

Ceremonies of Religion ; she entrusts me with the Command of her Armies ; she confides to my Care the most important Negotiations. My Poverty does not lessen the Weight and Influence of my Counsels in the Senate ; the Roman People honour me for that very Poverty which you consider as a Disgrace ; they know the many Opportunities I have had in War to enrich myself without incurring Censure ; they are convinced of my disinterested Zeal for their Prosperity ; and if I have any Thing to complain of in the Return they make, it is only the Excess of their Applause. What Value then can I set upon your Gold and Silver ? What King can add any Thing to my Fortune ? Always attentive to discharge the Duties incumbent on me, I have a Mind free from Self-reproach, and I have an honest Fame.

PRECEPTOR.

AGAINST WASTE OF TIME.

CONVERSE often with yourself, and neither lavish your Time, nor suffer others to rob you of it. Many of our Hours are stolen from us, and others pass insensibly away ; but of both these Losses, the most shameful is that which happens through our own Neglect. If we take the Trouble to observe, we shall find that one considerable Part of our Life is spent in doing