

**ORIGINAL VIEWS OF
PASSAGES IN THE LIFE AND
WRITINGS OF THE POET-
PHILOSOPHER OF VENUSIA**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649664016

Original Views of Passages in the Life and Writings of the Poet-Philosopher of Venusia by John Murray

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

JOHN MURRAY

**ORIGINAL VIEWS OF
PASSAGES IN THE LIFE AND
WRITINGS OF THE POET-
PHILOSOPHER OF VENUSIA**

ORIGINAL VIEWS
OF
PASSAGES IN THE LIFE AND WRITINGS
OF THE
POET-PHILOSOPHER OF VENUSIA :

WITH WHICH IS COMBINED

AN ILLUSTRATION OF THE SUITABILITY OF THE ANCIENT EPIC AND LYRIC
STYLES TO MODERN SUBJECTS OF NATIONAL AND GENERAL INTEREST.

BY

JOHN MURRAY, M. A.,

ROYAL GOLD MEDALIST IN "SCIENCE AND ARTS," BY AWARD OF HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF
PRUSSIA; FIRST JUNIOR MODERATOR IN ETHICS AND LOGICS; EX-SCHOLAR AND
LATE RESIDENT MASTER OF TRINITY COLLEGE, DUBLIN.

"Legitima inquisitionis vera norma est, ut nihil veniat in practicam, cujus non sit etiam
doctrina aliqua et theoria."—BACON, *De Aug. Scien.*



DUBLIN:
HODGES AND SMITH, GRAFTON-STREET,
BOOKSELLERS TO THE UNIVERSITY.

MDCCLII.

DUBLIN:
Printed at the University Press,
BY H. H. GILL.



NEW YORK
PUBLIC
LIBRARY

PREFACE.

It is related, I think, by Baron Holberg, in his *Outlines of Universal History*, that the Spanish author Sepulveda once published an antiquarian Work, apparently for the sake of introducing a single original notion worthy of record, namely, that of deriving the term *Era* from the initial letters of the words composing the sentence '*Annus Erat Regnantis Augusti.*' And although the derivation is about as well founded as would be that of the English term *News* from the initials of the names of the four cardinal points, yet Sepulveda, on the whole, 'stood confest' an expert literary nomenclator, and very respectable 'editor'—of results ascertained by others; his faults being confined to his originalities, and these latter being few.

Now, although I feel a strong, but, I trust, moderate hope that Sepulveda's favourite 'idea' may not be deemed a fair exponent of those which I am about to submit to the ordeal of the reader's criticism, yet I would, were it practicable, most gladly avail myself of the protective advantages which every modern 'editor' of the Works of any notable ancient author may derive from blending his own remarks, however elementary, with those more recondite *dicta* that are already stamped by the impress of influential names. The conclusions, however, at which I have arrived, are so frequently

adverse to generally received notions, that, taken apart from the arguments on which they rest, they could hope for little favour from most readers; while the principal of these arguments could not possibly be embodied in a compendium of *general* annotations.

While, therefore, I am far from affecting to depreciate that species of 'authorship,' so valuable to rudimentary education, whose end is instructive compilation, and whose operation is legitimately a kind of sartorial process exercised upon furnished materials, I am compelled, by the necessities of the case, to present my humble contribution to the permanent Exhibition of the Industry of all Authors, the recognised 'Commissioners' of which are the successors of the *Sociè*, in a perfectly independent form, and one which, I fear, is ill adapted to the great majority of junior students.

In another respect also I feel a disadvantage, in being unable to banish the impression that 'Dedication' suggests the notion of patronage courted, more directly than that of compliment intended. I have therefore denied my book this delicate honour. Besides, to resolve against 'dedicating' altogether appeared the only feasible solution of some conflicting difficulties, which I felt to belong to my own particular case.

I trust, however, that these considerations, physical and moral, may assist in conciliating indulgence; and that I may, without presumption, even read a favourable omen in the date which happens to be proper to this publication,—a date which, the classical reader needs not to be told, was regarded as auspicious in the good old Roman commemorations.

JOHN MURRAY.

CHAMBERS, 2 TRINITY COLLEGE, DUBLIN,

21st April, 1851.

CONTENTS.

SECTION I.

	PAGE.
INTRODUCTORY OBSERVATIONS,	1

SECTION II.

BIOGRAPHICAL MEMOIR OF THE BARD OF VENUSIA,	17
---	----

SECTION III.

DETACHED PASSAGES OF THE SATIRES, LYRICS, AND EPIS- TLES OF HORACE EXAMINED: WITH PRELIMINARY AND GENERAL REMARKS ON THE CONTEXT,	88
---	----

SECTION IV.

TRIFLING PROPOSITIONS ATTRIBUTED TO ROMAN SATIRISTS EXAMINED,	217
--	-----

SECTION V.

ILLUSTRATION OF THE SUITABILITY OF THE ANCIENT EPIC AND LYRIC STYLES TO MODERN SUBJECTS OF NATIONAL AND GENERAL INTEREST,	227
---	-----

2000
2001
2002
2003
2004
2005
2006
2007
2008
2009
2010
2011
2012
2013
2014
2015
2016
2017
2018
2019
2020
2021
2022
2023
2024
2025
2026
2027
2028
2029
2030

ORIGINAL VIEWS,

&c. &c.

SECTION I.

INTRODUCTORY OBSERVATIONS.

THE products of ancient classical genius, considered relatively to their matter, and independently of titles, authors, and times, may be conceived to be distributed over three intermixed classes. Under one class may be included those whose modes of thought and forms of expression are based on associations which have not only ceased to exist among men, but which it is now impossible for the mind adequately to recall. Another may recognise the offspring of combinations which, although obliterated by time, are yet fairly restorable by the imagination. A third, and the most important, will embrace such as respect those developments of mental and physical agencies whose uniform processes constitute the course of nature itself.

That casual associations should be familiar at one time or place, which in a different locality or age are impracticable, or inconceivable, will not appear astonishing to any who reflect how much the sugges-