

SATIRE I.

Young's Satires were in higher reputation when published, than they stand in at present. He seems fonder of dazzling than pleasing ; of raising our admiration for his wit, than our dislike of the follies he ridicules.

A PASTORAL BALLAD.

These ballads of Mr. Shenstone are chiefly commended for the natural simplicity of the thoughts and the harmony of the versification. However, they are not excellent in either.

PHOEBE. A PASTORAL.

This, by Dr. Byrom, is a better effort than the preceding [a ballad by Shenstone].

A SONG.

This ['Despairing beside a clear stream'] by Mr. Rowe, is better than anything of the kind in our language.

AN ESSAY ON POETRY.

This work, by the Duke of Buckingham, is enrolled among our great English productions. The precepts are sensible, the poetry not indifferent, but it has been praised more than it deserves.

CADENUS AND VANESSA.

This is thought one of Dr. Swift's correctest pieces ; its chief merit, indeed, is the elegant ease with which a story, but ill-conceived in itself, is told.

ALMA : OR, THE PROGRESS OF THE MIND.

What Prior meant by this poem I can't understand ; by the Greek motto to it one would think it was either to laugh at the subject or the reader. There are some parts of it very fine ; and let them save the badness of the rest.