
Sketches Of The History Of Man

Kames Henry Home

Title: Sketches Of The History Of Man

Author: Kames Henry Home

This is an exact replica of a book. The book reprint was manually improved by a team of professionals, as opposed to automatic/OCR processes used by some companies. However, the book may still have imperfections such as missing pages, poor pictures, errant marks, etc. that were a part of the original text. We appreciate your understanding of the imperfections which can not be improved, and hope you will enjoy reading this book.



1

2

3

4

5

6

7





S K E T C H E S
O F T H E
H I S T O R Y O F M A N .

CONSIDERABLY IMPROVED IN
A S E C O N D E D I T I O N .

I N F O U R V O L U M E S .



S K E T C H E S
O F T H E
H I S T O R Y
O F
M A N .

CONSIDERABLY IMPROVED IN
A SECOND EDITION.

Henry Homes, lord Kames

IN FOUR VOLUMES.

V O L U M E I .

E D I N B U R G H :

Printed for W. STRAHAN, and T. CADELL, *London.*
and for W. CREECH, *Edinburgh.*

M D C C L X X V I I I .

174636

YIARU
KORU. GORATE
YIARU

P R E F A C E.

THE following work is the substance of various speculations, which occasionally occupied the author, and enlivened his leisure-hours. It is not intended for the learned; they are above it: nor for the vulgar; they are below it. It is intended for those who free from the corruption of opulence and depression of bodily labour, are fond of useful knowledge; who, even in the delirium of youth, feel the dawn of patriotism, and who in riper years enjoy its meridian warmth. To such men this work is dedicated; and that they may profit by it, is the author's ardent wish; and probably will be while he retains life sufficient to form a wish.

May not he hope, that this work, child of his gray hairs, will survive, and bear testimony for him to good men, that even a laborious calling, which left him

not many leisure-hours, never banished from his mind, that he would little deserve to be of the human species, were he indifferent about his fellow-creatures :

Homo sum : humani nihil a me alienum puto.

Most of the subjects handled in the following sheets, admit but of probable reasoning ; and with respect to such reasonings, it is often difficult to say, what degree of conviction they ought to produce. It is easy to form plausible arguments ; but to form such as can stand the test of time, is not always easy. I could amuse the reader with numerous examples of conjectural arguments, which, fair at a distant view, vanish like a cloud on a near approach. Several examples, not to go farther, are mentioned in the preliminary discourse of this book. The hazard of being misled by such arguments, gave the author much anxiety ; and after his utmost attention, he can but faintly hope, that he has not often wandered far from truth.

Above

P R E F A C E. vii

Above thirty years ago, he began to collect materials for a natural history of man; and in the vigour of youth, did not think the undertaking too bold, even for a single hand. He has discovered of late, that his utmost abilities are scarce sufficient for executing a few imperfect sketches.

Edinburgh, Feb. 23. 1774.