



A Brief Prospect of

frontispiece of the House, but the Tenant likewise
d within; for frequently, an even and compos'd
in an uneven and disorder'd Body; for you know
t their value upon the exterior Figure of the Cask,
but upon the Wine concealed within. Hearing this candid
and modest Discovery, they desired to receive his farther
Application to the City. Then he confidently address'd
Himself to the Publique, and made this Harangue or Pre-
face to what he should unravel, saying; *You Samians,*
since Fortune, that still engages us in reciprocal Contests, now
propounds the glory of a Victory, either to the Master or Ser-
vant: If the Servant shall not unveil those Mysteries that
lye wrapp'd up in this signal Accident, let stripes be the
Recompense of his confident Imposture; but if the Master
be outvied by his Discovery, let his Freedome be the Re-
ward of so solemn a Performance. Then the Suffrage of
the People was, that *Xanthus* should give *Æsop* his Free-
dome, and gratifie them in compliance. With this
request (*Xanthus* replying not) the City *Prætor* rejoyn'd;
Xanthus, If you will not in this be subservient to the re-
quests of the Samians, I shall this instant declare Æsop
free, and then he will be corrival to thy self. Hereupon
Xanthus (warp'd with so great an Authority) pronoun-
ced *Æsop* free. On which the City *Cryer* proclaim'd,
That Xanthus the Philosopher had given Æsop his En-
franchisement. Æsop instantly retorted on *Xanthus*, saying,
That now (despight of all his malicious Engins) he had at-
cheiv'd his Freedome. Æsop being now Enfranchis'd,
thus accosted the People; *You Citizens of Samos, The*
Eagle (you know) is Monarch of Birds, and whereas the
Publique Ring was dropp'd into the Lap of a Servant,
it seems to insinuate, that some of the adjacent Kings will
attempt to supplant your established Laws, and entombe your
Liberty in Slavery. The Samians hearing this, were
astonish'd