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The appearance of the first issue of *The Tatler* in 1709 is usually regarded as the beginning of periodical publication in England. Its founder, Richard Steele (1672–1729), intended ‘a paper, which should observe upon the manners of the pleasurable, as well as the busy part of mankind ... by way of a letter of intelligence, consisting of such parts as might gratify the curiosity of persons of all conditions, and of each sex’. The ‘datelines’ of the reports, on news, literature, and plain gossip, were from the most famous coffee houses of early Georgian London, and the contributors included Jonathan Swift and Joseph Addison. The magazine was published for only two years, from April 1709 to January 1711: shortly afterwards, Steele and Addison co-founded *The Spectator*. This four-volume edition was issued in 1797 by a consortium of publishers, including John Nichols. Volume 2 contains numbers 51 to 114.

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Richard Steele
Frontmatter
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The Tatler

VOLUME 2

RICHARD STEELE



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THE
T A T L E R.

VOLUME THE SECOND.



L O N D O N :

PRINTED BY BYE AND LAW;

For Messrs. Longman, Dodfley, Law, Johnson, Nichols, Dilly, Robinson, Sewell, Richardson, Baldwin, Faulder, Rivington, Otridge and Son, B. and J. White, Hookham and Carpenter, Wilkie, Scatcherd, Ogilvie and Son, Newbery, J. Edwards, Vernor and Hood, Nunn, Pote, Miller, Cadell and Davies, and H. Lowndes.

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ORIGINAL DEDICATION

TO TATLER, VOL. II.

TO

EDWARD WORTLEY MONTAGUE ^a, ESQ.

SIR,

WHEN I fend you this volume, I am rather to make you a request than a dedication. I must desire, that if you think fit to throw away any moments on it, you would not do it after reading

^a Second son of the hon. lady Wortley Montague, and grandson of Edward Montague, the first earl of Sandwich. He was chosen a member of parliament for Huntingdon in the 4th year of queen Anne; and in all other parliaments but two to the end of her reign. On the accession of George I. he was constituted one of the lords commissioners of the treasury: and being sent ambassador-extraordinary to the grand signior, he set out for Vienna, Jan. 27, 1716, and proposed to be at Peterwaradin in eight days. Having finished his negotiations, he, with his lady, arrived at Leghorn, Aug. 22, 1718, in the Preston man of war, from Constantinople, and sailed the next day for Toulon; and, travelling through France, he arrived in England, and waited on his majesty at Hampton-court, Oct. 4 following, and was graciously received. In the first parliament called by king George I. he was chosen for the city of Westminster, and afterwards served for Huntingdon, and was a member for the city of Peterborough when he died, Jan. 22, 1761, aged 80 years. He married the lady Mary Pierrepont, eldest daughter to his grace Evelyn duke of Kingston, and by her (who died Aug.

VOL. II.

A

ii ORIGINAL DEDICATION

those excellent pieces with which you are usually conversant. The images which you will meet with here, will be very faint, after the perusal of the Greeks and Romans, who are your ordinary companions. I must confess I am obliged to you for the taste of many of their excellencies, which I had not observed until you pointed them to me. I am very proud that there are some things in these papers which I know you pardon^b; and it is no small pleasure to have one's labours suffered by the judgment of a man, who so well understands the true charms of eloquence and poesy. But I direct this address to you; not that I think I can entertain you with my writings, but to thank you for the new delight I have, from your conversation, in those of other men.

May you enjoy a long continuance of the true relish of the happiness heaven has bestowed upon you. I know not how to say a more affectionate thing to you, than to wish that you may be always what you are^c; and that you may ever

21, 1762) he had issue an only son, Edward-Wortley Montague, who was representative in three parliaments for Boscawen in Cornwall; and a daughter, Mary, married to John Stuart, earl of Bute, Aug. 24, 1736.

^b This seems to amount to a declaration, that E. Wortley Montague, esq; was himself a writer in these papers, but what number or numbers he wrote, or whether indeed he wrote any, is now uncertain.

^c The wife of this gentleman, an uncommonly fine woman, of very superior understanding, lady Mary Wortley Montague, the celebrated authoress of a little volume of excellent poems, and many curious letters, for several years survived her husband. He died very suddenly, without being able, it is said, to alter his will as he intended, in favour of

TO THE SECOND VOLUME. iii

think, as I know you now do, that you have a
 much larger fortune than you want.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient, and
 most humble fervant,

ISAAC BICKERSTAFF.

his son, an extraordinary and ingenious man, the reputed author of the *Reflections on the Rise and Fall of ancient Republics, &c.* This son was a wanderer from his early youth, and lived long in singular ways, and a variety of situations, greatly unknown, and estranged from his family. He had returned, and was reconciled to his father some years before the old gentleman's death; but in that time, or soon after, he unfortunately offended his mother irreconcilably, for she cut him off with a shilling from all the inheritance which she had it in her power to leave him. Mr. Montague was abroad, when he received his mother's legacy, which he gave, with great gaiety of heart, to the friend from whom the writer received this information. By these accidents a vast fortune came to lord Bute, who married their daughter. Nevertheless, this generous nobleman ceded to his brother-in-law much more than he could have possibly obtained, and even more than he could have claimed, by litigation. Mr. Montague had, it is said, very accommodating principles, and a fine constitution for travelling. It had been abundantly exercised in this way before; but the last fourteen years of his life, more or less, were entirely spent in foreign parts, where he became enamoured of the dress and manners of Arabia, to which he conformed to the end of his life. As he sat in his Armenian dress, squat, after the Eastern fashion, to regale himself with smoking tobacco, and drinking coffee, he has been heard to say, not unfrequently, that he had long since drunk his full share of wine and strong liquors; and that he had never once been guilty of a small folly in the whole course of his life. This writer has been told, that on his return, in his passage from Marseilles to England, he was choked with the bone of a fig-bird, leaving several widows behind

iv ORIGINAL DEDICATION, &c.

him ; but he is very certain, and can affirm on good authority, that the advertifement which appeared about that time in the public prints, promifing an honourable and advantageous marriage to any pregnant woman of good character, had not, as was reported, any refpect to Mr. Montague, and was not inferted by any agent whom he employed. Before his laft embarkation for this country, effectual meafures were taken to fatisfy the claims of his creditors, and extricate him from the immenfe debt which he had principally contracted by gaming when he had the profpect of fucceeding to a very opulent fortune ; and his affairs were finally fo fettled, that he might have paffed here in eafe the remainder of his life, which, from the vigour of his conftitution and falubrity of his regimen, promifed to have been a long one. In his way to Grand Cairo, his elegant and amiable companion, N. Davifon, efq; took accurate drawings of every thing curious, particularly of the far-famed infcriptions on the Written Mountains, which Niebuhr and the other miffionaries from Denmark miffed ; and from his accurate drawings it appears certain, that they were only the sportings of the pilgrims to Mecca, who, on their emerging from the defart, refted themfelves there among the fprings, and not the workmanfhip, as was thought, of the ancient Ifraelites, who by their law were prohibited from making the images of animals, &c. with which the infcriptions abound.