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- 271. Distress'd Mother: written by Ambrose Phillips, a friend of Addison's. It was an adaptation of Racine's Andromaque. It relates the fortunes of Andromache, wife of Hector, after the fall of Troy.
- 272. Mohocks: a club of wild young men who infested the London streets after dark annoying peaceable people.
- 272. Steenkirk: a village in Hainault, Belgium, where in 1692 William III. was defeated by the French.
- 273. Pyrrhus: son of Achilles, to whom Andromache was allotted after the victory of the Greeks.
- 273. Hermione: daughter of Menelaus, King of Sparta, to whom Pyrrhus had formerly been betrothed.
- 273. Pyrrhus his theartning: this construction is due to a mistaken idea of the origin of the 's of the possessive case regarding it as a contraction of "his."
  - 273. Astyanax: young son of Andromache.
- 274. Orestes: a Greek suitor to Hermione, who slew Pyrrhus at her wish, to avenge his unfaithfulness.
  - 274. Pylades: friend of Orestes.
- 274. smoak: draw out with the intention of turning what was said to ridicule.
- 274. Spring-Garden: There were several Spring Gardens in the neighbourhood of London. The one visited by Sir Roger was at Vauxhall, and was a favourite pleasure resort of the
  - 275. Temple Stairs: landing place near the Temple.
  - 275. bate: abate or excuse.
- 275. Barge: it was common at this time for men of fortune to keep a large and commodious pleasure boat for journeys on the Thames, then largely used as a highway.
- 275. Fox-Hall: Vauxhall. The name was taken from Fulkes' Hall, the manor of a Plantagenet knight, Fulkes de Breanté, which stood near the gardens.
- 275. La Hogue: a cape north-east of France, where the English and Dutch fleets defeated the French in 1692.
- 275. Seven Wonders of the World: these were the Pyramids, the hanging gardens of Babylon, the tomb of Mausolus, the temple of Diana at Ephesus, the Colossus of Rhodes, the Jupiter by Phidias at Olympia, and the Pharos at Alexandria.
- 276. Temple-Bar: a gateway that in Addison's day divided Fleet Street from the Strand. It was removed in 1879.
- 276. Fifty new Churches: an address from Convocation to the Queen concerning the great need for new churches in the suburbs