

age, and the twenty-third of his reign.

Those who hated and those who envied the King of Poland gave him, even before his death, the name of Vespasian. If he had one of the Emperor's faults, the love of money, he was also possessed of his virtues. Like him, he was raised to the throne by his military services. The charms of his wit, the readiness with which he spoke several languages, his acquaintance with polite literature, the agreeableness of his conversation, the gentleness of his manners, his sincerity in friendship, his conjugal tenderness and paternal affection — all these qualities, which would have made him an amiable man in private life, would have been sufficient for his exalted station. Endued with great strength of body and activity of mind, deeply read in the laws of his country, acquainted with the interest of foreign nations, and versed in the theory of war, equally eloquent in the Diet and enterprising in the field, he convinced his countrymen, before he was raised to the throne, of his capacity to govern and defend them. He possessed, in an eminent degree, most of the virtues that become a royal station. He did justice to his enemies, as well as to his friends; and always behaved to the latter in the same manner as when he wanted their assistance to gain the crown. The warmth of his temper made him soon take fire; but his heart was void of malice. His cruelty to the Turks, after