

18 OF THE ELEMENTS OF

is described the arch ab ; on the center 2 with the radius 2 b the arch bc ; on the center 3 with the radius 3 c the arch cd , &c.

This is the appearance of the capital as viewed in front; if it is seen sideways its appearance will be as exhibited in the other figure, where the middle swelling A , resembles an upright tore with two small ones aa on each side, it is called a belt. The swellings on each side, BB , are called cushions: C is the side of the outmost spiral line in one volute, K that in the other.

PLATE. IX, X.

§. 4. The Corinthian order is more delicate than the Ionic, resembling the graceful figure of a virgin. Among the ancients it had much resemblance to the Ionic; according to Vitruvius it imitated the Ionic in every part but in the capital of the pillar. Wherefore in the most admired works the base of the column is attic; the shaft fluted. The entablature is a fifth part of the height of the column.

The height of the pedestal in our figure (which is taken from Palladio) is a fourth part of that of the pillar: the height of the pillar 19 : 00. The intercolumniations are systyle, the height of the entablature is a fifth part of the column. Under the larmier are modillions, with an echinus and dentil. No objection should be raised against some specimens in the antique, in which the column has often 20 : 00 and its entablature has one fourth or two ninths of the pillar: as each of these proportions claim attention from their singular beauty.

A pretty Greek story is told of the origin of the capital of this column, which I shall omit, as Villalpandus gives a more probable, yet a dubious account. Consult Vitruvius, B. 4. chap. 1. and Villalpandus, Vol. II. B. 5. chap. 23. Were I permitted to conjecture, I should not think it improbable, that, as the shaft of a pillar represents the trunk of a tree, so
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