

**MEMOIRS OF ALBERT DE HALLER M.D.
MEMBER OF THE SOVEREIGN COUNCIL
OF BERNE; PRESIDENT OF THE
UNIVERSITY, AND OF THE ROYAL
SOCIETY OF COTTINGEN; FELLOW OF
THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF LONDON, &C.**

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THOMAS HENRY

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ALBERT DE HALLER.

M E M O I R S

O F

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PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY,

AND OF

THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF GOTTINGEN;

FELLOW of the ROYAL SOCIETY of LONDON, &c.

Compiled, chiefly, from the ELOGIUM spoken before the

ROYAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AT PARIS,

And from the *Tributes* paid to his Memory

BY OTHER FOREIGN SOCIETIES.

By THOMAS HENRY,

*Fellow of the Royal Society, Member of the Medical Society
of London, and of the Literary and Philosophical*

Society of Manchester.

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TO THE
PRESIDENTS,
VICE-PRESIDENTS
AND MEMBERS OF THE
LITERARY AND PHILOSOPHICAL
SOCIETY OF MANCHESTER.

GENTLEMEN,

THE promotion of the progress and interests of Literature and Philosophy, being the avowed end of the very

A 2 laudable

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laudable Institution, which we have so happily established among ourselves; I feel a peculiar propriety in dedicating to You the Memoirs of the immortal HALLER, whose time and abilities were continually employed, in contributing to the enlargement of the bounds of Science, and supporting the welfare of humanity.

AMONG the different branches of history, none is, perhaps,

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perhaps, more useful, none more instructive, none more entertaining, than Biography. The lives of eminent men hold up to our view, not only objects of admiration, but sometimes of emulation. But the histories of men engaged in destructive wars, or in revolutions effected oftener by the madness, ambition or resentment, than by the patriotism of their conductors, fill the mind more strongly with horror than delight, and, happily,

excite our detestation, rather than stimulate us to imitate them. When we behold an Alexander lamenting that he had no more worlds to conquer, we abhor the destroyer of mankind ; when we see a Marius and a Sylla shedding the blood of thousands and ten thousands of their countrymen, not to promote the interests, secure the privileges, or increase the liberty of Rome, but to establish an unconstitutional dominion over her citizens,

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citizens, we shrink from the dreadful narration, and shudder at the recollection of such wanton slaughter, and horrid cruelty; and, surpris'd that such monsters should find favourers and partizans among the people, to effect their own destruction, we are impelled to exclaim,

*Quò quò scelesti ruitis? aut cur dexteris
Aptantur enses conditi? **

NOR are the lives of princes, of statesmen, or of heroes, even

* Horatii Epod. Lib. IV. Od. 7.