The ARGUMENT.

OTHO, Son to the Emperor Otho the Great, being ſent by his Father into Italy, got there ſeveral Victories, not only over the Grecians, who, at that Time, contended with the Germans for the Poſſeſſion of it; but likewiſe over the Saracens, who continually infeſted the Sea Coaſts. The former being forced into a Peace, he obtained Theophane, Daughter to Romano, Emperor of the Eaſt, who long before had been promiſed him for his Bride. Baſilio was Brother to Theophane, who, being drove out of Conſtantinople by the Tyrant Nicephoro, liv'd ſo long in Exile, till he was call'd in by Zemiſces, to have a Part in the Empire. It is ſuppoſed that this Prince, during his Exile, ſhould turn Pirate, taking the Name of Emireno; and, being ignorant of what paſt in Conſtantinople, ſhould chace the Ships which brought Theophane to Rome, and ſhould be overcome by thoſe of Otho as he went to meet his Bride. It is likewiſe ſuppoſed, that Adelberto, Son to Berengario, a Tyrant in Italy, by the Inſtigation of his Mother, here called Giſmonda, ſhould cauſe Rome to rebel againſt the Germans, who were not long e're they retook it: This Action here attributed to the ſecond Otho, in Hiſtory, is reckoned among thoſe of Otho the Great. It is alſo a Fiction, that Theophane ſhould fall in the Power of Adelberto, and that he ſhould ſee her, and fall in Love with her at the Time he was Incognito at Conſtantinople. This occaſions the greateſt Part of the Accidents which are ſeen in this Drama.