

XLIII. & XLIV.

**AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF BENVENUTO CELLINI.**

The complete and annotated edition of Roscoe, in 2 parts, beautifully printed, each 50 cents.

"Cellini was one of the most extraordinary men in an extraordinary age; his life, written by himself, is more amusing than any novel I know,"

*Horace Walpole.*

*[From Roscoe's Preface.]*

The distinguished eminence of this artist in the times of the "Old Masters"—an age so peculiarly fertile in genius, and to which, next to Grecian antiquity, we owe all the most noble monuments of the fine arts;—the intimacy of Cellini with Michael Angelo, Titian, and all the great Italian sculptors and painters of the age; his connections with Francis I. of France, the Emperor Charles V., Popes Clement VII. and Paul III., the Dukes Alessandro and Cosimo of Florence, and with many of the Princes, Statesmen, Commanders, and dignified ecclesiastics of that turbulent age, which called forth all the energies of Europe, and compelled our Author more than once to exchange the chisel for the sword—these circumstances afforded him opportunities of making the most interesting observations; and perhaps no man was ever more capable of availing himself of such advantages. Of those great and prominent characters, who then disposed of the destinies of mankind, and whom the historic page presents in all the formality and dignity of state-ceremony, Cellini gives us, at every turn, a transient, but distinct view—a glimpse which displays them in their private domestic moments, when they little thought they were sitting for their portraits to one whose pen was no less effectively descriptive, than his pencil was strikingly imitative."

*[From the Retrospective Review.]*

"This is, perhaps, the most perfect piece of autobiography that ever was written, whether considered with reference to the candor and veracity of the author, the spirit of the incidents, or the breathing vitality of the narrative. It has also the recommendation of having been written at a very interesting period of literary history, and of recording some curious particulars relative to the private character of the great men of the time \* \* \* We never in the whole course of our life, read a book of a more engaging description. \* \* \*

*[From the Encyclopædia Americana.]*

"In his fifty-eighth year he wrote his own life in Latin, with equal candor and vanity. It has been translated in a masterly manner by GOETHE. It contains striking descriptions of Cellini's own adventures, and of the character of the persons with whom he came in contact. His style is free, strong, and original, and the Academia della Crusca often quotes him as a classic."

*[From Chalmers's Biographical Dictionary.]*

"Cellini's life is amusing and interesting in a very high degree."