

iv DEDICATION.

that as the Arts and Sciences are cultivated or neglected, States either flourish or decay, signal Proofs of which are found in the *Greek* and *Roman* Histories.

As Heaven indulges indiscriminately its most valuable Talents to the *Patrician* and *Plebeian*, to the Rich and Poor ; how glorious must it be for Persons, even in the most exalted Stations, to patronize (since they thereby second the Views of Providence, who seems to appoint them as Guardians) all Those whose Endeavours may be of Advantage to Mankind ; and which frequently, for want of some such benign Influence, can never be brought to Maturity ! For could it be supposed that Providence gave Existence to such Men, merely that they should languish away Life in Obscurity, a grievous Burthen to Themselves, and of no Use to Society ; and, at last, drop
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