

THE ROYAL  
**RIDDLE BOOK,**

A Collection of the most  
CURIOUS AND INGENIOUS

**PUZZLES.**

ALSO,

The never-failing method for Young Women  
to get good Husbands.

AND THE NEW

Interpreter of Dreams and Visions.

---

Who riddles tell; and merry tale,  
O'er oat-meal cakes and mugs of ale.

*Homer.*



STIRLING:

PRINTED BY WILLIAM MACNIE,

And Sold Wholesale and Retail.

1828.



JACOB RUT  
PREFACE.

THE art of making riddles is so antique, that it bears date almost with our earliest accounts of time, and is a diversion with which Sampson, the strongest of all mankind, amused himself. Nor has it been confined to common people, as a certain author supposes; for kings, and even some of the wisest of them, are said to have been adepts in the science; for such was the ever-to-be-remembered king Solomon, and such was his friend, Hiram king of Tyre.

Riddling, if I am not mistaken, is the art of both dissembling and undissembling. It is a kind of natural logic, which I should be glad to see adopted by our universities, in the room of that jargon they at present make use of; for as it consists in discovering truth under borrowed appearances, it may prove of wonderful advantage to the scholar's mind in the pursuit of his studies, by habituating his mental faculties, and to separate all foreign ideas, and consequently preserving it from that grand source of error, the being deceived by false connections. And in common life how necessary is it for a man to carry this sort of knowledge about him?—Every knave is an enigma that you must unriddle before you can safely deal with him, and every fool may be fathomed. What is making love but making riddles? And what else are some of our laws? Even our gravestones can't tell the naked truth; the tombs you see are a sort of riddles; a politician a walking riddle; and so is a physician and his prescription a professed enigma, intended only to be solved by the apothecary.—This being the truth

then, will any man tell me, that the art of riddling is not of the utmost consequence to society?

I shall conclude this preface in the words of a great author: As this science contains the sum of all human policy, and as there is no passage through the world without sometimes mixing with fools and knaves; who would not chuse to be master of the enigmatical art, in order on proper occasions, to be able to lead aside craft and impertinence from their aim by the convenient artifice of a prudent disguise.

**Riddle Book.**

**A CROWN.**

How many millions for my sake have dy'd,  
What frauds and villanies have not been try'd;  
And all the grandeur which my race adorns,  
Is like the rose beset around with thorns;  
Nay, when possess'd, such your enjoyments are,  
I to my owners trouble bring and care;  
Ev'n they, by whom I am so highly priz'd,  
If good are hated, and if bad despis'd.  
Thus 'twixt the plague of getting me and losing,  
By some I'm thought not worth a wise man's chusing.

**A BOOK.**

With words unnumber'd I abound,  
In me mankind take much delight,  
In me great store of learning's found,  
Yet I can neither read nor write.

### A TEA-KETTLE.

My body is both plump and round,  
 With comely neck and breast,  
 No brighter creature would be found  
 Were I but oftener drest.  
 But daily I am wearied so  
 By being used much,  
 I black as any negro go,  
 Nor scarce am fit to touch.

### A BELL.

When mortals are involv'd in ills,  
 I sing with mournful voice ;  
 If mirth their hearts in gladness fills,  
 I celebrate their joys.  
 And as the lark with warbling throat,  
 Ascends upon the wing ;  
 So I lift up my cheerful note,  
 And as I mount I sing.

### A CANDLE.

A tall and slender shape I bear,  
 No lady's skin more white or fair ;  
 My life is short and doth decay  
 So soon, it seldom lasts a day.  
 If in the evening brought to light,  
 I make my exit in the night ;  
 Yet to mankind I'm useful ever,  
 And many hidden things discover,  
 Which makes all those who round me tread,  
 Oft with a sigh lament my end.

### A PIPE.

I'm of the same materials made as you,  
 Have native ignorance and beauty too,  
 But when I fly for safety to your arms,  
 You to a foreigner resign my charms ;  
 He to defile me thinks it no offence,  
 And rudely robs me of my innocence : ◊

With inward rage I burn—but hug the foe,  
 And breathe out vengeance wheresoe'er I go.  
 Nay, while thus lovingly we seem t' agree,  
 I serve him just as Jove did Semele,  
 For ere from me the thoughtless sot retires,  
 By my embrace consum'd he soon expires.

### THE HIGHWAY.

When Caesar did this ille invade,  
 I first experienc'd royal aid,  
 Nay, now to majesty belong,  
 Tho' subject to the vulgar throng.  
 Who with uncivil usage treat,  
 And trample me beneath their feet ;  
 With heavy burdens me oppress,  
 And money gain by my distress.  
 Yet all their insults I endure,  
 While they my given bruises cure ;  
 I am in every country found,  
 And traverse all the kingdom round,  
 Say, what's my name, that so well known  
 I am a common proverb grown.

### TAILORS SHEARS.

I can money procure,  
 For the rich and the poor,  
 If I open my mouth pretty wide ;  
 So that there's not a house,  
 Worth the skip of a louse,  
 But will for me a lodging provide.  
 Tho' with Tom, Will, or Bob,  
 I'm licens'd to rob,  
 And plunder my country all over ;  
 Yet however unjust,  
 I keep true to my trust,  
 And ne'er will my patron discover :  
 When engag'd for the great,  
 Or the minions of state,  
 You'd be shock'd at the havock I make ;

For I hack, cut and slay,  
 Whate'er falls in my way,  
 And send it to bell, for my sake.

*THE EYELIDS.*

In courts or cottages we may be found,  
 Our skirts with fringe of various dyes are bound ;  
 And as we are by Providence design'd,  
 A guard from harm t' a fav'rite apple join'd.  
 We ne'er rove long, nor far asunder stray,  
 But meet and part a thousand times a day :  
 When dark, like loving couples we unite,  
 And cuddle close together every night.

*TIME.*

I was before the world began,  
 And shall for ever last ;  
 Ere father Adam was a man,  
 Or out of Eden cast.  
 Your mirthful moments I attend,  
 And mitigate your grief ;  
 Th' industrious peasant I befriend ;  
 To prisoners give relief.  
 Make much of me if you are wise,  
 And use me while you may,  
 For you will lose me in a trice,  
 As I for no man stay.

*A SHADOW.*

My proper title I forsake,  
 And often that of other's take ;  
 Sometimes a king in stately pride,  
 With lofty majesty I stride,  
 In various shapes I'm known to be,  
 And often wait when miss drinks tea.

*A PAIR OF DICE.*

No twins could e'er with us compare,  
 So like in shape and size ;

Our bodies are like ermine fair,  
 As black as jet our eyes;  
 But tho' so like in every feature,  
 We rival brothers be;  
 Yet so obdurate is our nature,  
 We often disagree.  
 Sometimes we play the friendly part,  
 And sometimes act the foe;  
 Now transient happiness impart,  
 Then cause a future woe.  
 Thousands by us have curs'd their fate,  
 Plung'd in the gulph of sin;  
 Happy the youth who shuns the bait,  
 And dreads the fatal gin.

### A DOLL.

Like Lady Patch, in different dress,  
 I either sex can ape;  
 And like her all mankind confess,  
 Have comeliness and shape.  
 Had she the innocence of me,  
 And I her air and parts,  
 She would a perfect goddess be,  
 And I should gain more hearts.

### THE MOON.

There was a thing a full month old,  
 When Adam was no more;  
 But ere that thing was five weeks old,  
 Adam was years five-score.

### A PIN CUSHION.

Tho' you seem of me fond—for my safety provid'd,  
 And when you walk out take me close by your  
 side;  
 Yet you oft use me ill, which I take in good part,  
 Nor e'er murmur a sigh though I'm stabb'd to the  
 heart.

*AN ASS.*

What being's most despis'd by man,  
 And does him all the good he can;  
 Who bore the greatest Prince on earth;  
 That gave to righteousness new birth;  
 Who does sometimes o'er death prevail,  
 And health restore when doctors fail.

*A BEE-HIVE.*

We dwell in cottages of straw,  
 And labour much for little gains;  
 Sweet meat from us our owners draw,  
 And then with death reward our pains.

*A ROD.*

Great virtues have I,  
 There's none can deny,  
 And to this I shall mention an odd one;  
 When apply'd to the tail,  
 'Tis seldom I fall  
 To make a good boy of a bad one.

*A PAIR OF SCALES.*

Two twins we are, and let it not surprise,  
 Alike in every feature, shape and size;  
 We're square or round, of brass or iron made,  
 Sometimes of wood, and useful found in trade:  
 But to conclude, for all our daily pains,  
 We by the neck are often hung in chains.

*A PUMP.*

A head and body large I have,  
 Stomach and bowels too;  
 One winding gut of mighty length,  
 Where all my food goes through.  
 But what's more strange, my food I take  
 In at the lower end;  
 And all, just like a drunken rake,  
 Out at my mouth I send.



*A KEY.*

What force and strength could not get through,  
 I with a gentle touch can do ;  
 And many in the street would stand,  
 Were I not as a friend at hand.

*A DESK.*

Homer of old, in stories tell,  
 His Iliad put in a nut-shell ;  
 But did you know what I conceal—  
 Suppose a kingdom, commonweal,  
 At stake—here all the springs are found,  
 Which sets the wheel a-whirling round.  
 In me a thousand mischiefs lie,  
 A thousand pleasures I supply ;  
 In me are hid affairs of state,  
 In me the secrets of the great,  
 In me the merchant lays his dust,  
 In me the tradesman puts his trust ;  
 But hold—my being to explore,  
 Know I'm inanimate—no more.

*A SHUTTLE-COCK*

Tho' light my body is and small,  
 Tho' I have wings to fly withal,  
 And through the air may rove ;  
 Yet was I not by nature press'd,  
 In ease and indolence I'd rest,  
 And never choose to move.  
 'Tis beating makes me diligent,  
 When beat and on an errand sent,  
 I hurry too and fro ;  
 And like an idle boy at school,  
 Whom nothing but the rod can rule,  
 Improve at every blow.

*A LETTER.*

With a badge on my back,  
 Of red, orange, or black,  
 I travel the nation all over,

And however abus'd,  
 Without violence us'd,  
 Will never my business discover,  
 I'm of service to state,  
 To the poor and the great,  
 To the tradesman, mechanic, and beauty,  
 Some of whom I attend  
 Each day as a friend,  
 But to others bring sorrow and woe.  
 All kindly receive me,  
 And you may believe me,  
 Scarcely ever refuse me my pay;  
 For whoever does this,  
 Take it will or amiss,  
 With him not a moment I stay.

### A TREE.

In spring I look gay,  
 Deck'd in comely array,  
 In summer more clothing I wear;  
 When colder it grows,  
 I fling off my clothes,  
 And in winter quite naked appear.

### A CHERRY.

'Midst numbers round I spy'd a beauty fair,  
 More charming than her circling sisters were;  
 With blushing cheek she tempting of me stood,  
 At last I cropt her bloom and suck'd her blood;  
 Sweet meat she was, but neither flesh nor bone,  
 Yet in her tender heart she had a stone.

### THE LETTER A.

I'm captain of a party small,  
 Whose number is but five;  
 But yet do great exploits for all,  
 And every man alive.  
 With Adam I was seen to live,  
 Ere he knew what was evil;

But no connexion have with Eve,  
The serpent or the devil.

I on our Saviour's law attend,  
And fly deceit and voice ;  
Patriot and Protestant befriend  
But infidels despise.

Matthew and Mark both we have got,  
But to prevent vexation,  
St. Luke and John possess me not  
Tho' found in every nation.

### A PAIR OF TONGS.

My form is awkward, let me tell ye,  
Long my legs and large my belly,  
Webb'd my feet and short my waist,  
My head with orb of glory grac'd.  
My neck indented makes the show  
Of breast protuberant below ;  
And what your wonder more command,  
I use my feet instead of hands.  
Tho' such my shape, my station's warm,  
And many I preserve from harm ;  
So that the belles oft me caress,  
And beaux sometimes my aid confess ;  
Hence learn that all things have their use,  
That art or nature does produce.

### A BEAR.

Why should I my features sham,  
Who ugly to a proverb am,  
Fierce, obdurate, cruel, strong,  
Frightful to the old and young ;  
Yet, by early education,  
Hit the taste of every nation,  
Dance and exercise my staff,  
But to make spectators laugh ;  
Often ride before the great,  
Oft with the ministers of state ;

And tho' awkward is my mien,  
 I often on the stage am seen.  
 But to raise your wonder higher,  
 I to greater heights aspire ;  
 At table I my lord attend,  
 Please him and gratify his friend.

### A COCK.

For vigilance and courage true,  
 I've no superior, equals few ;  
 Which makes me by th' industrious priz'd,  
 But by the indolent despis'd.  
 Bold and alert I meet the foe,  
 In all engagements valour show,  
 And if he proves too proud to yield,  
 One falls before we quit the field.  
 But tho' with these perfections great  
 I am endu'd—such is my fate ;  
 They seize and to a stake me tie,  
 And bastinade me till I die.

### AN OX.

I know my owner, serve my feeder,  
 But have no notion of my breeder :  
 Who sought the means to change my nature,  
 And from a fierce unruly creature,  
 Made me useful to the nation,  
 As some who move in higher station ;  
 For I with gratitude abundant,  
 My owner's praise set forth redundant.  
 And fraught with virtues deem'd inherent,  
 May well he call'd the king's vicegerent ;  
 As I his subjects render stronger,  
 And die that they may live the longer.

### A HORSE.

The king and subject I assistance lend,  
 In war a firm ally, in peace a friend ;  
 To their diversions am a perfect slave.

At home submissive, but in battle brave.  
 When the shrill trumpet sounds I take the field,  
 Laugh at the pointed spear and glitt'ring shield ;  
 Bold and intrepid meet the daring foe,  
 Willing and able to repeat the blow ;  
 To peer or prelate I give health and ease,  
 The lady, merchant, and the peasant please ;  
 Nay, of such general use is my employment,  
 Without me life would scarce be worth enjoyment.

### A PARROT.

I from abroad a prisoner brought,  
 Was soon the English language taught,  
 And pleas'd my lord so well,  
 He took me home unto his house,  
 And introduc'd me to his spouse,  
 Where I in comfort dwell ;  
 For when the sky's serene and clear,  
 I walk abroad to take the air,  
 And to observe what passes ;  
 In learning half the tricks in town,  
 I make remarks on every clown,  
 And laugh at lads and lasses :  
 When tired with that I call a coach,  
 (Bold and regardless of reproach)  
 Then whistle, sing, and cough,  
 And having teas'd the man awhile,  
 With the imposture pleas'd I smile,  
 And bid the knave walk off.

### AN OWL.

My patron is wisdom—if wisdom you prize,  
 In me put your confidence, borrow my eyes ;  
 Who into a millstone can see full as far,  
 As the best of you all by the light of a star.  
 Could the Royal Society purchase my skill,  
 Or the wise men of Gresham like me have their will,  
 They ne'er had admitted pretenders to science,  
 And for learned members bid Europe defiance.

In short—had some wise ones but my penetration,  
It had long ago better far'd with the nation.

### A SHIP.

In me behold the height of human art,  
Hear what to me the elements impart ;  
My origin I owe to mother earth,  
It was the midwife forwarded my birth ;  
She gave me wings, and added to my voice,  
And Neptune made me his peculiar choice,  
To me committed his dominions vast !  
Love wav'd his sceptre, and the fiat pass'd ;  
I took possession without more delay,  
And hold the liquid empire to this day.

### A DRUM.

I am short let me tell ye,  
But have a big belly,  
Which a bodice lac'd round me restrains,  
I have also a head,  
But may truly be said,  
Do carry no guts in my brains ;  
My skull is so soft,  
That when taken aloft,  
You would swear I should soon shake asunder,  
For when I am beat,  
Till set down on my feet,  
And roar all the time loud as thunder,  
But the great ones of late,  
Who all pity'd my fate,  
Resolved to alter my station,  
Made me known to the fair,  
Who can now with an air,  
Call upon me for their recreation.

### A LOOKING-GLASS.

In gold and silver dress'd,  
I'm by belles and beaux caress'd ;  
Who on me each day attend,

As their counsellor and friend;  
 Here they practice harmless guile;  
 Artful glances, killing smiles;  
 Here they all their beauty show;  
 Here they string the bended bow,  
 Here the quiver's fraught with darts,  
 Which they aim at lover's hearts;  
 And never make a visit twice,  
 Without asking my advice.

*A COMB.*

I'm white as the neck of Susannah the fair,  
 Tho' my body sometimes is all cover'd with hair;  
 As a flounder am flat, as a batle am blind,  
 Yet good services to for the race of mankind;  
 The corses and coverts I traverse each day,  
 To drive from their holds and destroy beasts of prey,  
 Having two rows of teeth for engagement design'd,  
 They all fly before me like chaff before wind.  
 Now tell but my name, ye mammas or misses,  
 And those that stand by shall reward you with kisses.

*A LANTERN.*

One winter's evening in the dark,  
 As I cross'd o'er St. James's park,  
 I got an odd but civil friend,  
 To light me to my journey's end;  
 His cap to me did plain appear,  
 Like that of a fierce grenadier;  
 Black was the cloak that wrapp'd him round,  
 And his feet never touch'd the ground;  
 He seem'd of the infernal race,  
 With flaming fire about his face,  
 While from his nostrils issu'd smoke,  
 Yet all the way he never spoke,  
 Thus guarded I was carry'd home  
 But soon as to the door I come,  
 An opaque body interpos'd,  
 And the surprising scene was clos'd.

*A WATCH.*

When our master or mistress my services befriends,  
 I keep moving all day to make them amends ;  
 I inform them when breakfast and dinner is ready,  
 And in my duty surprisingly steady :  
 I speak when I'm bid, and if not hold my tongue,  
 Thus accomplish'd I'm welcome to old and to young.  
 Ev'n for their devotions instruction I give,  
 And can teach the extravagant heir how to live ;  
 But with them to the playhouse when I take a trip,  
 If not narrowly watch'd I oft give them the slip.

*A PAIR OF SHOES.*

Tho' good fellows we are,  
 We can't hope to be sav'd ;  
 From our very first day,  
 To our last we're enslav'd,  
 Our office is the hardest,  
 And food sure the worst.  
 Being cram'd with raw flesh,  
 Till we're ready to burst,  
 Tho' low in our state,  
 Ev'n kings we support ;  
 And at balls have  
 The principal share of the sport.

*A BUNCH OF GRAPES.*

My lords and gentlemen advance,  
 Come with a cheerful countenance,  
 And tell abroad my praise,  
 Whether you in the senate sit,  
 Or at the bar display your wit,  
 'Tis I your spirits raise !  
 I from the hero banish fear ;  
 I whisper in the poet's ear,  
 And teach him how to sing.  
 At my approach care steals away,  
 And all the troubles of the day,  
 Immediately take wing ;  
 'Tis I afflicted souls relieve,



To the desponding comfort give,  
 And make the statesman bold ;  
 The balm I yield, if well apply'd,  
 Extends its friendly influence wide,  
 And aids both young and old.

*THE RAINBOW.*

While tears drop down, behold how gay,  
 How beautiful my dress ;  
 Not Flora in the month of May  
 Does greater joy express.  
 As on her the short liv'd pride,  
 Sol's friendly beams bestow,  
 So I my charms, extended wide,  
 To the same patron owe ;  
 The elements are all combin'd  
 To form my transient beauty,  
 And I as God himself design'd,  
 Do my appointed duty.  
 Thus plac'd aloft to catch the eye,  
 Like beacon on a hill,  
 I tell not who comes to destroy,  
 Yet obviate future ill.

*A TEA POT.*

Tho' big my belly, long my nose,  
 And with one arm I strut ;  
 I make the fair their foes expose,  
 And keep my own mouth shut.  
 Before me they their secrets tell,  
 The news of all the day,  
 And for my silence I'm fed well,  
 But empty sent away.  
 Yet tho' they love my company,  
 And seem to me so civil ;  
 Sometimes you'd swear they thought that I  
 Had dealings with the devil.

*A ROSE.*

Emblem of youth and innocence,  
 With walls enclos'd for my defence,

And with no care oppress'd ;  
 I boldly spread my charms around,  
 Till some rude lover breaks the mound,  
 And takes me to his breast ;  
 Here soon I sicken and decay,  
 My beauty's lost, I'm turn'd away,  
 And thrown upon the street ;  
 Where I despis'd and rolling lie,  
 See no Samaritan pass by,  
 But numerous insults meet :  
 Ladies contemplate well my fate,  
 Reflect upon my wretched state ;  
 Implore th' Almighty's aid,  
 Lest you, (which heav'n avert) like me,  
 Shou'd come to want and misery,  
 Be ruin'd and betray'd .

*A RIBBON.*

Look at the rainbow in the sky,  
 See summer morning clouds pass by,  
 Go search the gardens and the fields,  
 Observe what bounteous nature yields ;  
 You'll scarcely find a flower or plant,  
 Whose beauty or colour I want ;  
 Thus furnish'd I oblige the fair,  
 And change my colour every year.  
 Attend the gen'ral, grace the lord,  
 And to both sexes joy afford.  
 But hold, methinks too far I go,  
 Being oft the messenger of woe.  
 Consult the glass with decent air,  
 My nature, use, and name declare.

*A never-failing Method for Women to get good Husbands.*

LADIES,

I presume you will confess, that I have undertaken very great task, it being an age that the Men set very high value on themselves, insinuating with all the assurance imaginable, that a Husband is the *Summum bonum* of all sublunary blessings, and the want of a Husband is the greatest affliction. They would make you believe, that a noble fortune, with all its agreeable accommodations, such as a charming dwelling, a pompous equipage, a rich furnish'd table, fine dress, a sincere and ingenious she Friend, with whom you may divide your sorrow, and double your joys, and in whose breast, as a sacred repository you may communicate the very secrets of your soul over a Pot of milk or tea. This and more than all this, viz. Dominion over yourselves, happy Freedom and dear loved Liberty, is all nothing, it signifies nothing without a Husband.

This is the theme our sex have so well improved and so cunningly managed, that you Ladies verily believe it yourselves as you do your Creed; and so it would be an *Herculean* labour, to go about rectifying your notions; tho' by the way, if I had any hopes of doing something to the purpose in this matter, I would, in charity to the Fair Sex, spend the same time that I intend in instructing you to get Husbands, in advising you to shun mankind, as you value your Repose, at least till they make fairer Propositions.

Well, then, Ladies, to come to the Business. If you design to marry, you must banish from your Countenance and Favour for ever, four sorts of Men, viz. a Beau, a Rattle, a Self-opinionated Fool, and one subject to the Hypo.

For admitting the Addresses of any of these will only protract Time, and come to nothing; for

they not knowing their own Minds one hour, will eternally teaze you. One while they'll be in all the Transports and Raptures of a passionate Lover; the next day forget they ever saw your Face.

And should you, by wonderful Chance, catch *Lysander* in the Noose of Matrimony, you are not the within the Reach of the Church's Prayers, *For out of Hell is no Redemption.*

First, then as to the Beau, the excrementitious Part of Conversation. He, *Narcissus* like, will be ever ogling himself in a Looking glass, and daily falling in Love with his own Phiz, though perhaps all the while but one Remove from a Monkey; while neglected *Celia* mobs up her own charming Face, pretends poor Creature to hate Jewels and Dress, because Fop must have a 50 Guinea Wig, &c. and whilst he is strutting in the Park or Play, the only Felicity left her is a pot of Coffee, and perhaps some generous She Friend, that comes to mix Tears with her, and condole her worse than *Egyptian* Slavery.

In the second Place, I would have you shun a Rattle, a Flutterer, a noisy Nothing, as the Pest of Family, and miserable is the Body that has such a giddy Head; the prudent Wife having *Penelope's* Task, to weave that Web that Monsieur *Chatter* ever unravels. Thus her Wisdom having got an Antagonist for Life, she must e'en fight her way throughout to the Regions of Rest, and never finish her Combat till in her peaceful Grave.

Beware, thirdly, of a Self-opinionated, grave, documenting Thing, the very *Grand Signior* for Tyranny, that nods at his Wife at Table, and speaks more by Winks and Signs than Words. Conversation of Mutes must certainly be very agreeable; and in a little Time, without the Trouble of Speaking to, *You'll know when to hold up your Head, Miss; how to stand and kneel at Church.* And being a Man of Literature, he will commend *Quarles's Emblems* to your study, and the more you get by Rote, the bet

ter he will esteem you; his grave Reprimands will often remind you of your School-mistress; and this confinement make you envy the *Virginia Drudges*, who are freed in seven Years. In short, you equal nothing but a Galley Slave: But if you are of a Spaniel-like Disposition; you may then hug your Shackles, and kiss your Chains.

Lastly, the Hypochondriacal, tho' they are Persons who design not much Harm, yet the unhappy she that promises to obey, has a devilish hard Task of it. With these you will lead such a sort of a Life as those in *Bedlam*; that is to say, quite renounce your Reason, and be obliged to call Black White, or the contrary, according to his Humour; For when Dear is dull, tho' you're never so gay, you must look pensive and melancholy, or else you're quite undone. For innocent Mirth will be taken for foolish Talking and Jesting. Again, when the Tide turns, and Deary's Spirits frisk in his Veins, tho' you may be of an even Temper, and know nothing what *Flatus* means, he'll think you disobliging unless you skip and play like a *Morrice-Dancer*.

*So between serious and gay,  
You'll divide all your life;  
Too cheerful or dull  
For such a Man's Wife.*

There's another sort of Wretch call'd a *Miser*, and Money is the only Idol he adores; if *Celia*, thro' the Benefit of a good Education, should have a just Estimate of Things and hate *Mammon*; yet in this Case she must vere about *East South East*, as the Wind turns for Advantage, or else be in Danger of a hotter fiery Furnace than *Nabuchadnezzar's*; there is no help for it, she must fall down and worship the Golden Image he has set up.

In short the Follies of young Men are out of the Reach of Expression; the Morosity of old Men not

to be endured; the Clergy are laughty, the Lait  
vicious.

Notwithstanding this, as in all general Rules  
there are some good Men which one would eve  
dare to marry; such a Man is not to be won wit  
Airs, and languishing Locks, fine dress, and twir  
ing the Fan; this only engages the Fop and Foo  
The person that I would recommend to your choice  
is a Man of Principles, as to Honour and Honesty  
Humility and Integrity, of calm Temper and inge  
nious Education, wise without the Character of be  
ing a Wit, religious without being superstitious,  
Lover of his Country, not stiff to a Party, beneficen  
and candid, without Partiality or Hypoerisy.

This is the good Husband I propose to you, La  
dies, but the difficulty will be how to get him. No  
the method I would have you pursue is to imitat  
the Character of *Soloman's wise Woman, whose Pri  
s above Rubies; the Heart of whose Husband ma  
safely trust in her.* For this Man, as every Creature  
loves his like; and the only Way to obtain him  
to resemble his Virtues.

Thus having performed the Task I undertook,  
beg leave to subscribe myself,

Your most humble Servant

H. Smith

*Of Dreams and their Interpretations.*

To dream of Fire, denotes Anger.

To dream you fly signifies hasty News.

To dream you fight and overcome, signifies Victory or Success over your Adversaries.

To dream you put a gold Ring on your Finger, signifies speedy Marriage; but if it seems to break or fall off, there will be a Disappointment in it.

To dream you see a Flock of Birds sing or chirp merrily, promises you good News; and that you soon shall grow rich.

To dream you swim in tempestuous Water, denotes you shall have much Trouble.

To dream you see the Sun and Moon broad, and every shining, signifies Honour and Riches, but if eclips'd Crosses and Disappointments.

To dream of finding small Pieces of Silver, denotes Disappointment in Trade and Business.

To dream you see a Purse hang by your Bed-side, with Gold in it, signifies you shall find hidden Treasures.

For a woman to dream another kisses her, signifies Barrenness or Disappointment in Love.

To dream you see and are kindly conversing with your Sweet-heart, promises Marriage.

To dream you are pursued and strive to escape, but cannot, signifies you'll fall into some sudden Danger.

To dream one's Teeth or Eyes fall out, signifies the Loss of some dear Friend.

To dream a Horse, or any other Creature you ride on, runs swiftly, and you can't stop it, denotes Captivity, and unexpected Losses.

To dream you put on new Apparel, signifies a Change of your Condition.

To dream of one or more Suns or Moons, signifies the Party to have so many Husbands or Wives.

To dream you are discoursing with Spirits, signi-

fies you shall discover secret Things.

To dream an old Woman is courting you, signifies Preferment by Marriage, but not without Crosses and Trouble

To dream you are in a spacious Chamber richly furnish'd, signifies Advancement by the Means of great ones.

To dream you hear Music, signifies Mirth and Jollity.

To dream of Dancing, betokens a happy Life.

To dream you carry Books, signifies you shall have Preferment by Learning.

To dream of the Cackling of Geese, signifies troublesome Visitants.

To dream you embrace, signifies Love in Marriage.

To dream you are at a Feast and greedy, denotes Sickness.

To dream of much Gold, denotes Riches

To dream you are fighting and overcome, betokens you Success over your Adversaries, or escaping by Strength, and Resolution in some Danger laid for you.

To dream you climb a Hill with Pain, betokens Difficulty in obtaining your Desire.

To dream Bees fly about you, and light on you, and do you no Harm, betokens many Friends, and Success in Love.

To dream you sing melodiously, betokens joyful Life in Marriage.

To dream you see Ants busy at their Work, denotes Riches to come by Industry.

FINIS.