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Remarks On The Life and Writings Of Dr. Jonathan Swift, Dean of St. Patrick's, Dublin

Orrery, John Boyle of London, 1752

His mother died at Leicester.

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AND WRITINGS OF DR. SWIFT. 21

cles and relations, was married to a man in trade, whose fortune, character, and situation, were esteemed, by all her friends, suitable for her in every respect. But, the marriage was entirely disagreeable to her brother. It seemed to interrupt those ambitious views, which he had long since formed: He grew outragious at the thoughts of being brother-in-law to a tradesman. He utterly resused all reconciliation with his sister, nor would he even listen to the entreaties of his mother, who came over to Ireland, under the strongest hopes of pacifying his anger, having, in every other instance found him a dutiful, and an obedient son: but his pride was not to be conquered, and Mrs. Swift sinding her son instexible, hastened back to Leicester, where she continued till her death.

During his mother's life time, he scarce ever failed to pay her an annual visit. But his manner of travelling was as singular as any other of his actions. He often went in a waggon, but more frequently walked from Holyhead to Leicester, London, or any other part of England. He generally chose to dine with waggoners, hostlers, and persons of that rank; and he used to lye at night in houses where he found written over the door Lodgings for a penny. He delighted in scenes of low life. The vulgar dialect was not only a fund of humour for him, but I verily believe was acceptable to his nature; otherwise I know not how to account for the many silthy ideas, and indecent expressions (I mean indecent in point of cleanliness and delicacy) that will be found throughout his works.

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