

ANCIENT ARCHITECTURE. 41

capital, and may be divided in the large, into the architrave, the frize, and the cornice.

“ By examining the antiques, it will be found, that, in all their profiles, the cyma and the cavetto are constantly used as finishings, and never applied where strength is required ; that the ovolo and talon are always employed as supporters to the essential members of the composition, such as the modillions, denteles, and corona ; that the chief use of the torus and astragal, is to fortify the tops and bottoms of columns, and sometimes pedestals, where they are frequently cut in the form of ropes ; and that the scotia is employed only to separate the members of bases, for which purpose the fillet is also used, not only in bases, but in all kinds of profiles.”

“ An assemblage of essential parts and mouldings, is termed a profile ; on the choice, disposition, and proportion of these, depends the beauty or deformity of the profile. The most perfect are, such as are composed of few mouldings, varied both in form and size, fitly applied with