32. *The Man and the Lion.*

A Man meeting with a Lion one day, discoursed with him together for a while, and at last disputed about the superiority between them, on account of courage and strength. At length, the man wanting a better argument, showed the Lion a marble monument, on which was placed the statue of a Man, striding over a vanquished Lion. „See here!“ said the Man to the Lion, and judge yourself, who is strongest of us? — „Oh! indeed,“ replied the Lion, seizing the Man by his breast, and throwing him down on the ground; if we were carvers we would make one Lion striding over hundred men; for one vanquished Lion!

Application.

A man can never be judge in his own cause, for on account of his self-love, he would be guilty of partiality. The man in the Fable, endeavoured to show his superior power to the Lion, by the figurative representation of the scene, occurring but very seldom in reality, and for that very reason had been perpetuated by art as a curiosity. On the other hand such scenes, where man had fallen a victim to the strength of a Lion, have not been preserved monumentally, therefore, the Lion hinted the partiality of man, giving him the excellent answer and at the same time a palpable proof, that his assertion was not in general to be applied.

UB Braunschweig http://www.digibib.tu-bs.de/?perid=00000564&imgid=00000210.jpg