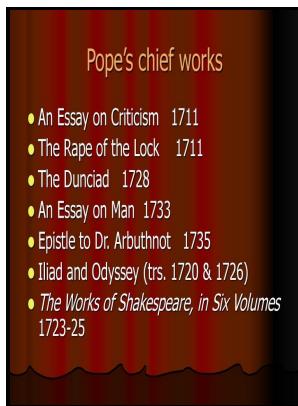


Essay on criticism (1728)

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Notes: Facsimile text.
This edition was published in 1964



Filesize: 19.410 MB

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An Essay on Criticism, by Alexander Pope.

Then criticism the muse's handmaid proved, To dress her charms, and make her more beloved: But following wits from that intention strayed Who could not win the mistress, wooed the maid Against the poets their own arms they turned Sure to hate most the men from whom they learned So modern pothecaries taught the art By doctors bills to play the doctor's part. As we in England are apt to confound Sentiments and Expressions, so we do the same by Talents, and think if a Man can make a School-Book or two, he can write a History. Some ne'er advance a judgment of their own, But catch the spreading notion of the town, They reason and conclude by precedent, And own stale nonsense which they ne'er invent.

An Essay On Criticism Quotes by Alexander Pope

False eloquence, like the prismatic glass.

Essay On Dostoyevsky's The Double

Ask them the cause, they're wiser still they say; And still to-morrow's wiser than to-day. He has only Horace against him of the Antients, and Dacier of the Moderns, as is already observed in this Essay.

Essay On Dostoyevsky's The Double

The following Stanza is extreamly sublime: What tho' in solemn Silence all Move round the dark terrestrial Ball; What tho', nor real Voice, nor Sound Amid their radiant Orbs be found, In Reason's Ear they all rejoice, And utter forth a glorious Voice; For ever singing as they shine, The Hand that made me is divine. Rapin calls him the greatest Genius of England, and he has not more Glory from his own Countrymen than from the learned Men in France. If the Version of Homer had been born when he wrote, he must of Consequence have preferr'd it to the Ilias, which would have cost the Translator's Modesty, as much as Sir Richard Steele's to be put upon a Comment on Homer and Virgil.

The Project Gutenberg eBook of An Essay on Criticism, by John Oldmixon.

It is not because it takes, but because it takes for those very Things which should have damned it Durfey's Boarding-School, and his Marriage-Hater match'd, took with a Vengeance, though the two greatest Pieces of Wit in them, were Miss's Bread and Butter, and Mynheer's Muff. Yet

there were Variety and Learning enough in them, and more Wit than in all our witty Poets since the Restoration, excepting those above-mentioned.

Alexander Pope

But there's something pleasant in the Complements that are paid to it, and the Antiquaries have found out just such another Society in Rome, under the Patronage of Augustus, to refine the Roman Language, which, by the way, had been refined before by Terence, Lucretius, Cicero, Hortensius, and their Contemporaries, at the latter End of the Republick.

An Essay on Criticism

Yet when no disturbing jealousy vanity, or rivalry intervened was generous and affectionate, and he had a manly, independent spirit. In words as fashions the same rule will hold, Alike fantastic if too new or old.

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