Of COLOURS.

The method of preparing the various kinds uſed in painting.

IT will now be proper to explain in an eaſy manner, the method of preparing the various bodies employed by painters, for producing the difference of light and ſhade; which may be termed either pigments or fluids, as they are ſolid or aqueous; and are diſtinguiſhed in their ſeveral kinds according to the manner of working them; as oil-colours, water-colours, enamel-colours, &c. but their variety are too numerous to be in general uſe: moſt painters therefore ſelect a ſet out of them, and become very unjuſtly prejudiced againſt thoſe they reject. It is no little impediment to their improvement in the profeſſion, that they are not more extenſively acquainted with all the ingredients fit for their purpoſes.

Thoſe colours which become tranſparent in oil, ſuch as lake, Pruſſian blue, and brown pink, are frequently uſed without the admixture of white, or any other opake pigment; by which means the teint of the ground on which they are laid retains, in ſome degree, its force; and the real colour, produced in painting, is the combined effect of both. This is called glazing; and the pigments endued with the property of becoming tranſparent in oil, are called glazing colours.

As colours are obtained from various ſubſtances, the means of preparing them are conſequently vari-

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