

PREFACE.

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that their relative proportion and strength may be seen at one view.

That information might not stop at the beginning of the science, I have translated from Vitruvius, what his excellent pen has recorded, as the rules of the ancients in building their edifices or temples, the distribution of columns, and their diminutions. These will, I hope also be found useful to travellers who visit the remains of ancient architectural splendour and magnificence; as in a pocket volume they will have examples of the five orders, with the laws observed by the ancients in the great outline of their public structures, by what name and character each order of building is distinguished, with rules for adjusting the columns; from which,