

CONTENTS

VOLUME III

Preface	ix
Contents	xi
List of Illustrations	xix
Introduction to the <i>Rambler</i>	xxi
Short Titles	xliii

THE RAMBLER

1. Difficulty of the first address. Practice of the epic poets. Convenience of periodical performances.	3
2. The necessity and danger of looking into futurity. Writers naturally sanguine. Their hopes liable to disappointment.	9
3. An allegory on criticism.	14
4. The modern form of romances preferable to the ancient. The necessity of characters morally good.	19
5. A meditation on the spring.	25
6. Happiness not local.	30
7. Retirement natural to a great mind. Its religious use.	35
8. The thoughts to be brought under regulation; as they respect the past, present, and future.	40
9. The fondness of every man for his profession. The gradual improvement of manufactures.	46
10. Four billets with their answers. Remarks on masquerades.	50
11. The folly of anger. The misery of a peevish old-age.	56

12. The history of a young woman that came to London for a service.	62
13. The duty of secrecy. The invalidity of all excuses for betraying secrets.	68
14. The difference between an author's writings and his conversation.	74
15. The folly of cards. A letter from a lady that has lost her money.	80
16. The dangers and miseries of literary eminence.	86
17. The frequent contemplation of death necessary to moderate the passions.	92
18. The unhappiness of marriage caused by irregular motives of choice.	97
19. The danger of ranging from one study to another. The importance of the early choice of a profession.	103
20. The folly and inconvenience of affectation.	110
21. The anxieties of literature not less than those of public stations. The inequality of author's writings.	115
22. An allegory on wit and learning.	121
23. The contrariety of criticism. The vanity of objection. An author obliged to depend upon his own judgment.	125
24. The necessity of attending to the duties of common life. The natural character not to be forsaken.	130
25. Rashness preferable to cowardice. Enterprize not to be repressed.	135
26. The mischief of extravagance, and misery of dependence.	141
27. An author's treatment from six patrons.	146
28. The various arts of self delusion.	151
29. The folly of anticipating misfortunes.	157
30. The observance of Sunday recommended; an allegory.	163
31. The defence of a known mistake highly culpable.	167
32. The vanity of stoicism. The necessity of patience.	174
33. An allegorical history of rest and labour.	179
34. The uneasiness and disgust of female cowardice.	184
35. A marriage of prudence without affection.	190

36. The reasons why pastorals delight.	195
37. The true principles of pastoral poetry.	200
38. The advantages of mediocrity. An Eastern fable.	205
39. The unhappiness of women, whether single or married.	211
40. The difficulty of giving advice without offending.	216
41. The advantages of memory.	221
42. The misery of a modish lady in solitude.	227
43. The inconveniences of precipitation and confidence.	231
44. Religion and superstition, a vision.	237
45. The causes of disagreement in marriage.	242
46. The mischiefs of rural faction.	247
47. The proper means of regulating sorrow.	252
48. The miseries of an infirm constitution.	258
49. A disquisition upon the value of fame.	263
50. A virtuous old age always revered.	268
51. The employments of a housewife in the country.	273
52. The contemplation of the calamities of others, a remedy for grief.	279
53. The folly and misery of a spendthrift.	284
54. A death-bed the true school of wisdom. The effects of death upon the survivors.	289
55. The gay widow's impatience of the growth of her daughter. The history of Miss May-pole.	294
56. The necessity of complaisance. The Rambler's grief for offending his correspondents.	299
57. Sententious rules of frugality.	305
58. The desire of wealth moderated by philosophy.	309
59. An account of Suspirius the human screech-owl.	314
60. The dignity and usefulness of biography.	318
61. A Londoner's visit to the country.	323
62. A young lady's impatience to see London.	329
63. Inconstancy not always a weakness.	334
64. The requisites to true friendship.	339
65. Obidah and the hermit, an Eastern story.	344
66. Passion not to be eradicated. The views of women ill directed.	349
67. The garden of hope, a dream.	353
68. Every man chiefly happy or miserable at home. The opinion of servants not to be despised.	358
69. The miseries and prejudices of old-age.	363

CONTENTS

VOLUME IV

70. Different men virtuous in different degrees. The vicious not always abandoned.	3
71. No man believes that his own life will be short.	7
72. The necessity of good-humour.	12
73. The lingering expectation of an heir.	17
74. Peevishness equally wretched and offensive. The character of Tetrica.	22
75. The world never known but by a change of fortune. The history of Melissa.	28
76. The arts by which bad men are reconciled to themselves.	33
77. The learned seldom despised but when they deserve contempt.	38
78. The power of novelty. Mortality too familiar to raise apprehensions.	45
79. A suspicious man justly suspected.	50
80. Variety necessary to happiness. A winter scene.	55
81. The great rule of action. Debts of justice to be distinguished from debts of charity.	60
82. The virtuoso's account of his rarities.	64
83. The virtuoso's curiosity justified.	70
84. A young lady's impatience of controul.	76
85. The mischiefs of total idleness.	81
86. The danger of succeeding a great author. An introduction to a criticism on Milton's versification.	87
87. The reasons why advice is generally ineffectual.	93
88. A criticism on Milton's versification. Elisions dangerous in English poetry.	98
89. The luxury of vain imagination.	104
90. The pauses in English poetry adjusted.	109
91. The conduct of patronage, an allegory.	116
92. The accommodation of sound to sense often chimerical.	121
93. The prejudices and caprices of criticism.	130
94. An inquiry how far Milton has accommodated the sound to the sense.	135
95. The history of Pertinax the sceptic.	143
96. Truth, falshood, and fiction, an allegory.	148
97. Advice to unmarried ladies.	153

98. The necessity of cultivating politeness.	159
99. The pleasures of private friendship. The necessity of similar dispositions.	164
100. Modish pleasures.	169
101. A proper audience necessary to a wit.	173
102. The voyage of life.	179
103. The prevalence of curiosity. The character of Nugaculus.	184
104. The original of flattery. The meanness of venal praise.	190
105. The universal register, a dream.	194
106. The vanity of an author's expectations. Reasons why good authors are sometimes neglected.	199
107. Properantia's hopes of a year of confusion. The misery of prostitutes.	204
108. Life sufficient to all purposes if well employed.	210
109. The education of a fop.	214
110. Repentance stated and explained. Retirement and abstinence useful to repentance.	220
111. Youth made unfortunate by its haste and eagerness.	226
112. Too much nicety not to be indulged. The character of Eriphile.	230
113. The history of Hymenaeus's courtship.	236
114. The necessity of proportioning punishments to crimes.	241
115. The sequel of Hymenaeus's courtship.	247
116. The young trader's attempt at politeness.	253
117. The advantages of living in a garret.	258
118. The narrowness of fame.	265
119. Tranquilla's account of her lovers opposed to Hymenaeus.	270
120. The history of Almamoulin, the son of Nouradin.	275
121. The dangers of imitation. The impropriety of imitating Spenser.	280
122. A criticism on the English historians.	286
123. The young trader turned gentleman.	291
124. The ladies' misery in a summer-retirement.	295
125. The difficulty of defining comedy. Tragic and comic sentiments confounded.	299
126. The universality of cowardice. The impropriety of extorting praise. The impertinence of an astronomer.	305

127.	Diligence too soon relaxed. Necessity of perseverance.	311
128.	Anxiety universal. The unhappiness of a wit and a fine lady.	316
129.	The folly of cowardice and inactivity.	320
130.	The history of a beauty.	325
131.	Desire of gain the general passion.	331
132.	The difficulty of educating a young nobleman.	335
133.	The miseries of a beauty defaced.	340
134.	Idleness an anxious and miserable state.	345
135.	The folly of annual retreats into the country.	349
136.	The meanness and mischiefs of indiscriminate dedication.	354
137.	The necessity of literary courage.	359
138.	Original characters to be found in the country. The character of Mrs. Busy.	364
139.	A critical examination of <i>Samson Agonistes</i> .	370
140.	The criticism continued.	376
141.	The danger of attempting wit in conversation. The character of Papilius.	383
142.	An account of squire Bluster.	388
143.	The criterions of plagiarism.	393

CONTENTS

VOLUME V

144.	The difficulty of raising reputation. The various species of detractors.	3
145.	Petty writers not to be despised.	7
146.	An account of an author travelling in quest of his own character. The uncertainty of fame.	12
147.	The courtier's esteem of assurance.	17
148.	The cruelty of parental tyranny.	22
149.	Benefits not always entitled to gratitude.	27
150.	Adversity useful to the acquisition of knowledge.	32
151.	The climacterics of the mind.	37
152.	Criticism on epistolary writings.	42
153.	The treatment incurred by loss of fortune.	48
154.	The inefficacy of genius without learning.	54
155.	The usefulness of advice. The danger of habits. The necessity of reviewing life.	59
156.	The laws of writing not always indisputable. A vindication of tragi-comedy.	65

157. The scholar's complaint of his own bashfulness.	70
158. Rules of writing drawn from examples. Those examples often mistaken.	75
159. The nature and remedies of bashfulness.	80
160. Rules for the choice of associates.	85
161. The revolutions of a garret.	89
162. Old men in danger of falling into pupillage. The conduct of Thrasybulus.	95
163. The mischiefs of following a patron.	100
164. Praise universally desired. The failings of eminent men often imitated.	106
165. The impotence of wealth. The visit of Serotinus to the place of his nativity.	110
166. Favour not easily gained by the poor.	116
167. The marriage of Hymenaeus and Tranquilla.	120
168. Poetry debased by mean expressions. An example from Shakespear.	125
169. Labour necessary to excellence.	130
170. The history of Misella debauched by her relation.	135
171. Misella's description of the life of a prostitute.	140
172. The effect of sudden riches upon the manners.	145
173. Unreasonable fears of pedantry.	150
174. The mischiefs of unbounded raillery. History of Dicaculus.	154
175. The majority are wicked.	159
176. Directions to authors attacked by critics. The various degrees of critical perspicacity.	164
177. An account of a club of antiquaries.	168
178. Many advantages not to be enjoyed together.	172
179. The aukward merriment of a student.	176
180. The study of life not to be neglected for the sake of books.	181
181. The history of an adventurer in lotteries.	187
182. The history of Leviculus, the fortune-hunter.	191
183. The influence of envy and interest compared.	196
184. The subject of essays often suggested by chance. Chance equally prevalent in other affairs.	200
185. The prohibition of revenge justifiable by reason. The meanness of regulating our conduct by the opinions of men.	205
186. Anningait and Ajut, a Greenland history.	210
187. The history of Anningait and Ajut concluded.	215
188. Favour often gained with little assistance from understanding.	220

189.	The mischiefs of falshood. The character of Turpicula.	224
190.	The history of Abouzaid, the son of Morad.	228
191.	The busy life of a young lady.	233
192.	Love unsuccessful without riches.	238
193.	The author's art of praising himself.	243
194.	A young nobleman's progress in politeness.	248
195.	A young nobleman's introduction to the knowledge of the town.	252
196.	Human opinions mutable. The hopes of youth fallacious.	257
197.	The history of a legacy-hunter.	261
198.	The legacy-hunter's history concluded.	266
199.	The virtues of Rabbi Abraham's magnet.	271
200.	Asper's complaint of the insolence of Prospero. Unpoliteness not always the effect of pride.	276
201.	The importance of punctuality.	281
202.	The different acceptations of poverty. Cynics and monks not poor.	286
203.	The pleasures of life to be sought in prospects of futurity. Future fame uncertain.	291
204.	The history of ten days of Seged, emperor of Ethiopia.	296
205.	The history of Seged concluded.	300
206.	The art of living at the cost of others.	305
207.	The folly of continuing too long upon the stage.	310
208.	The Rambler's reception. His design.	315
	Index	321