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Vol. I. to ITALY.

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Glasses made hollow, and well shaped, with a Ring made of the same piece in turning, which plays between the bottom and the bowl of the Glass, and cannot be taken off. There are an Hundred with their Rings in a grain of Pepper of an ordinary size. I often examined this little Miracle of Art with a good Microscope, and observed the stripes and traces of the Tool with which they are turned, so that I found no secret in it, but that it was the pure work of the Eyes and the Hand.

*These Glasses
are in my
hands.*

They have here another very pleasant Bauble, which are Fleas fastned by the Neck with Chains of Steel. This Chain is so fine, that though it be near a Span long, the Flea will lift it up when it leaps. The Animal, Chain and all is sold for Ten Pence.

The variety of Habits, and difference of their Colours, is yet greater here than at *Nuremberg*. This is regulated by the Policy of the Magistrates, and you may know the Quality and Religion of the greatest part of the People, by the difference of their Cloaths. I will only represent to you the manner after which the Widow of a *Roman Catholick* Merchant wears Mourning for her Husband. She hath a Christning Kercher, well whited and starched, with Wings and Cornets ordinary for this Dress, a black Petticoat, and a black Cloak, made like that of a Man, which comes to her Knees. A great white Veil behind, which hangs at the tail of the Kercher, down to her Heels, enlarging it self by degrees; a piece of the same Linen with the Kercher Four Foot long, and at least Two broad, which is very much starched and stretched on a square of Wire-thred, fastned by the middle of one of its Ends, just below the Lips, and covers all the fore part of the Body.

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