GEO. ADDL MSS 32

(1763) Notes on Reading Harris's Treatises

It is common to every Art to be a Cause, and ~~to have~~ the additional Requisite of Intention, Reason, Volition, and Consciousness, so that not every Cause is Art, but only voluntary ~~which~~ intentional ~~and~~ habitual Cause. ~~and ability to Man no Events in the natural World arising Vegetation Gravitation Attraction and the like, must be referred to Art nor the admired Works of the Animal World which for their Beauty and Order we metaphorically call artificial for they are formed by the All Wise Director of the Universe.~~

and is a power in Man of becoming a Cause or approved Precepts.

To every Art belongs a system of various

Art is an habitual power in Man of becoming the Cause of some Effect according to a System of various and well-approved Precepts.

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

GEO ADDL MSS 32

(1764)

Art does not belong to the Divine Nature, the Brute Nature, or the Inanimate Nature, it relates alone to Human Nature, it is a Voluntary, Intentional and habitual Power in Man of becoming a Cause, therefore not governed by chance or blind necessity, ~~However, Nature is a system of various and well approved~~ Precepts, and the intention of every Artist in his Several Art is directed by such a System.

Things liable to Change and Motion we call Contingent Natures, those not liable necessary Natures, Art relates only to the former

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

In the hand writing
of His late Majesty
George the Third

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

GEO ADDL MSS 32
1765

~~Art is a voluntary and intentional Cause, and implies the additional requisite of Intention, Reason, Volition and Consciousness~~

Art is a Voluntary, intentional and power in Man of becoming a habitual Cause, therefore not governed by chance or blind necessity, from whence follows that no events in what we call the natural World must be referred to it, as Tides, Winds, Vegetation, Gravitation, Attraction and the like, for these drive from stated Laws, nor of those admired Works of the Animal World which for their Beauty and Order we metaphorically call artificial, as the Spiders Web, the Bees Comb and the like.

~~So~~ Art does not belong to the Divine Nature, the Brute Nature or the Inanimate Nature, it relates alone to Human Nature. ~~it is not necessary to the being of Art that it should be Man actually becoming a Cause, but that it is sufficient if he had the power or capacity of so becoming~~

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

GEO. ADDL MSS 32 (1766)

Notes on Reading Harris's Treatise on Art.

(2)

It is common to every Art to be a Cause, and to have the additional requisite of Intention, Reason, Volition and Consciousness; so that not every Cause is Art, but only voluntary, intentional and habitual Cause; it is a power in man of becoming a Cause. To every Art belongs a system of various and approved Precepts.

(1) Art is something learnt, something secondary and acquired, and never original to any being which possesses it.

(3)

Art can have no relation to the steady, abstract and necessary Nature, but to the transient, particular and contingent one, from whence it follows that it regards all those contingent Natures which ~~common or universal subject~~ lie within the reach of the human Powers to influence.

We may naturally suppose that the beginning, motive or principle of Art arose from the want or absence of something appearing good, relative to human life, and attainable by Man, but superior to his natural and uninstructed Faculties, and that every Art will be accomplished and ended in a Work or Energy; the distinction of the two last words may require a little explanation; by energy (or operation) is meant every production the parts of which exist successively, and whose nature hath its being or essence in a transition, by

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

work, or thing done every production whose parts exist at a time, and whose nature depends not on a transition for its essence,

The conclusion to be drawn is that Artis an habitual power in Man of becoming the cause of some effect according to a system of various and well approved Precepts, that it operates on a contingent, which is within the reach of the Human Powers to influence; for the sake of some absent good, relative to Human life, and attainable by Man, but superior to his natural and uninstructed Faulties, and that it ends either in some Energy or in some Work.

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016