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THE

LIFE AND EXPLOITS

OF THE INGENIOUS GENTLEMAN

DON QUIXOTE

DE LA MANCHA.

VOL. I.

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PRINTED BY S. GOSNELL, LITTLE QUEEN STREET, LONDON.





CERVANTES.

Published Jan. 1801 for W. Miller Old Bond Street.

LIFE AND EXPLOITS

OF THE INGENIOUS GENTLEMAN

DON QUIXOTE

DE LA MANCHA.

TRANSLATED FROM THE ORIGINAL SPANISH

01

MIGUEL DE CERVANTES SAAVEDRA,

BY

CHARLES JARVIS, ESQ.

NOW CAREFULLY REVISED AND CORRECTED:

WITH A NEW TRANSLATION OF THE

Spanish Poetry.

To which is prefixed

A COPIOUS AND NEW LIFE

OF.

CERVANTES:

INCLUDING A CRITIQUE ON THE QUIXOTE;

ALSO

A CHRONOLOGICAL PLAN OF THE WORK.

EMBELLISHED WITH NEW ENGRAVINGS, AND A
MAP OF PART OF SPAIN.

IN FOUR VOLUMES.

VOL. I.

LONDON:

PRINTED FOR WILLIAM MILLER, ALBEMARLE STPEET.
1810.

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PREFACE

OF THE

EDITOR.

Servicial it simply is:

In publishing a new edition of Don Quixote, little, at least in this place, need be said of the excellence of the work itself. Its peculiar merits will be discussed hereafter. Time, however, has put his mark upon it, and that is no bad criterion, by which to judge: more than two centuries have elapsed, and Don Quixote is still universally read.

The translation of Jarvis has been chosen, as being the best hitherto written. It has been now carefully revised, and such errors, as were apparent, corrected. The poetry of every former edition has been, in many points, very defective, particularly in respect to fidelity of translation. That, which accompanies the present edition, is entirely

new; and, if its poetic merit be thought inferior to any former, its general conformity to the original will be found more correct.

The title of this work, as given by Jarvis, is certainly not that of Cervantes; but as his translation has been kept, it was thought right not to alter it. In Spanish it simply is, EL INGENIOSO HIDALGO DON QUIXOTE DE LA MANCHA, THE INGENIOUS GENTLEMAN DON QUIXOTE DE LA MANCHA. Such, at least, is the opinion of the Spanish Academy, who find fault with some editions for prefixing VIDA Y HECHOS, THE LIFE AND EVENTS, a title, they say, as improper, as if the Odyssey of Homer was called The Life and Events of the prudent Ulysses. They then notice the incorrectness of the quarto edition of 1738 by Tonson, from which it is probable Jarvis took his title.

The division of the chapters has been a little altered according to the best Spanish edition; namely, that published at Madrid in 1780 at the expense of the King, and under the inspection of the Spanish Academy. Cer-

vantes certainly divided the first part into books, but from having discontinued it in the second, it is evident he disapproved of that mode, so that, had he published a second edition of the whole, he would probably have altered the first part. Such, however, is the reasoning of the Spanish Academy, which has induced the Editor to adopt that arrangement.

The Life of Cervantes, prefixed to this edition, is founded upon that published at Madrid. It would be improper to call it a translation, because a faithful translation would occupy four or five times the space; and yet perhaps it has little other merit: every thing, however, has been taken and condensed, that was thought at all interesting, and such new matter added, as occurred in the perusal of other works. The Spanish Life is written by Don Vincente de los Rios, member of the Spanish Academy, and in Spain it is reckoned a work of great celebrity.

In an age, when works of infinitely less

value and estimation are published with all the embellishments, that art and expense can bestow, it would be unjust to the memory of Cervantes, and a disgrace to the national taste of England, not to have a fine edition of Don Quixote; yet none such has hitherto appeared. The old quarto, such as it is, is not to be had, and there is no other worthy a place in the library. The present edition in no degree interferes with any other, nor would it have been undertaken, had there not been such an evident want of one.

The head of Cervantes is taken from that of the Spanish edition; and though not immediately painted in his lifetime (for none such exist), is most probably a copy from one, that was.

All the other designs of the Spanish edition have been carefully looked over, and such as were thought to possess sufficient merit have been taken for the present edition, after having been corrected and improved by an English artist. They amount to about eight, and are the productions of Joseph del Castillo,

and Antonio Carnicero. The rest have been designed by Stothard, Thurston, and Jones, except the beautiful one of Zoraida discovered by her father in the arms of the Captive, which was from the sketch of a man, whose talents in the purest and most sublime part of Art do honour to England and to Europe.

In all the designs the costume of the different characters and countries has been particularly attended to.

To the end of the life is added a chronological plan of the work, which, at the same time that it shows the method Cervantes followed, will point out various errors and contradictions both in his geography and chronology.

This edition is also enriched with a map of that part of Spain, which contains the travels of Don Quixote, with the places pointed out by reference, where his various adventures happened. and Antonio Carnicero. The rest have been designed by Stothard, Thurston, and Jones, except the beautiful one of Zoraida discovered by her father in the arms of the Captive, which was from the sketch of a man, whose talents in the purest and most sublime part of Art do benom to England and to Europe.

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