

tho' it may never restore them to their original Perfection.

I HAVE frequently thought that the Roman Word *Virtus*, which signifies Courage, has a Propriety in expressing the Idea beyond all the few Languages I have any Knowledge of; it seems to embrace the whole in Man which conspires to perfect that Attribute; Courage has been deemed by that People an Emanation of every Virtue, the Result of all others combined; and therefore by way of Eminence distinguished by that Appellation *Virtus*, *the Virtue*. They had remarked, that in Proportion as the Bosom is replete with Probity and Truth, the Love of its Country and its Gods; so is the Heart which inhabits it, with Courage.

THAT Breast which is freest from Pollution, is the least intimidated at Danger; the purest Soul is foremost in offering up Life a Sacrifice to its Country, whereas the contaminated skulks to save itself in Cowardice.

THIS was the unvarying Characteristics of *Persians, Greeks, and Romans*, in their Days