THE MUSE'S MIRROR: BEING A COLLECTION OF POEMS, VOL. II

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The Muse's Mirror: Being a Collection of Poems, Vol. II by Various

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BEING A

COLLECTION OF POEMS.

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MACY WARE OLISIA Vacasi

THE

MUSE'S MIRROUR.

WASHING.WEEK.

To Capt. George Thompson-by Capt. E. Thompson, Kew, May 25, 1765.

IN this, dear George, we both agree,
(You bred in camp, I bred at sea,)
That cleanliness is oft'
A cursed plague about a house,
And always met our just abuse,
When young with Mrs. * Croft.

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B

But

An old, good lady, who kept a lodging house in Beverly, with whom the author boarded when at that school under the Rev. Mr. Clarke.

THE MUSE'S MIRROUR.

But to the beggar and the King, Clean linnen's a reviving thing.

Yet these our plagues don't reach;
The beggar strips with jocund morn,
In some quick stream, and on the thorn
Spreads out his rags to bleach.

The King, great man, sends all his out, Not caring for a single clout: But what's more happy still,

He's not oblig'd to count the rags,
Nor stuff 'em into canvas' bags,
Oh! no—nor write the bill.

But Lord have mercy on us all!

Whene'er we wash, all hands must fall

To something or another;

For madam scolds, and siles about,

Now up, now down, now in, now out,

Dabbing thro' wet and fmother.

This curfed time all comfort flies,
At fix the flarts, come Ned, come rife,
And get the lines hung out!
Yes, to be fure, (my dear,) I cry,
I dare as well be hang'd as lie,
For fear my dove thould pout.

Break

THE MUSE'S MIRROUR.

Breakfast is got, and whipt away,
(Because the washers want their tea)
Before that I've half done:—
The doors all open—linnen spread,
The sky looks black,—come hither, Ned,
Shall we have rain or sun?

My dear, you need not be in pain,
It does not look, I think, like rain;
O! then we'll hang out more:
When lo! the words have hardly paft,
But puff there comes a heavy blaft,
And all must be rins'd o'er.

Then ten-fold comes the peal on me,
You als, to be ten years at fea,
See, fee the linnen do!—
I fneak away, to have a finile,
Snug, while I hear her all the while.
Calling me black and blue.

From fuch unlucky ftorms of rain,

Nothing with me goes well again,

The dinner comes—and cold:

The meat, I cry, of foap-fuds twangs,

Up madam gets, the door she bangs,

And re-begins to scold.

Вз

But

THE MUSE'S MIRROUR.

But what still troubles more my mind,

Amidst such griefs at once to find,

The washer, as she wrings,

Cracking some jest—then o'er the tub

Pauses awhile—and ev'ry rub,

With pleasure sweats and sings.

I hate, I must confess, all dirt,
And truly love a well-wash'd shirt,
Yet once a-month this reek,
Is more than any one can bear;
But him I hate—pray make his share
A washing every week.

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ALBANY.

A Monody to the memory of a virtuous Youth, drowned in the Thames.*

A S late I stray'd by Thames' translucent stream,
I heard a nymph in misery extreme,
Relate, "Ah ye, who love or sense or truth,
"Join me to search a beauteous drowned youth,

Ah

These lines were written on the unhappy fate of a son of Mr. Wallis, who was a scholar at Westminster, and unfortunately drowned in the Thames when bathing.

- " Ah ye, who ever lov'd a darling boy,
- "" Who've felt a father's care, a mother's joy,
- "Give to the Thames your tears, encrease her tide,
- " And tell a parent's forrow far and wide-
- " Thames, ancient god, with dank green treffes rife,
- " And tell me where the dear lov'd angel lies :
- " If thou fuch excellence could'it ruthless drown'd,
- " O tell me where the body may be found.
- " Thou God of Streams, attend my piteous cry,
- " And shew where Albany and Virtue lie.
- "That to his corfe the maidens mild may bring,
 - " The fweetest posies of the painted spring,
 - " And strew the youth and his untimely hearfe,
 - " With myrtles ever green and eligiack verse.

At the foft plaints of this desponding maid, Forth from the wave a venerable shade Arose, with aspect dignisted and mild, And in his arms he bore the breathless child, Adorn'd with shells and coral of the stream, And his untimely sate he made the theme.

- " Weep not, fair maid-nor thus accuse thy fire,
- "The gods who made him, did the youth require,
- " His virtues were of fuch an angel-kind,
- " So meak his manners, and so pure his mind,
 - " That he in genius, majesty and grace,
- Was more of angel than of mortal race.