

Citazioni di "Quae Nocent Docent"
Elementi biografici Re Giorgio III
22/11/08

Il primo verso di "Quae Nocent Docent" (Anonimo latino) di S.T. Coleridge si riferisce a quello dell'*Eneide* di Virgilio contenuto nel passo che segue:

tum pater Evandrus dextram complexus euntis
haeret inexpectus lacrimans ac talia fatur:
'o mihi praeteritos referat si Iuppiter annos, 560
qualis eram cum primam aciem Praeneste sub ipsa
stravi

Allora il padre Evandro stretta la destra del partente
s'attacca insaziabile piangendo e così parla:
"O se Giove riportasse gli anni passati, 560
quale ero quando atterrai la prima fila sotto la stessa
Preneste

(Virgilio, *Eneide*, Libro 8, vv. 558-562)

Enea si allea con le popolazioni greche provenienti da Argo e stanziata nella città di Pallante sul Palatino, regno appunto dell'arcade Evandro e di suo figlio Pallante. La guerra è molto sanguinosa (subito muore Pallante ucciso da Turno), e per evitare ulteriori vittime si decide che la sfida fra Enea e Turno dovrà risolversi in un combattimento tra i due pretendenti alla mano di Lavinia. (Wikipedia)

Il regno di Giorgio III (voce dell'Encyclopaedia Britannica, parte I)

Early years

George III was the son of Frederick Louis, prince of Wales, and Princess Augusta of Saxe-Gotha. From his parents and their entourage, the young George imbibed an unreasonable dislike of his grandfather, King George II, and of all his policies. George was a child of strong feelings but of slow mental development. This unequal growth of brain and heart made him difficult to teach and too easy to command and produced in him an appearance of apathy; he could not read properly until he was 11. His affection for his immediate family circle dominated his life.

George was 12 when his father died, leaving him heir to the throne. It is clear that, in beginning with his 18th birthday to prepare conscientiously for his future responsibilities, he tormented himself with thoughts of his inadequacy. The curious blend of obstinate determination with self-distrust, a feature of his maturity, was already evident. His method of screwing up his courage was to set himself an ideal of conduct. This ideal George thought he had found personified in John Stuart, 3rd earl of Bute, who became his inspiration, his teacher, and later his chief minister.

George was potentially a better politician than Bute, for he had tenacity, and, as experience matured him, he could use guile to achieve his ends. But at his accession in 1760 in the midst of the Seven Years' War (1756–63), between Great Britain and Prussia on one side and France, Austria, and Russia on the other, George did not know his own capacity nor the incapacity of his hero. As king, in 1761, he asked Bute for a review of all eligible German Protestant princesses "to save a great deal of trouble," as "marriage must sooner or later come to pass." He chose Charlotte Sophia of Mecklenburg-Strelitz and married her on Sept. 8, 1761. Though the marriage was entered into in the spirit of public duty, it lasted for more than 50 years, due to the king's need for security and his wife's strength of character. Bute's only other useful contribution to his royal pupil was to encourage his interest in botany and to implant in the court more respect for the graces of life, including patronage of the arts, than had been usual for the past half century. (In 1768 George founded the Royal Academy of Arts.)