



x Of all the cities of antient Greece, Thebes was the one of the which I was most disappointed, in its present state comfortless and uninteresting, destitute of any relics whatever worthy of notice; a mere homely gathering of insignificant abodes; whether it ever was otherwise I know not. But this I have read that the Boeotians of old were considered the dullest and most unrefined of the Greeks, given to slaughter and violence, and of course serviceable in war more than in arts.