

Let humble Prudence from Temptation run,  
 And even the extremes of Virtue shun. 255  
 This sage advice, that suits Religion best,  
 Has modest TASTE by emblem here express'd.  
 For though no diamond glitter from afar,  
 Yet not excluded is the ponderous spar,  
 Magnesian daze, calcareous stalactite, 260  
 Or mild Argilla's boasted zeolite.  
 Here from the causeway fabled giants rear'd  
 The proud Basalt his tribute has preferr'd ;  
 And wild Niagara her foam return'd,  
 Like weeping Niobe to stone transform'd. 265

But say, what trophies from the vast profound  
 With various magic ravish or astound ?  
 The scor'd volute, Amphion's favourite shell ;  
 The virgin Bulla, Thetis lov'd so well ;  
 The coral house, where polypes yet adhere ; 270  
 The leopard-cowry, to the Gnidians dear :