

THE SCRIBBLER.

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Est modus in rebus, sunt certa denique fines. HORACE.

There are so many ways of doing things,
That satire sometimes tickles, sometimes stings.

"At length these fools that common error saw,
The lawyers on their side, but not the law."

ALBYN.

— *Digito que sint presentia monstrant.* LUCRETIUS.

With finger pointed at each passing folly.

A LETTER TO A FRIEND.

My dear Sir,

Your letter of remonstrance to me, on my having made both you, and two of your relations, objects for animadversion in the Scribbler, gives me occasion to do what I have long intended, that is, to explain my motives, and display the feelings which induce me, as occasion may serve, either to rally, ridicule, or attack, individuals who rank among my personal friends and subscribers, or to refrain from, or smoothe over, the matters that affect them, and afford food for satire.

In the preface to the second volume I defend the general system of personal satire I adopted about the middle of the first; I shall therefore say nothing more on that, than, that having taken that ground upon principle, I wish to adhere to it, as impartially and independently as circumstances will admit. My reputation for independence of mind, and fearlessness of consequences,