

erecting buildings to the honour of their tutelar deities, or when they had vowed worship and homage to any particular one; I say, when we consider what variety of opportunities offered to shew honour, to exhibit splendour, and to display liberality, we need not wonder at the great number of sacred edifices still remaining: indeed they are so many, and of such magnificence, as chiefly to absorb the traveller's attention, the remains of other public structures being but few. I have therefore given no more on public edifices, than what Vitruvius has written of sacred ones, and the rules given by him for the disposition of columns.

OF TEMPLES.

THE following account of their origin and progress will, I think, be considered as rational; for doubtless they had their states of progression, as well as every other human invention.

There is implanted in the mind of man so strong an idea of a superior power,