

performed with tolerable success, being strongly supported, not only by a party zeal in the author's favour, but also by the additional advantages of very fine acting, and two pompous and solemn musical processions. Without these assistances, however, it is somewhat doubtful whether it might have met with the same success. On this tragedy, Mr. Gray, in a letter to Dr. Warton, (see Mason's *Memoirs* of the former, 4to. edit. p. 261.) has the following remark: "I cry to think that it should be" by the author of *Douglas*: why, "it is all modern Greek; the" story is an antique statue painted "white and red, frized, and dressed" in a negligée made by a York-shire mantua-maker."

35. AGLAURA. Tragi-Com. by Sir John Suckling; acted at the private house in Black-Fryars, 8vo. 1646. The author has so contrived this play, by means of an alteration in the last Act, that it may be acted either as a tragi-comedy, or a perfect tragedy. The scene lies in *Persia*. It was entered by Thomas Walkeley, April 18, 1638, in the books of the Stationers' Company.

36. AGNES DE CASTRO. Tr. by Mrs. Cath. Trotter, afterwards Cockburne, 4to. acted at the Theatre Royal 1696. It is built on a French novel of the same name, translated by Mrs. Behn, and deservedly met with very good success.

37. THE AGREEABLE SURPRISE. Com. of one Act, translated from *Mariwauz*, 12mo 1760. Performed by the scholars of Mr. Ruke's academy at Ilington. Printed in *Poetical Blossom*, or, *The Sports of Genius*.

38. AGRIPPA KING OF ALBA, or, *The false Tiberinus*. Tragi-Com. by John Dancer. This is a trans-

lation from M. Quinault; it is in heroic verse, was performed several times with great applause at the Theatre Royal in Dublin, and was printed at London in 4to. 1675.

39. AGRIPPINA *Empress of Rome*, her Tragedy, by Tho. May, Esq. The scene of this play lies in Rome, and the plot is taken from the Roman historians. It was acted in 1628, and printed in 12mo. 1639 and 1654.

40. AGRIPPINA; by Thomas Gray, 4to. 1775. This piece consists only of two scenes of a tragedy, so admirably executed as to make one lament that the author did not complete it according to his original design. The story was intended to be taken from the 13th and 14th Books of *Tacitus*. The language of this production, though far from wanting ornament, is by no means overloaded with it; and, had our author lived to complete his undertaking, it could not fail to have proved the noblest pattern for the style of imperial Tragedy. Dr. Johnson however observes, "it was no loss to the English" stage that *Agrippina* was never "finished." The fable indeed could not possibly admit of any good character, and therefore only terror could have been excited by it. The loss of the reader nevertheless may have been considerable; for, to use the critic's own sentiments concerning our author, "a man like him, of great" learning and great industry, "could not but produce somewhat" valuable."

41. King ANASUERUS and Queen ESTHER. An Interlude, attributed to Robert Cox, comedian, and is published in the second part of *Sport upon Sport* 1672.

42. AJAX. Trag. 12mo. 1714. This is only a translation from the