edition, and who had also several Pieces of Milton in his collection, which might have made a new Edition much more complete and correct than those already published (*d*).

Toland's Life of Milton was also a favourite Book of Mr. Hollis, of which, together with his Amyntor, he procured a new and accurate Edition, in a handsome Octavo Volume, which he enriched with several valuable Notes, in favour of publick liberty, taken from the Works of eminent Writers.

Another of Mr. Hollis's favourite Authors was the illustrious Algernon Sydney, of whose excellent Discourses on Government, (a work calculated to make tyrants tremble,) he gave the publick a new and much improved Edition, in Quarto, which was attended with great and continued labour, and a considerable expence, on the part of our Editor, who informs us, that he undertook it without a single by-view, and alone, from the love he bore to liberty, and the memory of the Author; and that if he got through the undertaking, with honour to Sydney, with decorum to himself, and with entertainment and benefit to his countrymen, and mankind, he should not then regret the time and ex-

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pence

(*d*) The greater part of the Notes which Mr. Hollis had collected are supposed to have been sacrificed to his indignation. By what remains of them it appears, that they were taken from *Owen, Vicars, Nedham, Marvell, Clarendon, Kennet*, and others, who furnished any thing to illustrate, explain, or confirm a number of passages in this his beloved Author.

Some time before this transaction with his bookseller, Mr. Hollis had

settled with Mr. Cipriani, much to his satisfaction, the sketch of a Print representing *Milton* victorious over *Salmasius*; which he undoubtedly intended for a Frontispiece to this projected Edition of his Prose Works. He did not however countermand this Print, upon his disappointment; observing that it might serve for some future Edition of those Works.—It now constitutes one of the capital ornaments of the "Memoirs of Mr. Hollis."

pence bestowed upon it. This Edition is principally distinguished by many choice and valuable Notes, which afford abundant proofs of the Editor's extensive reading, and must ever endear to Englishmen their country's liberties, and its just and equal laws. Amongst other advantages attending these Notes, we may also reckon that of their preserving the memory of many gallant Patriots, and good Writers, who are not generally known, and who nevertheless deserve to be gratefully remembered. His own occasional Observations likewise do Mr. Hollis great honour, as a faithful and zealous advocate for the religious and civil rights of mankind (e).

Many were the reflections thrown obliquely upon Mr. Hollis for this most valuable and seasonable Publication; and it was, chiefly, his patronising this Edition with so many additional quotations from British Writers on the subject of Constitutional Liberty that procured him the name and reputation of a Republican. And indeed no wonder. For the Book was published at that critical period when it began to be visible that the management of our publick affairs was consigned to the hands of men notoriously known to have entertained principles unfavourable to liberty, and when the ruling policy seemed to have a tendency to infringe the rights and privileges originally appropriated to the people by the laws

(e) When this Edition was nearly sold off, the proprietors of it determined to reprint it; and Mr. Hollis, being apprized of some errors in the text of the "Discourses," prevailed upon a learned and ingenious Clergyman to revise the whole impression; which undertaking was executed greatly to the advantage of the Work, and to the entire satisfaction of Mr. Hollis, whose principal concern, in his own Edition, was to furnish it with Notes, and who had left the correction of errors to the persons usually employed by the booksellers for that purpose.—In this Edition are added "Letters of Algernon Sydney, taken from Thurloe's State Papers," which were not published in Mr. Hollis's Edition.

The worthy Reviser had proposed to inscribe this new Edition to Mr. Hollis, who declined it, in these terms—My earnest and sin-

cere request is, that no notice be taken of me, directly or indirectly. In respect to Dedications, I am below them, dislike them, and never did, or will, accept of one.—No man (it has been observed) who had the least knowledge of Mr. Hollis, can imagine, that there was the smallest degree of affectation in his declining Dedications, and other publick notices in print. He considered such notices as obstructive of his plan, which required that he should not be brought forward to the eye of such men as were not either disposed or qualified to imitate him.—Contrary to his views and wishes, however, he was once surprised with an honour of this sort: For, without his knowledge, the celebrated *Algarotti* published one of his Works, with a Dedication to Mr. Hollis, dated *Pisa*, Feb. 2, 1763.—*Memoirs*, P. 199.

§ Mr. Robertson, some time Curate to the late excellent Dr. Sykes, from whom, it is to be presumed, his liberal principles with respect to religion and government met with ample encouragement.

laws and ordinances of their ancient government. But a Republican, as that term stands for an enemy to a mixed government, with an executive magistrate at its head, Mr. Hollis certainly was not. He was attached to the *mode* of the Revolution, as well as to the *principles* of it; and not less to the Act of Succession in the House of Hanover; as abundantly appears by several memorials which he left behind him.

But our strenuous and active Patriot was not to be deterred, by obloquy and slander, from persevering in the noble plan he had adopted; in pursuance of which we find him employed in procuring a new Edition of Mr. Locke's incomparable Treatises of Government, and of his Letters concerning Toleration; which undertaking seems, for the time, to have engrossed a great part of his attention.

Few Books wanted a new Edition more than Mr. Locke's two Treatises of Government, which had hitherto been printed in the most careless manner.—Mr. Hollis had the good fortune to meet with a printed copy of these Treatises, with many manuscript corrections, alterations, and additions, in the hand-writing of Mr. Locke and Mr. Coste; and from this copy his own beautiful and correct Edition was prepared.

The Treatises of Government were hardly published, when Mr. Hollis undertook a new Edition of Mr. Locke's Letters on Toleration, engaging his friend Mr. Baron to correct the press, and to write a Preface, which, after several interviews on the subject, was agreed to be candid, ample, and correct; and Mr. Baron had ten guineas for writing it, over and above the twenty guineas which Mr. Hollis gave him for correcting the press (*f*).

These

(*f*) RICHARD BARON, a Dissenting Minister, and a high-spirited Republican, an adorer of *Milton*, *Sydney*, and *Locke*, was extremely useful to the cause of civil and religious liberty. He was born at Leeds, in Yorkshire, and was educated at Glasgow, in Scotland, under the eye of the celebrated Professor Hutcheson, for whom he always retained the utmost respect, and from whom, when he quitted Glasgow, (in 1740,) he received a very handsome Testimonial of his good character and behaviour, during his residence in that University.

In 1750, Mr. Baron began to distinguish himself as an Editor, in which capacity he displayed considerable merit, and was of essential service to the cause which he so

warmly espoused. He republished, about that time, a Collection of valuable Tracts, under the Title of "A Cordial for low Spirits," in three Volumes, 12mo;—and this Republication was soon followed by another, entitled, "Scarce and valuable Tracts and Sermons, occasionally published by the late Reverend and learned *John Abernethy*, M. A. Author of the *Discourses on the Being and Perfections of God*. Now first collected together."—The original Editions of these Tracts were given to Mr. Baron, when he was a Student at Glasgow, by Professor Hutcheson, upon a presumption that, some time or other, he might be inclined to publish them.

He also published, in 1750, from a manu-

These Letters were printed on royal quarto paper ; and they are a perfect model of printing with simplicity and elegance. The pains that Mr. Hollis took to have the Edition complete are incredible. He may be said to have watched over it with the anxiety of a parent. He not only procured the original Editions, which appeared in Mr. Locke's life-time, but he likewise collated several other Editions, in Folio and Quarto ; and when the Work was about to be published, that it might appear with greater advantage,

manuscript letter to Archbishop Herring, which fell into his hands, " Bower's own Account of his Escape from the Inquisition ;" which first occasioned a suspicion, and led to a detection of Bower.

Not long after this, Mr. Baron procured a noble Edition of " Ludlow's Memorials," in Folio, to which he wrote a Preface. He also revised and corrected the Folio Edition of *Algernon Sydney's* " Discourses on Government," and that of *Milton's* " Prose Works," in two Volumes, Quarto. He likewise republished *Nedham's* " Excellency of a free State," to which he wrote a short Preface.

In 1755, he was so fortunate as to discover the second Edition of *Milton's* " Iconoclastes," of the year 1650, which contained large additions to the former Editions, and which he republished, in a thin Quarto. He presented several copies of his Edition to those whom he esteemed. In the copy sent to Mr. Pitt was written, " To William Pitt, Esq; Assertor of Liberty, Champion of the People, Scourge of impious Ministers, their Tools and Sycophants, this Book is presented by the Editor."

Some time before this, Mr. Baron had published a Collection of Tracts, in two Volumes, 12mo, entitled, " The Pillars of Priest-craft and Orthodoxy shaken ;" to which Collection two more Volumes were added, in 1768, after his death. He is, however, supposed to have been mistaken, or misinformed, con-

cerning the persons to whom he ascribed some of these Tracts.

Mr. Baron was indefatigable in searching after scarce and valuable Books and Tracts on the subject of publick and constitutional liberty, many of which Mr. Hollis purchased of him, and others he bought at the sale of his books after his death. He was also vigilant in detecting the underhand manœuvres of men whom he knew to be disaffected to publick liberty ; and it is believed, that some good Whig Pamphlets were the better for his Notes.

His character has been thus drawn by no injudicious hand :—' Mr. Baron's character was one of the most artless and undisguised that ever appeared in the world. He was a man of real and great learning, of fixed and steady integrity, and a tender and sympathizing heart. He firmly believed in Revelation, and for this very reason was infinitely more concerned to promote the cause of truth and virtue in the world, than to procure any emolument or advantages to himself.—No man was ever more zealous in the cause of civil and religious liberty than Mr. Baron. The whole bent of his studies led him this way. Well did he understand the cause in its utmost extent. Warmly was he animated whenever it was the subject of debate, and zealously indignant was he, when he thought it attacked, or in danger of subversion.—Could he have restrained

|| Mr. Hollis gave Millar, the bookseller, ten guineas for publishing this Edition, and ten more to Mr. Baron, for procuring the publication.

vantage, he caused an Advertisement of the Publication to be inserted in the Papers, drawn up in high terms of liberty. When it was printed off, he took a considerable number of Copies, “to be scattered ingenuously” (as he expresses himself) “among literary societies, the learned, and his friends.”

Some time after this, Mr. Hollis projected a new Edition of all Mr. Locke’s Works; but his bookseller not agreeing to his proposals, the matter dropped. He therefore only revised and corrected the Life of Mr. Locke, as it was published in one of the Folio Editions of his Works; (which is little more than a copy of Le Clerc’s;) and when, with the assistance of another gentleman, he had made it as perfect as he could, it was prefixed to an Edition of Mr. Locke’s Works, in Quarto, which appeared in 1768; but in which Mr. Hollis was no farther concerned than to recommend to the publishers to reprint the “Latin Letter on Toleration,” and Proast’s Pieces written against that Letter, which were become exceedingly scarce.—This Edition was also adorned with a Head of the Author, engraved by Basire, from a very fine original drawing of Cipriani, which Mr. Hollis lent him for that purpose.

Andrew Marvell was another of Mr. Hollis’s favourites; and for some time he meditated a new Edition of the Works of that consummate patriot. With this view he had frequent conferences with the learned Printer, Mr. Bowyer, and his friend Baron; but Mr. Baron not thinking himself equal to the task, for want of proper materials relating to the history of the Author, or such as were necessary to illustrate some passages in his Works, which wanted explanation, and Mr. Bowyer refusing to be concerned in the republication, the want of two such able co operators put an end to the project (g).

Mr.

ed the natural impetuosity of his temper, no man would have had more friends, or better deserved them†. With many virtues, and few faults, which only wanted the elevation of a higher station and a better fate to have assumed the form of virtues, Mr. Baron passed the greatest part of his life in penurious circumstances, which neither abated the generous ardour, nor overcame the laudable independency of his spirit. These

are virtues, which, when exerted in a low sphere, seldom bring their reward to the possessor; yet these, with their blessed effects, were all this good man left behind him for the consolation and support of a widow and three children.—Memoirs of Mr. Hollis. Passim.

(g) Since the death of Mr. Hollis, Marvell’s Works have been republished, in three Volumes, Quarto, by Captain Edward Thompson, who was generously presented with all

† His eagerness and precipitation, in favour of the cause he espoused, prevented Mr. Hollis from having that free and unreserved intercourse with him which his many valuable qualities would otherwise have disposed that excellent person to have encouraged and turned to the account of the publick in various ways,

Mr. Hollis had also designed to procure a new and improved Edition of the famous Book, entitled, *Vindiciæ contra Tyrannos*; and for that purpose had caused an elegant Head of the Author, Hubert Languet, to be engraved by Cipriani, from an original painting in his possession, for the use of such Edition. His design, however, was not carried into execution. What prevented him does not appear.

By this republication of their Works in beautiful and correct Editions, and by procuring clear and authentick Accounts of their Lives, Mr. Hollis, whilst he did honour to the memory of such distinguished persons, was in hopes of exciting others to the imitation of their noble characters and conduct. Nor was this the only method he adopted with the same generous view.—To perpetuate the portraits or the actions of great and good men in the medallick way, is but a small tribute of gratitude from their successors; and whilst it furnishes ingenious artists with a liberal employment, there seems to be a probability of its counteracting, in some degree, the vitiated taste of a corrupt and effeminate age. At least, Mr. Hollis's own experience encouraged him to hope that such might be the salutary consequences of the attempt; for, at his first entering upon the noble plan of life which he had laid down, he tells us, that when he beheld the effigies, and reflected on the lives and actions, not only of the ancient Greeks and Romans, (heroes of the utmost size and dignity,) but even of several of our countrymen yet almost breathing, such as *Newton*, *Boyle*, *Locke*, *Algernon Sydney*, the divine *Milton*, and others, though he was impressed with so sensible a conviction of his own littleness as to hope that all vain glory and presumption were thereby effectually eradicated from his mind, yet whilst he felt himself humbled, he was at the same time animated by such contemplations, to walk after them in that path of virtue, through which they ran, they flew (*b*). He therefore spared no pains nor expence in collecting original Portraits of those who, either on account of their writings, or their publick conduct, are justly ranked amongst the benefactors of their country; and from these Portraits he procured Prints to be engraved by the most celebrated artists. His Medals and Coins were also collected with the same beneficent design; and what he thus collected, he either presented, as occasions offered, to the most eminent repositories at home and abroad, and to many illustrious individuals, and patrons of liberty, in his own country,

all the Manuscripts and scarce Tracts collected by Mr. Hollis for his own intended edition. This obligation Mr. Thompson very gratefully acknowledges; observing, that some

of the tracts were such as he was unable to procure any where else.

(*b*) Memoirs of Mr. Hollis, P. 60.

country, and in other nations, or dispersed them amongst his friends in general (i).

Mr. Hollis had an exquisite taste for the fine arts, specimens of which he endeavoured to procure, in all their various kinds, without aiming at parade and shew, in his collection, which he rather chose to make subservient to some valuable purpose. He was of opinion that the arts, directed to the end for which nature intended them, contribute greatly to the delight and comfort of life, and that there is a brutal ignorance altogether as destructive to the morals of mankind, as it is ignominious to genius. And without doubt such pursuits are not only innocent in themselves, but they serve to adorn and polish civil life, and are variously useful to mankind.

These sentiments induced Mr. Hollis to pay great attention to the publick Societies in this country, instituted for the promotion of learning, arts, and science; of most, if not all of which he was a member. He took an early resolution, however, to avoid all publick distinctive characters among them; in consequence of which he declined being one of the Vice-Presidents of the Society of Antiquaries, though the patent was made out; and for the same reason, when he was elected Chairman of the Committee of polite Arts, by the Society for promoting those Arts, he thought fit to decline that honour likewise; being determined to continue, throughout life, a private and independent individual. But his attention to the best means of advancing the credit, and promoting the noble ends of these Institutions, was not the less on this account. With these views he took an active part in forwarding the plan for inducing the Society of Arts and Commerce to publish Annual Accounts of their progress, and of the improvements in the several articles of commercial and curious manufactures, for which they proposed to allot premiums; and when these Accounts were printed, he dispersed them in great numbers, in order to excite the emulation of the artists at home, and to promote the institution of similar Societies in foreign countries, where there was any probability that commerce might

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(i) The principal *Prints* which were engraved at the expence of Mr. Hollis, and presented in sets to his friends, were of

Lieutenant-General Edmund Ludlow; John Milton, the boy; the same, at twenty-one years of age; the same, from a bust in plaister; the same, from a crayon of Tonsen's; John Milton victorious over Salmasius; Algernon Sydney; Andrew Marvell; Dr. John Wallis: All by *Cipriani*.

Sir Isaac Newton, scraped by Mac

Ardell.—Hubert Languet, from a painting in his own collection.

Dr. Jonathan Mayhew. *Cipriani*.—An engraving of Bulstrode Whitlocke, from a medal in possession of Mr. De Berch, of Stockholm.—*Memoirs*, P. 502.

Long before the rage for collecting portraits prevailed, Mr. Hollis preserved the resemblances of great men, but admitted no worthless or base members of society to disgrace his band of heroes.

be extended, or useful arts encouraged. Switzerland and Sicily were particularly distinguished by these benefactions (*k*); and some he sent to America, where they were gratefully accepted, and a disposition was shewn to come into his plan.

Mr. Hollis had always professed an affectionate regard for the Americans in general, and for the people of Boston and of Massachusetts Bay, in particular, whom he supposed, taking them in a body, to be the most sober, knowing, and virtuous people upon earth. That they might long continue such, was his ardent desire; and one of the most likely means to that end he rightly thought would be, to watch well over their youth, by bestowing upon them a reasonable and manly education, and selecting for that purpose the ablest and most accomplished men that could be obtained. For this, indeed, the wisdom and benevolence of their fathers had made an excellent provision by law; and to render the good consequences resulting from this provision more extensively beneficial, was the great object which Mr. Hollis always kept in view, in his connexions with that country.

So early as the year 1754, he began to testify his attachment to America, by subscribing to the newly erected College in Prince's Town, in New Jersey, and at the same time earnestly recommending to others the encouragement of that infant seminary. But it was Harvard College, in the town of Cambridge, in New England, that he principally distinguished and enriched by his numerous benefactions of various kinds, and especially of the choicest books, in different branches of literature, and more particularly on the subject of government. So assiduous indeed was he in collecting the best treatises on this *first* subject, (as he called it,) that we find him expressing a hope that no principal book relating to it would be wanting in Harvard College, from the days of *Moses* to his own times. Without doubt, this was saying a great deal for his benefactions; but we may at least learn, from this hope, what a noble collection of ancient and modern politicks he must have deposited in the Library of that Society. He thought (as he told his correspondents there) that we were entering upon bad times; and he was willing to contribute what he could towards their getting stocked with books relating to those two most precious subjects, civil and religious liberty. For bountiful as Mr. Hollis was to the American Colonies, it was not a partial and personal attachment that influenced him in the choice of his presents. He sent them not what might be most acceptable to particular persons, but what he judged might be most beneficial to the community; and being of opinion that if government goes right, all

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(*k*) In one of those sent to Sicily he wrote,—‘Go, little Book, induce the Sicilians, famous through all ages, to institute Societies like your Society, that the good may be united, the bad awed, the island enriched with preservation of its industry, and mankind benefited.’

goes right, books on government were what he most delighted to send ; yet not without digression to other subjects, either useful or ingenious.

Harvard College had indeed a sort of family claim to Mr. Hollis's munificence, several of his ancestors having patronised it in the most generous manner, and his great uncle, Thomas, in particular, having, in addition to his other benefactions, (which amounted to little less than five thousand pounds sterling,) founded a Professorship there for the Mathematicks and Natural Philosophy, and ten Scholarships in those and other Sciences.

The learning of the first settlers in America lay in a small compass. Their conceptions were accordingly narrow, in religion particularly, and not very extensive in matters of government. But, assisted by the benevolence of their British benefactors, (amongst whom the name of Hollis will always merit a particular and most grateful remembrance,) their descendents have found means to improve themselves in every branch of liberal literature ; and it is well known that such improvement naturally inspires men with a strong attachment to the principles of civil and religious liberty, and with a proportionable sensibility, when any encroachments are made upon those principles.

Mr. Hollis's benefactions to Harvard College were chiefly conveyed through the hands of the Rev. Dr. Mayhew, Pastor of the West Church in Boston, a man of exemplary piety and amiable manners, firmly attached to the cause of liberty, and, as it appears by his writings, of considerable literary abilities. From the accounts of his friends in New England, and from the perusal of one of his Publications (*l*), Mr. Hollis had conceived a great esteem for this gentleman ; in consequence of which, he sent him a present of a box of books, without acquainting him with the name of his correspondent ; but being soon convinced of his real merit, he sent him, in the year 1759, another present of books, accompanied with a letter, to which he subscribed his name ; and from that time a correspondence commenced between them, which was regularly kept up, till the death of Dr. Mayhew.

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(*l*) This was a very curious Dissertation on Government, printed at Boston, in 1750, and the first on that subject produced from the American world. It was entitled " A Discourse concerning unlimited Submission and Non-Resistance to the Higher Powers, with some Reflections on the Resistance made to Charles I. and on the Anniversary of his Death, in which the mysterious Doctrine of that Prince's Saintship and Martyrdom

" is unriddled. The Substance of
" which was delivered in a Sermon
" preached in the West Meeting-
" House in Boston, the Lord's Day
" after the 30th of January, 1749-50.
" By Jonathan Mayhew, A.M. Pas-
" tor of the West Church in Bos-
" ton."

This Piece has been reprinted in *Baron's* Collection of Tracts, entitled, " The Pillars of Priestcraft and Orthodoxy shaken," Vol. II.

Mr. Hollis corresponded likewise with other learned and ingenious men, in that part of the world; such as he thought the most likely to propagate the soundest principles of religion and government amongst their countrymen: but his most confidential friend was Dr. Mayhew. It was to him that he opened himself with the least reserve upon the most interesting and delicate subjects; and in the course of their correspondence he testified, upon all occasions, his zealous regard for the interests and prosperity of America. In particular, he earnestly and repeatedly recommended the establishment of some Societies in that country, upon the model of those in London, especially that of the Royal Society, and the Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce; and though, at first, his American friends thought themselves hardly ripe for engaging in designs of that nature, yet some useful institutions of the kind were afterwards set on foot, in different provinces, and attended with good success. But in no instance was Mr. Hollis more active and assiduous than with respect to the scheme for establishing Bishops and Episcopal Academies in America; a scheme much favoured by our Prelates and Clergy in general, and particularly patronised by Archbishop Secker.

This project gave the Americans a great deal of uneasiness. They thought it would be attended with the most pernicious consequences, but they were much at a loss in what manner to oppose it. In this situation Dr. Mayhew took the liberty of applying to Mr. Hollis, and of assuring him that he could not do the people of New England a more essential service, or lay them under greater obligations, than by using his influence in such ways as he might judge most proper to prevent the scheme from taking effect. It was not at that time sufficiently known to this American Patriot, that Mr. Hollis had long resolved to avoid all publick business, and especially the taking (as he terms it) charges or leads of any kind; but in answer to this application he was made fully acquainted with his friend's determination in this respect, who at the same time observed, that the people of New England might always rely upon his best offices, generally, in their behalf, but without charge on their part, or junction of any sort with other persons. Accordingly Mr. Hollis not only pointed out a proper man to manage an opposition to such a scheme, but when Dr. Mayhew sent him some of his Publications relating to the subject, which he thought might have a good effect, if reprinted in England, he appears to have been at a considerable expence, and to have taken no small pains, for that purpose; going out of his usual course in the affair, purely (as he declared) to help on a noble cause, though in a small degree. He also distributed Copies of these Pieces amongst his friends, and others whose works, or whose reputation entitled them to the epithet *ingenuous*.

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It is no wonder that Mr. Hollis espoused Dr. Mayhew's cause with so much affection and alacrity ; for he considered these Clerical manœuvres as sowing the seeds of such prejudices against the Colonies in the Mother Country, as had a manifest tendency to that disunion which hath since followed ; a disunion which he sincerely dreaded, and incessantly laboured to prevent.—Certain it is, that the Ecclesiastical policy of establishing Prelacy was a considerable ingredient in the jealousy conceived by the Colonists of the evil designs of the Mother Country towards them ; and on the other hand Mr. Hollis well knew what ill will was excited against the Colonists, on a religious account, by the inflammatory Sermons and Pamphlets of the zealous Churchmen of those days. With a view, therefore, of setting the people of England right in their judgment of the Colonists, he encouraged Dr. Mayhew to give them more genuine and exact accounts of the religion of the American Non-Episcopalians ; and these Publications, as well as some other productions of the same sort, he distributed with a liberal hand.

This was one method which Mr. Hollis adopted to introduce milder sentiments and dispositions towards each other, and to prevent matters from coming to extremities between the Mother Country and the Colonies ; and in the same benevolent cause all his little energies, he says, were constantly exerted.—When the first commotions excited by the Stamp Act arose, he waited on the Minister with the most authentick and important information concerning the dispositions of the Colonists. He spent a winter in town, against inclination, health, and convenience, on account of the transactions of that period, working (as he himself observes) his own strength, however small, in the storm, to prevent, if possible, the state vessel from wrecking. At length he had the satisfaction of seeing that obnoxious Act repealed ; soon after which event he was unhappily deprived of his incomparable friend, Dr. Mayhew, who died at Boston of a nervous fever, “ o'erplied,” as Mr. Hollis expresses it, in Miltonick phrase, “ with public energies.”

By the death of this excellent person our illustrious Patriot was at a loss for a confidential correspondent in America, by whose means mutual communications of the state of the Mother Country and the Colonies, respectively, might be safely and discreetly interchanged, without giving fuel to party zeal or party malevolence on the one side or the other. He was not, however, kept long in suspense ; for in the worthy and publick-spirited Dr. Eliot, of Boston, he found a proper substitute for his much-lamented friend. With this gentleman therefore he opened a correspondence, and through him continued his munificence to Harvard College,

College, and his benefactions to other parts of America (*m*). At the same time he beheld with the utmost concern the great uneasiness which was prevailing and increasing in that country, and his anxieties were heightened as the approaching breach became more and more visible.—With regard to the subject of this uneasiness, his opinion was, that the whole equity lay on the side of the Americans, and that the people of Boston, in particular, had acted as became an outraged, free, and brave people; and he likewise thought, that under the most trying circumstances, they would extricate themselves with firmness and magnanimity.—Mr. Hollis indeed was aware of something in the character of the Americans which unfortunately either escaped the notice of those who undertook the task of their humiliation, or was not credited by them. He was well acquainted with their inbred affection for liberty: he knew that it grew from the root of persecution, and upon that very account was not to be subdued by oppression and insult. He spoke his mind freely on this subject to the Prime Minister; he was heard with civility, and subsequent events have shewn that he should have been believed.

When at length the vengeance against America opened with Addresses from the two Houses of Parliament, followed by others from different places, and different classes of men; all which were graciously received, with assurances that the orders recommended by the addressers, as the most effectual means of bringing the authors of the unhappy commotions in the Province of Massachusetts Bay to condign punishment, should be given without fail; sensible

(*m*) Some time before the death of Dr. Mayhew, (Jan. 24, 1764), a dreadful fire broke out at Harvard College, by which one of its buildings was entirely consumed, together with a noble publick Library, and a Philosophical Apparatus of great value*. This loss Mr. Hollis lamented exceedingly; but he no sooner heard of the accident than he subscribed 200*l.* towards a new Philosophical Apparatus, and the same sum to the Library; a subscription having been opened in London for repairing the loss.—Fortunately, four large cases of curious and rare books, sent by Mr. Hollis the year before, having been detained elsewhere, till a place could be prepared for them in the Library,

escaped the conflagration. This he used to mention as a singular circumstance, which gave him great pleasure. Amongst the rest were forty-five volumes of Tracts, collected by Dr. Wallis, and other books, which he said he could not procure again, nor should attempt it.

He continued his noble presents, however, from time to time, till he had completed his original intention; and at his decease he left a testimony of his unabating generosity to this Seminary of Literature, by bequeathing the sum of five hundred pounds, to be laid out in Books, as an addition to his former benefactions to the Library.

* When Mr. Hollis's great uncle founded a Professorship of Mathematicks and Philosophy in Harvard College, he sent a fine Apparatus for Experimental Philosophy in its several branches, to which many very valuable additions had been made by several generous benefactors.

sensible of the tendency of this madness, Mr. Hollis conveyed through a Paper of extensive circulation, and continued, from time to time, the following concise and patriotick admonition to the interested parties—" *Englismen, Scottismen, Irishmen, Colonists, Brethren*, DISCORDIA RES MAXIMÆ DILABUNTUR."—He did not live to see, as we have done, the completion of his prophecy; but he lived to see enough of the folly, precipitation, and obstinacy of attacking a brave and generous people, whom oppression had made desperate, by such measures and such counsels as the strength and wisdom of Great Britain then afforded.

Mr. Hollis's connexions with the American Colonies, his zeal for their improvement, and particularly his correspondence with Dr. Mayhew, who, it seems, became obnoxious to the Governors of Massachusset's Bay, on account of his Writings in favour of civil liberty, have been alledged in evidence of his fomenting that factious spirit in America, (as some are pleased to term it,) which has ended in the Colonies declaring themselves independent on the Mother Country; a thing the most remote from his wishes and endeavours.—His benevolence to the American Colonies was derived from the generous spirit and example of some of his more immediate ancestors, whose benefactions consisted in affording them the means of improvement in useful arts and sciences, and valuable erudition of all kinds. To this improvement there were many contributors besides Mr. Hollis and his family. The Mother Country reaped her full share of the fruits of it; and when our Patriot sent his first bounty to Harvard College, there was not the least prospect or ground for suspicion that those fruits would not be continued to our latest posterity. When misconduct and misrepresentation, on the one side and the other, created complaints and jealousies in the Colonies, and wrath and severity on the part of Government at home, Mr. Hollis appears to have dreaded nothing more than a fatal separation. He disapproved indeed the counsels of the men in power, because he foresaw their tendency to a breach which might never be healed; but he equally disapproved methods of outrage and violence in the Colonists, and studiously avoided the company and correspondence of those among them whose imprudent heat and resentment could produce nothing but irritation. He held no correspondence with the political leaders in that country: his principal epistolary intercourse and confidence was with men of letters, or men of commerce. He declined private visits from those Americans who occasionally came to England on different errands; nor does it appear that he had the least communication with any gentleman who had a share in forming their resolution of Independence. On the contrary, it is evident, from his correspondence with Dr. Mayhew, that he constantly endeavoured to inculcate loyalty to the King and his government, and to create a good opinion of his Majesty

Majesty amongst his Provincial subjects. In short, concord and felicity to the Mother Country and her Colonies were what he most sincerely and ardently wished, and what he long laboured, to the utmost of his power, to promote. He was unwearied in his exhortations, in the publick papers, to peace and union, and in warnings to avoid the dire effects of pursuing the contest to extremities; and if the dismal event has shewn that his powers of persuasion were unequal to the work of reconciliation, it has at least done honour to his sagacity, and justice to his sincerity. We have now only to lament, that the Church and State should co-operate, by their joint manœuvres, to detach those worthy friends to civil and religious liberty from their amicable connexions with the Mother Country, and to compel them to seek their happiness in a system of their own; thereby deriving upon Great-Britain a long train of inconveniencies and difficulties, which perhaps the wisest of our posterity will hardly be able sufficiently to alleviate.

But Mr. Hollis's conduct with respect to America was by no means the only proof he gave of his patriotick regard for the true interests and prosperity of his native country. The excellence of its original as well as its improved constitution of government was always in his thoughts; and if ever any asperity of expression escaped him, the objects of it were those men whose principles and counsels tended, in his opinion, to subvert or corrupt it, or those who, by a mean servility, became the abject instruments of such pernicious policy.—With these sentiments of our constitution, and persuaded as he was, that the civil and religious liberties of Englishmen will ever be endangered in proportion as *Papery* increases, and is not discouraged, when Mr. Hollis saw the Papists uncommonly alert all over the kingdom, and not only boasting of their success in conversions, but having their patrons in print, both as pamphleteers and writers in the newspapers, and soliciting, with much sophistry and assurance, to be put upon a footing with the Protestant Dissenters, by a toleration law in their favour, he used his best endeavours to have their principal Publications answered in form. He likewise procured proper Essays to be occasionally inserted in the publick papers, and was at a considerable expence in bringing forward and dispersing some excellent Tracts on the subject.—What he chiefly aimed at was to keep alive in the remembrance of his countrymen the intolerant genius and persecuting spirit of *Papery*, and to detect, counteract, and disappoint the machinations of those Papists who had opportunities of advancing the cause of their party (*n*).

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(*n*) Of the Tracts thus circulated by Mr. Hollis one of the most conspicuous came from the pen of the celebrated Author of the *Confessional*, under the title of "Considerations on the present State of the Controversy

An increase of Papists, Mr. Hollis thought, would of course be pernicious in its consequences to the free constitution of this kingdom, and inimical to every principle of civil and religious liberty upon which it is supported. The augmentation of their numbers therefore, as well as the advancement of their influence, he diligently laboured to prevent; and nothing seems to have given him greater satisfaction than the efforts which he made to check the progress of Popery in this country, and to abate the credit and indulgence which the professors of that superstition appeared to have obtained.

His vigilance in this respect caused him to be narrowly watched by the Popish faction; for though his communications to the press were anonymous, yet the part he took did not escape the discovery of the indefatigable emissaries of that party. His principles indeed with respect to politicks were well known in and about the Metropolis; and he was a man of too much consequence to

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“ Controversy between the Protestants and Papists of Great-Britain and Ireland, particularly on the Question, How far the latter are entitled to a Toleration upon Protestant Principles?”

Writings against Popery had not, for some years, been very frequent, previous to this Publication; which containing, in Mr. Hollis’s opinion, many particulars worthy of the serious consideration of the publick, he thought it peculiarly seasonable that this Tract should be dispersed into as many hands as were more especially concerned to take notice of its contents. With this design he purchased an hundred and ten copies; one of which, we are informed, had the honour to be presented to his Majesty; others to the Ministers of State, Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord Mayor of London; some to different Noblemen and Bishops; and no less than thirty to publick societies and libraries at home and abroad, not forgetting America.

Some liberal-minded Protestant writers have thought, contrary to Archdeacon Blackburne, that the toleration of Papists ought to be as extensive as that of other Dissenters from the Church of England; which was particularly suggested to Mr. Hollis, on occasion of his dispersing

this Book.—Part of his answer to one who expostulated with him on this head is as follows:—‘ Think not, Sir, that I mean to lead your opinions, or to recommend my own. Use your own liberty, and leave me mine. Write a book to confute this Author, and John Milton, and you shall want no assistance of mine to make it known.’

Mr. Hollis was utterly against the toleration of Popery, on the very same considerations that Milton had opposed it, namely, ‘ as claiming a twofold power, ecclesiastical and political; both usurped, and the one supporting the other; the one superseding all the rights of conscience by intolerance, the other striking at the root of all civil liberty.’—Milton’s arguments on this head have been esteemed unanswerable; and it is certain that Mr. Hollis thought they had stood good from the time they were published, and had been confirmed by facts and circumstances throughout the whole interval; and it may be supposed, that what chiefly recommended the “ Considerations” above mentioned to him was the detail of facts and doctrines exhibited in them, which proved demonstratively that Popery now is, ever was, and must be, *still the same*.—Memoirs, P. 394 and 360.

the cause of civil and religious liberty to remain unnoticed by those who respectively looked upon it with an evil eye. He had reason to believe, that the jealousy of some of the Courtiers of those days inclined them to take methods for discovering his haunts; though with no ill design upon his person: But, from other quarters, he was not without his apprehensions of being taken off by assassination. He had various proofs of his being watched and dogged by the Papists; and the notices he received of it from some of his well-wishers gave him, at first, considerable uneasiness. He soon determined, however, to fear no events, nor to be awed, in any degree, by such circumstances, but to proceed ingenuously, to the best of his abilities, and according to his usual custom, against measures, not men, placing his trust, in humility, where, says he, it ought to be, with the ALMIGHTY.—And in this situation he thought he could not devise more real substantial patriotism than that of pursuing his course of communicating whatever he supposed might tend to the instruction or admonition of his fellow citizens, through the medium of the publick papers; in which therefore he sounded from time to time such alarms as he judged most likely to excite their attention to the preservation of their liberties and all the inestimable rights of British and Protestant subjects.

But the time was now drawing on, when Mr. Hollis was to retire from these publick scenes, and to seek some relaxation from that variety of affairs in which he had been so long engaged, and that weight of business which, he tells us, was so great as not only to force him frequently to neglect almost all amusements and diversions, but, at times, to disanimate and overwhelm him, though he laboured day, night, week, month, year, successively, to master it.—Upon his return from his travels, (which had been chiefly directed to the same end,) he resolved that the flower of his life and judgment should be devoted solely to the service of his country and of mankind; and this resolution he had carried into execution with the severest energy, though employed, as he modestly observes, in silence and smaller matters, being cut off from greater and more noble (*c*). Some relaxation was now become necessary. He had always disliked the intrigue and bustle of the town, and he could not well bear any longer that intense application to which he had submitted for years. The strength of his body (he complains)

(*c*) Many of Mr. Hollis's friends, who knew his abilities, his excellent principles, and inflexible integrity, wished to see him in a publick station, and were importunate with him to get into Parliament; but he would never consent to make use of the common methods for obtaining a seat. 'For my own part,' says

he, in one of his letters upon the subject, 'though I would rather possess a seat in a certain place than any other temporal advantage whatever, yet I remember too well the saying of an Ancient to think of it, *I can live contented without glory, but cannot suffer shame.*'

plains) no longer equalled the powers of his mind, nor those the vigour of earlier days. Having therefore the inexpressible satisfaction of knowing that the prime of his life had been passed humbly, disinterestedly, strenuously, and affectionately, in the prosecution of that noble plan which he had rigorously laid down to himself, and which required much labour and constancy to perfect, he thought the remainder of it at his own private disposal. — But though, on all accounts, he was sensible, that he had now little else to consider than retirement, yet the circumstances of the times induced him to defer his retreat from one summer to another, till he had actually completed a fifth year of publick service beyond his plan. At length, in the autumn of the year 1770, his retreat took place. For some time before this, he had fully determined to leave London; and his only uncertainty was, where he should settle, and how he should employ himself after he had quitted his situation and connexions in the metropolis. It appears from his Diary (*p*), that his mind had been much perplexed and agitated on this account; but at length he retired to a place called *Urles Farm*, a most healthy and beautiful spot, in the parish of *Corfcombe*, in *Dorsetshire*, where his estates lay; and he was so pleased with the situation, that he soon determined to settle as near to it as possible, the house itself being in no respect fit for his residence.

An absence of fifteen years had occasioned several inconveniencies, and would have occasioned many more, had he not at length been at hand to prevent them by his own personal inspection; but as he tells us that he did not go into the country for attentions of interest of any kind, which he had ever despised, as such, so we find that he was by no means idle in his retreat, or forgetful of the publick good. When indeed he first determined to retire from the metropolis, though the scene of action would thereby be changed and lessened, he flattered himself that the latter part of his life would not pass away in an useless insipid inactivity, but that his time would be spent not only in innocence and attentions to agriculture, (an employment which, in early life, had attracted his particular regard,) but also with benevolence and a view to some sort of benefit to others. Accordingly we find that he did not entirely drop his intercourse with such of his former correspondents as were proper either to give or to receive intelligence of those matters which employed his cares and concern for the publick. Retreat however became every day more and more acceptable to him; for though in general he enjoyed a good state of

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health,

(*p*) In the year 1759 Mr. Hollis began to keep a Diary of his transactions; the first entry of which is this—'Entered the fortieth year of my age; may the remainder of life pass steadily, in active and extensive virtue, at least in innocence! and this I will endeavour.'

health, yet he felt in several ways the effects of his late most rigid plan, and was evidently, as he says, verging on infirmities and old age. But to this period he did not arrive; nor did he long enjoy that retirement, to which the active exertions of his former life might well entitle him; for on the first of January, 1774, as he was in the fields at Corfcombe, giving directions to one of his workmen, he dropped down in a fit and expired. He had written several notes that morning upon different matters of business. The conclusion of what he wrote to one of his servants in his house in Pall Mall, to prepare for his coming to town (and probably the last) was, "I have to thank God for continuing me in health, of his bounty; and I wish you all well."—Of the fatal stroke which thus suddenly put an end to a life so valuable, and which, in all probability, would have ended it sooner, had he not relaxed his plan, his acquaintance had remarked frequent intimations; and he himself had expressed similar apprehensions. In the manner of his death, he obtained that *euthanasia* which he had often been known to desire, if it might please the good providence of God. Some particular circumstances attending it we shall insert below (q).

It has been well observed, that the singularity of Mr. HOLLIS's character might alone mark him out as an object of great publick curiosity; but it was not merely a peculiarity in this respect that discriminated him from the rest of the world; his virtues were as singular

(q) From a letter addressed by the late Mr. Toplady to Mrs. Macaulay, (dated Jan. 11, 1774) it appears, that Mr. Hollis, 'that friend of the British empire and of mankind,' (as Mr. Toplady styles him) was, early in the afternoon of New Year's day, in a field at some distance from his place of residence at Corfcombe, attended by only one workman, who was receiving his directions concerning a tree which had been lately felled. On a sudden, he put one of his fingers to his forehead, saying, *Richard, I believe the weather is going to change: I am extremely giddy.* These words were scarce off his lips, when he dropped. He fell on his left side, and being near an hedge, his head was received by the subjacent ditch. The man sprung to his assistance, and raising him from that sad situation, administered what little relief he could. The expiring Patriot was still suf-

ficiently himself to say, *Lord, have mercy upon me; Lord, have mercy upon me; receive my soul;* which were the last words he was able to pronounce. His lips moved afterwards, but no sound was formed. In a few seconds more his spirit was disimprisoned. The frightened assistant lost no time. Leaving the corpse on the grass, he hastened away for superior help; but in vain: The lancet, when applied, was without effect. At the time of his decease, Mr. Hollis was ready booted, intending to ride that day to Lyme Regis. When I was there, it was my melancholy lot to occupy the chamber in which he always slept during his occasional stay in that town, and which had been prepared for his reception two or three nights before.—Toplady's Posthumous Works.—Gentleman's Magazine, Vol. L. P. 558.

singular as his personal character was uncommon. Few men, possessed of such an affluent fortune as he had, would have devoted not only that, but their whole time, thoughts, and attention, to the service of their country and of mankind. From the best of motives, indeed, he preferred above all others a *private station*; but in that post of honour his labours were of extensive and essential utility. No age could ever boast a more genuine and inflexible patriot, a more steady, faithful, and judicious friend to the true interests of his country. This, however, great as it is, forms but a part of his praise. Actuated by a spirit of universal philanthropy, and considering himself as a Citizen of the World, he endeavoured (as we have seen) to diffuse the light of literature and the love of liberty far beyond the narrow bounds of his native soil. Foreign nations, therefore, as well as his own, will have reason to venerate his memory (*r*).

Though Mr. Hollis was inviolably attached to the cause of publick liberty, and zealous for its advancement, (being of opinion that after virtue and good health, liberty is perhaps the greatest object to be desired, and that the noblest passion of the mind is to procure it for others;) yet his zeal in this great cause was tempered with a wise moderation. The character of a Partisan was that which of all others he seems to have always disclaimed; his heart and mind being totally alienated from all party views and considerations, and bent solely upon promoting the publick good by every ingenuous and laudable method. A Motto upon one of his Rings was *By Deeds of Peace*; alluding to his studies and endeavours to forward improvements in civil life; and his only ambition seems to have been to tread with firmness and constancy the path of active and extensive virtue. At the same time, far from seeking commendation, he studiously avoided praise for doing what he thought his duty, being contented with the consciousness of having acted rightly; and in the midst of the most benevolent and successful exertions for the welfare and reputation of his country, he managed so as to draw but little publick regard upon himself during his life. His beneficence indeed was not of the glaring and dazzling kind; nor did the modest brilliancy of his good deeds reflect any lustre upon himself, till some accident revealed them. Vanity and affectation he scorned, being every way superior to such weakness; and the general tenour of his conduct sufficiently justified his saying of himself, (as it was found in his Notes upon more occasions than one,) That the Queen of every virtue, which he wished constantly to eye and reverence was Humility.

In all these respects the Character of Mr. Hollis was well known to many who had a just regard and esteem for his excellent and uncommon qualities; but there was one particular to which even his most intimate friends seem to have been strangers, and that was his

(*r*) Monthly Review. Vol. LXIV. P. 41.—Memoirs, &c. Vol. I. P. 469 and 505.

his Piety towards God. It was observed, that he did not connect himself, in the way of church communion, with any religious society whatsoever, though in fact he might have been considered as a member of several; for he extended his bounty to them, in their turns, wherever it was wanted: He contributed to the repairs of their places of worship, was generous to their worthy Ministers, and denied them no good office in their own way, in whatever point they might be accommodated, either by his purse or his interest. He professed himself a Dissenter indeed; though, as he observes, without any thing in common with the generality of Dissenters, except the name; but notwithstanding he dissented from the established Church, yet when occasions offered, he acted for the real interests of that Church with as much propriety as the most zealous of her members could have done. He not only expended a great deal of money in repairing and beautifying several Parish Churches, particularly those of Corfcombe, Halstock, Lucam, and Lyme, but he augmented several Livings with lands which he purchased for the benefit of their respective Incumbents. He was also remarkably solicitous to find out proper men to supply the Churches within his patronage, and singularly circumspect in his choice (*s*). All this, however, could not exempt him from many foolish and illiberal imputations. By some he was ranked amongst the Unbelievers of Revelation, by others amongst downright Atheists. But these were only the base and contemptible insinuations of that purblind bigotry which is incapable of discerning, that *pure religion and undefiled before God* does not depend upon a man's exterior connexion with any visible church or religious society whatsoever. At the same time it is to be regretted, that some persons of the most respectable characters for candour, and liberality of sentiment, should have been also led to suspect, that our Patriot was "a man" (as they chose to express it) "of no religion." That persons of this description did entertain such an opinion of him, is frankly acknowledged by the Compilers of his "Memoirs;" but with what temerity and injustice their opinion was formed, those Memoirs have sufficiently shewn: For we there learn, that his private papers abounded with expressions of the most heart-felt devotion, of thankfulness for benefits and deliverances, of his firm reliance on the Divine Providence, and his humble resignation of himself and his concerns to the wise and unerring disposal of the great Creator.—Reflections of this tendency, thrown out, in his closet, without a witness but the all-conscious eye and ear of the ALMIGHTY, may well redeem his character from those groundless suspicions and uncharitable imputations to which he was exposed; as they clearly shew, that his piety, though less conspicuous, was by no means inferior to his other

(*s*) Instances of his uncommon attention in this respect, which do him the greatest honour, are recorded in the "Memoirs."

other virtues. He seems indeed to have been particularly careful to conceal from the observation of men his devout intercourse with "Him that seeth in secret;" for we are told, that some of his most intimate friends were surprised to find, amongst his papers, so many repeated instances of a mind so constantly and so devoutly *stayed on God*.—With respect to any thing further that concerns Mr. Hollis's religious opinions, his papers did not furnish even the slightest conjecture; nor does it appear that he ever communicated to any even of his confidential friends the particular articles of his creed. He is also said to have received the opinions of some of these friends on certain Theological matters with profound silence; having never signified the least inclination to know them (t).

But whatever our Patriot's religious opinions may have been, his Political Creed was by no means problematical. He freely declared it upon many occasions; and it may be seen distinctly set forth in Lord *Molesworth's* Preface to his Translation of *Hottoman's Franco-Gallia*, at the end of which, in his own Copy of that Work, he subscribed, in capital letters, MY FAITH.

In private life Mr. Hollis was, in the highest degree, humane, generous, friendly, and universally benevolent; so forward and abundant in all good offices, and so free from selfish regards, that the interest and happiness of others seemed to be his pure pursuit.—He had a native politeness in his address, and a softness in his manners which was peculiarly and characteristically his own; and his conversation was remarkably various, sensible, spirited, engaging and improving. It was a maxim with him, that "Nothing is so desirable as virtue itself;" but at the same time he was of opinion, that "Nothing sets it off so much, and occasions it to enjoy itself so much, as good humour and cheerfulness." Accordingly, no man was more sociable and cheerful in company that he liked, which, in other words, might be called *the best company*, than Mr. Hollis. In short, he was formed to please, and to be pleased with the learned and ingenious; but this pleasure the severity of that plan which he had adopted for the service of his country and of mankind in general, constrained him in a great measure

(t) It is further observed, in the "Memoirs," that Mr. Hollis never resorted to places of publick worship; and to this circumstance the Writers of those Memoirs ascribe, in a great measure, the false and injurious imputations, which, as we have seen, were thrown upon his character. But it may be questioned, whether these Biographers had sufficient grounds for what they have affirmed in this respect. The assertion, at least, has been publicly contradicted,

ed, and declared to be unjust; and we are told (on what the writer calls the authority of Mr. Hollis himself) that, in London, he constantly attended divine service amongst the Dissenters, and that, in some other places, he generally attended publick worship, one part of the Sunday amongst the Dissenters, and the other part at the Established Church, as an expression of his charity.—*Gentleman's Magazine*, Vol. L. P. 604.

measure to forego; and for the same reason he was extremely frugal of his time, because he knew its value. He himself tells us, that neither his genius, nor the variety of affairs in which he was constantly engaged, would submit to frequent visitings; and that the weight of business under which he laboured made him extremely shy of new acquaintance, however great or valuable. In the metropolis itself, therefore, the scene of his generous exertions for at least fifteen years, he led a very studious retired life, secluding himself as much as possible from promiscuous company, and from the intrusion and interruption of those who were desirous of obtaining such occasional access to him as he was not disposed to grant; for which, we are told, he had many a hard name bestowed upon him. But that promiscuous company should be disagreeable to a man guided by such principles and acting to such ends as those by which Mr. Hollis was directed and animated in his pursuits, ought not surely to be matter either of surprise or blame; and (as an ingenious Writer observes) “ it is certainly
 “ a misfortune to a man of a studious disposition to be ever open
 “ to the admission of those with whom he has the slightest or no
 “ connexion; to be perpetually disturbed in the pleasures of re-
 “ tirement by those who cannot exchange them for better, and
 “ be compelled to the offices of friendship when those of huma-
 “ nity alone can reasonably be required. Such visitants, from
 “ whatever motive they are troublesome, want admonishment to
 “ a degree of decency, not to suspend, by unseasonable intrusion,
 “ a recreation which they cannot participate, or obstruct that in-
 “ telligence they cannot impart (u).”

Mr. Hollis's fortune and spirit enabled him to repel these attacks in town. In the country he was less subject to such incursions; but even there, he tells us, that of which he was most chary was his time; and people, he observes, knowing that he meant well, under certain singularities, were cautious enough in general not to break in upon and consume it. The idea of singularity, therefore, by way of shield, he tried by all means to hold out.—It is but justice to add, that as he was thus averse to unseasonable interruptions himself, so it was a point of delicacy with him not to interrupt others, whether they were affected on that head as he was, or not.

But though Mr. Hollis was formed on so severe and exalted a plan, nothing could exceed his candour with respect to the characters and conduct of other men. If ever he discovered any indignation, it was only when he saw integrity and good principles deserted for base ends, or the pretence of them made, as it were, a ladder for rising up into high place and wealth. These he used to call *scrub* characters; and as he had the misfortune to meet with

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not a few of them, so he held them in due detestation : For being a man of strict integrity himself, he could not endure the smallest deviation from the laws of rectitude and honour. “ Caballing, temporizing,” says he, “ I scorn, and seek only truth and freedom ; and think, with Cato, that to swerve a line is by degrees to lose all centre.”

We are not to wonder that a man, whose principles and practice were so much at variance with the manners of the world, should, either through malignity or ignorance, have the motives of his conduct frequently misrepresented or mistaken. Accordingly we find that this upright and noble behaviour subjected Mr. Hollis to the imputation of ill nature and misanthropy, of which he had not the smallest particle in his composition. But as he always endeavoured to act up steadily to what appeared to him to be right and decent, so he determined to be disturbed as little as possible by what the world should think or say of him ; and consistently with his own feelings, in the point before us, he benevolently employed a great part of his ample fortune in supporting and rewarding indigent and neglected merit in every station : To the oppressed and persecuted real patriot he offered, it is said, temporary relief, that his publick integrity might not fall a victim, through cruel penury, to ministerial corruption ; and we are also told, that he was the patron of pious Divines of all denominations, who, rather than sacrifice their religious principles to worldly interest, thought proper to refuse or to throw up lucrative ecclesiastical benefices (*x*).

In his mode of living Mr. Hollis was an enemy to all parade. He despised it, and thought it troublesome. He therefore kept no chariot, nor the number of common servants that are generally esteemed necessary to attend a gentleman of his fortune.—He could not go through the little attentions requisite at entertainments ; for which reason he seldom entertained any but very particular friends, and, in his latter years, not even them. In short, content with a simple frugal table, and the decent conveniencies of life, he had the resolution to follow strictly his own principles and plan of conduct, and to spend his fortune in the manner he most approved.

He rose early, and in town went out very early. The day was commonly taken up with a variety of business, and he generally spent his evenings at home, in arranging what he had done or procured, and settling for the next day's employment. At the close of the evening, he usually read, or played on the flute, which he found to compose his mind. He was fond of musick, was a judge of it, and had a large collection. His principal publick entertainments were Operas and Oratorios, to which he sometimes went, but not very often. He was a great walker, even to excess ;

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(*x*) *Memoirs, &c.* Vol. I. P. 505.

and he sometimes rode for exercise, but always very gently ; making, as far as possible, all his walks and rides subservient, in some degree, to the great ends of his general plan of life. The exercise of fencing he esteemed most beneficial to his health, and the most likely to counterbalance the effects of a studious confinement ; and he fenced many years with his favourite master, even to an extreme, so that he is thought to have hurt himself by it. He was very abstemious in his diet, which, in the latter part of his life especially, was very plain. He drank no wine nor beer, nor used salt or spices of any sort, nor butter, milk, nor sugar, but drank great quantities of tea, morning and evening, with only dry toast. In his person he was tall and of a large athletick make ; and, notwithstanding his abstinence and great exercise, was inclined to corpulency. His countenance was remarkably expressive of the probity of his heart, and of the candour and benevolence of his disposition. Such was the singular and excellent man, the strenuous and extraordinary patriot, whose good deeds, so many, so various, and so extensive, must not only have afforded the highest satisfaction and content of mind to himself, but will, without doubt, convey his memory revered and honoured to posterity, amongst the heroes of civil life, the illustrious benefactors of mankind (y).

Mr. Hollis was Fellow of the Royal Society and of the Society of Antiquaries ; a Governor of Guy's Hospital and of St. Thomas's Hospital ; a Guardian of the Asylum and of the Magdalen ; a Member of the Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce ; and a perpetual Member of the Society of Artists for the Support of decayed Brethren.

Of the principal Books which he republished or caused to be republished an account has been given in the course of this article ; besides which he reprinted a Piece or two of Neville's, and procured likewise a new edition of Staveley's *Romish Horse Leach*.

But not content with republishing the Works of the immortal British Patriots of the last century, Mr. Hollis endeavoured to raise up a succession of able friends to the constitutional rights and privileges of free subjects and consistent protestants, by either setting to work or bringing out of their obscurity the Authors of several valuable Performances ; and writers of greater celebrity he gladly and liberally supplied with scarce and valuable tracts relative to the subjects that employed their pens.—No one knew the value, the scarcity, or the use of a Master Tract, as Mr. Hollis was wont to style an excellent performance, better than he did ; and of Tracts he had so large and curious a collection, that we are told it would perhaps have been hard to find in all Europe a collection

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lection chosen with more judgment, or of a more beneficial tendency to publick good than his. And yet so little was he disposed to appropriate such tracts to his own private use, that where a particular book or pamphlet fell in with the designs of a man of learning and worth, and would be subservient to any laudable work he was carrying on, he made no scruple to present him with the only copy he had, and perhaps the only one that could possibly be procured (*z*). But besides this, Mr. Hollis was continually gratifying his friends with books apposite to the studies in which he knew they were engaged, or which he supposed would be acceptable to them on other accounts; and so bountiful was he in this respect, that, after a certain period of his life, he made it a rule, that his own proper library should contain little more than the few tools, (as he expresses it) which he might still want occasionally to handle. All other books that entered his library, either as presents or by purchase, were soon given away.

The yearly amount of what Mr. Hollis expended in presents, in promoting schemes of publick utility, and towards the support of several charitable institutions, was very considerable. He also extended his beneficence to foreign countries, by contributing occasionally to some Societies instituted abroad for promoting Arts and Sciences, Agriculture and Commerce.—In the more private relations of life he was equally liberal; and to his domesticks, in particular, he was a kind and generous master (*a*).

By his Will Mr. Hollis left the whole of his real, and, after other bequests, the residue of his personal estate to “ his dear friend and fellow traveller, Thomas Brand, Esq; of the Hide in Essex; who, upon succeeding to Mr. Hollis’s fortune, took his name, together with his arms (*b*).

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(*z*) Amongst others, Dr. Harris, (the worthy Author of the Lives of Charles I. Oliver Cromwell, &c.) and the celebrated Mrs. Macaulay experienced his generosity in this respect. To the latter he was particularly liberal; presenting her with a very large number of volumes and tracts relating to the History of England, chiefly during the Civil Wars, which he purchased expressly for that purpose.

(*a*) One of these, whom he seems to have distinguished above the rest, experienced his bounty upon several occasions. When he left his master’s service, in order to settle at Rome, Mr. Hollis made him a present of 200*l*. and on the morning

he set out gave him fifteen guineas, having completely clothed him, and made him other presents. He likewise sent him annual remittances to Rome, during his life-time; and by his will he left him an hundred pounds, and an handsome annuity, calling him there his faithful servant Francesco Giovanini, ‘ who is worthy of all things that a man in his station can pretend to, and more.’—Memoirs, &c. Vol. I. P. 494.

(*b*) The Cap of Liberty was Mr. Hollis’s Arms, and an Owl part of his Crest; and these were the usual insignia of all his books and prints. —Gent. Mag. Vol. L. P. 430.

With his Will, Mr. Hollis left a paper containing particular directions for his funeral, which was to be conducted with all possible privacy, and with circumstances equally singular and characteristic.—His veneration for the memory of those heroes and patriots whom he most esteemed had induced him to call many of his farms and fields at Corscombe by their names, with such precautions as might perpetuate the distinction; and to a field, not far from his house, he had given the name of *Hollis's Close*: In the middle of this field, in a grave ten feet deep, he ordered his body to be deposited; and immediately after his interment the field was to be ploughed up, so that no trace of his burial place might remain. These orders were punctually fulfilled; the whole business being transacted in the night, and in such a manner as to render it impossible to ascertain the spot in which he was interred (*c*). The funeral service was read by the Minister of the Parish, at the grave of his patron and benefactor; but no more attendants were allowed than the necessary assistants (*d*). Such were the humble and simple obsequies of Mr. Hollis.

It has been said, (and not without reason,) that Mr. Hollis's executor has rendered every monumental remembrance of his great friend unnecessary, by patronizing and being at the expence of that magnificent memorial of him which has been published in two Volumes, Quarto. This Work, which is dedicated to Mr. Brand, was not professedly written for the publick, but was compiled for that gentleman's private use, and for the purpose of being distributed amongst his particular friends. At the solicitation, however, of many who wished to be possessed of it, Mr. Brand at length permitted it to be sold, at a price which, great as it is (*e*), we are informed, is much inferior to the original cost of the impression. In the selection and arrangement of the materials for this Work extraneous matter is too frequently admitted; and in the execution of it there is a remarkable inequality, which, indeed, is in some measure accounted for in the Preface, where we are told, that, by certain accidents, the materials were put together by different hands, at a considerable distance from each other. "In such a compilation," says the Writer of this Preface, "uniformity and accurate arrangement are not to be expected, much less the more brilliant elegancies of composition."—"Rhetorical embellishment" (it is added) "adulterates such principles and manners as those of Mr. Hollis. His distinguishing characteristics were truth, propriety, ingenuous simplicity, and unabated perseverance in doing good offices to proper objects, whether individuals, or combined in select societies.—A
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(*c*) The field in which he was buried was then pasture, and Mr. Hollis directed, that when it should have been frequently ploughed, and

had continued fallow a proper time, it should be again laid up to grass.

(*d*) From private information.

(*e*) Four guineas, in boards.

“ narrative of facts places such sort of merit in the properest point of view, whether for example to the present, or information to the rising generation.”

The first of these Volumes is entitled “ Memoirs of Thomas Hollis, F. R. and A. S. S.” The second, which is entitled “ Appendix to the Memoirs,” consists of two parts.—The first part contains a variety of remarks relating to the writings and characters of several eminent men for whose memory Mr. Hollis entertained the highest regard, particularly Milton (*f*), Algernon Sidney, Hubert Languet, George Buchanan, (whose famous Treatise *De Jure Regni apud Scotos* was a favourite book with Mr. Hollis,) Dr. John Poynt, Bishop of Winchester (*g*), Edmund Ludlow, and Mr. Trenchard.—These Remarks are followed by a number of curious Papers relative to the “ Memoirs ;” amongst which are some copious and valuable Extracts from various Authors, which Mr. Hollis had transcribed into the blank leaves of his copy of Milton’s *Iconoclastes* ; a few Extracts from Mr. Hollis’s Epistolary Correspondence, and some Letters and Essays which he had occasionally published, under different signatures, in the London Papers.—The second Part of this Volume respects Virtù, and gives a general idea of Mr. Hollis’s collection.

The numerous Engravings and Etchings with which both Volumes are embellished have very great merit. They are principally executed by Cipriani and Bartolozzi. Several of the Prints are well known, having been engraved for Mr. Hollis, in his life time, and by him bounteously distributed amongst his friends (*h*).

(*f*) The Remarks on Dr. Johnson’s *Life of Milton*, which make a part of this appendix, have since been published separately, in a small Volume, with the addition of Milton’s *Treatise of Education* and *Areopagitica*.

(*g*) What recommended this learned Prelate to Mr. Hollis’s particular esteem was “ A shorte Treatise of politike pouer, and of the obedience which subjectes owe to kynges and other civil Governours, &c.” which he published in the year 1556, and which was reprinted, in 4to, in 1642.

Of the first impression of this

Treatise Mr. Hollis had a copy, in the blank leaves of which he had written as follows :

‘ This little book is full of excellent principles concerning government, and maintains the doctrine of killing tyrants ; and is the more singular for being written in such an age.’

And a little below :

‘ I have read over this Treatise a second time, and do truly think it a most extraordinary and valuable performance.’

(*h*) Monthly Review, as before.

...of which, of course, is the point of view of the author. The book is a history of the life of Thomas Holley, and is written in a very interesting and readable style. The author has done a great deal of research, and the book is full of interesting facts and details. The book is a very good introduction to the life of Thomas Holley, and is well worth reading. The book is written in a very interesting and readable style, and is full of interesting facts and details. The author has done a great deal of research, and the book is a very good introduction to the life of Thomas Holley, and is well worth reading.

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