

THE  
**HISTORY**  
 OF  
**VALENTINE and ORSON;**  
*To which is added,*  
 THE  
**COMICAL HISTORY**  
 OF THE  
*COURTIER and TINKER.*



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*VALENTINE and ORSON.*

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CHAP. I.

*The Banishment of the Lady Bellisant, who is delivered of Valentine and Orson, at one Birth, in a Wood.*

**I**T stands upon record, that Pepin, King of France, had a fair sister named Bellisant, who was married to Alexander, the Emperor of Greece, and by him carried to his capital at Constantinople; from whence, after having lived with great virtue, she was banished through the means of a false accuser, whom she had severely checked for his impudence; and though at that time she was big with child, yet she was compelled to leave her husband's empire, to the great regret of the people, attended only by a Squire named Blandiman.

After great fatigue and travel, she arrived in the forest of Orleans, where, finding her pains come thick upon her, she dismissed her attendant for a midwife, but before his return, was delivered of two lovely children, one of which was conveyed away by a she-bear, but she willing to save it, pursued on her

hands and knees, leaving the other behind. But before her return, King Pepin being a hunting in the forest, came to the tree where she had left the other babe, and causing it to be taken up, sent it to a nurse; and when it grew up, he called his name Valentine. Blandiman at length came back, and instead of finding his mistress, found her brother Pepin at the tree, to whom he declared all that had happened, and how his sister was banished through the false suggestions of the arch-priest; which when King Pepin heard, he was greatly enraged against the Lady Bellisant, saying, the Emperor ought to have put her to death. So leaving Blandiman, he returned with his nobles to Paris.

The Lady Bellisant having followed the bear to no purpose, returned to the place where she had left the other babe; but great was her sorrow when Blandiman said he had seen her brother Pepin, but could tell nothing of the child; and having comforted her for the loss of it, they went to the sea-side, took shipping, and arrived at the castle of the giant Fergus, in Portugal.

All this while the bear nourished the infant among her young ones until at length it grew up a wild hairy man, doing great mischief to all that passed through the forest; in which we will leave him, and return to the arch-priest, who did great mischief, until he was impeached by a merchant of having wrongfully accused the Empress; upon which they fought, and the merchant conquering, made the priest confess all his treasons.

The Emperor wrote about it to the King of France, and he was hanged.

## C H A P. II.

*Valentine conquers his Brother in the Forest of Orleans.*

NOW was Valentine grown a lusty young man, and by the King as greatly beloved as if he had been his own child; commanding him to be taught the use of arms, in which he soon became so expert, that few in the court dared to encounter him; which made Huf-ray and Henry, the king's bastard sons, exceedingly envy him -- At this juncture great complaints were made against the Wild Man, from whom no Knight had escaped with his life that had encountered him; which made the King promise a thousand merks to any one that should bring him dead or alive; which offer none dared to except; but Huf-ray and Henry desired King Pepin to send Valentine, with a view of getting rid of so powerful a rival in the King's favour; but his Majesty seeing their malice, was very angry; telling them, he had rather lose the best baron in the land.

However, Valentine desired leave of his Majesty to go to the forest, resolving either to conquer the Wild Man, or die in the attempt. Accordingly, having furnished himself with a good horse and arms, he set forward on his journey, and after hard travelling, he arrived in the forest; in the evening he tied his horse to a large spreading oak; and got up into a tree himself, for his security, where he rested for that night.

Next morning he beheld the Wild Man traversing the forest in search of his prey; at length he came to the tree where Valentine's horse stood, from whom he pulled many hairs, upon which the horse

kicked him; the Wild Man feeling the pain, was going to tear him to pieces, which Valentine seeing, made signs as if he would fight him, and accordingly he leaped down, and gave him a blow; but the Wild Man caught him by the arm, and threw him to the ground. Then taking up Valentine's shield, he beheld it with amaze, in respect to the colours thereon emblazoned.

Valentine being much bruised, got up, and came to his brother in great anger; but Orson ran to a tree, and then they engaged; but both being terribly wounded, gave out by consent; after which Valentine signified to Orson, that if he would yield to him, he would order matters so as he would become a rational creature.

Orson, thinking that he meant no harm, stretched forth his hands to him. Upon which he bound him, and then led him to Paris, where he presented him to King Pepin, who had the Wild Man baptised by the name of Orson, from his being taken in a wood. Orson's actions, during their stay there, very much amused the whole court, so that at length the duke of Aquitain sent letters, importing, that whoever should overcome the Green Knight, a fierce Pagan champion, should have his daughter Fazon in marriage. Upon which proposition, Valentine set out for that province, attended by his brother Orson, by which means he came to the knowledge of his parents, as we shall find hereafter.

### CH A P. III.

#### *The Fight between Orson and the Green Knight.*

**A**FTER a long journey, Valentine and Orson arrived at Duke Savary's palace in Aquitain; and

making known the reasons that they came there, were presented to Fazon, to whom Valentine thus addressed himself:

“Sweet creature! King Pepin has sent me hither with the bravest Knight in all his realm, to fight the Green Knight, who, though he is dumb and naked, is endued with such valour, that no Knight under the sun is able to cope with him.”

During this speech, she viewed Orson narrowly, and he her; but supper coming in, interrupted them, and they sat down to eat.

Whilst they were in the midst of their feasting, the Green Knight entered, saying, Noble Duke of Aquitain, hast thou any more Knights to cope with me for thy Daughter? Yes, replied the Duke, I have seventeen, and then shewed them to him.

The Green Knight then said to them, Eat your fill, for to-morrow will be your last.

Orson, hearing what he said, was much incensed against him, and suddenly rising from the table, threw the Green Knight with such force against the wall, as laid him dead for some time; which very much pleased the whole company.

Next day many Knights went to fight the Green Knight, but he overcame and slew them all, until at last Orson being armed in Valentine's armour, came to the Green Knight's pavillion, and defying him, they began the most desperate combat that ever was heard of, and the Green Knight made so great a stroke at him, as to cut off the top of his helmet, and half his shield, wounding him much.

But this served only to enrage the valiant Orson, who, coming up to him on foot, took hold of him; and pulling him from his horse, got astride of him, and was just going to kill him, but was prevented by

Valentine, who interceded with Orson to spare his life, on condition of his turning Christian, and acquainted King Pepin how he was conquered.

The Green Knight having promised to perform all that was desired, they led him a prisoner to the city of Aquitain; and the Duke received them with great joy, and offered the Lady Fazon to Orson; but he would not marry her till his brother had won the Green Knight's sister, Lady Clerimond; nor till they had talked with the enchanted Head of brass, to know his parents, and get the proper use of his tongue.

Which when the Lady knew, she was very sorrowful, because she loved Orson, and was resolved to marry none but him, who had so nobly conquered the Green Knight.

#### CHAP. IV.

*Valentine and Orson go in search of Lady Clerimond, who had the Brazen Head in her possession.*

VALENTINE and Orson having taken leave of the Duke of Aquitain, and his daughter Fazon, proceeded on their journey in search of the Lady Clerimond, and at last came to a tower of burnished brass; which, upon enquiry, they discovered to be kept by Clerimond, sister to Feragus and the Green Knight; and having demanded entrance, were refused it by the centinal who guarded the gate; which provoked Valentine to that degree, that he ran against him with such fury, that the centinal fell down dead immediately.

The Lady Clerimond beheld all this dispute, and seeing them brave Knights, received them courteously. Valentine having presented tokens from the Green Knight, told her he came there for the love

of her, and to discourse with the All-knowing Head, concerning their parents.

After dinner, the lady Clerimond took them by the hand, and led them to the chamber of varieties, where the Head was placed between four pillars of pure jasper; when, as they entered, it made the following speech to Valentine:

“Thou famous Knight of Royal extract, are called Valentine the Valiant, who of right ought to marry the Lady Clerimond. Thou art son to the Emperor of Greece, and the Empress Bellisant, who is now in the castle of Feragus in Portugal, where she has resided for twenty years. King Pepin is thine uncle, and the Wild Man thy brother; the Empress Bellisant brought you two forth in the forest of Orleans; he was taken away by a ravenous bear, and thou wast taken up by thine uncle Pepin, who brought thee up to man’s estate.—Moreover, I likewise tell thee, that thy brother shall never speak until thou cuttest the thread that groweth under his tongue.”

The Brazen Head having ended his speech, Valentine embraced Orson, and cut the thread which grew under his tongue; when he directly related many surprising things.

After which Valentine married the Lady Clerimond, but not before she had turned a Christian.

In this castle there lived a dwarf, named Pacolet, who was an enchanter; and by his art had contrived a horse of wood, and in the forehead a fixed pin, by turning of which he could convey himself to the farthest part of the world.

This enchanter flies to Portugal, and informed Feragus of his sister’s nuptials, and of her turning Christian, which so enraged him, that he swore by Mahomet he would make her rue it; and therefore



got ready his fleet, and sailed towards the castle of Clerimond, where, when he arrived, he concealed his malice from his sister, and also the two Knights, telling them, that he came to fetch them into Portugal the better to solemnize their marriage, and he would turn Christian on their arrival at his castle, all which they believed, and soon after embarked with him.

When he had got them on board, he ordered them to be put in irons, which so much grieved his sister Clerimond, that she would have thrown herself into the sea, had she not been stopped.

## CHAP. V.

*Pacolet comforts the Ladies, and delivers Valentine and Orson out of Prison.*

**W**HEN they were come to Portugal he put Valentine and Orson into a dungeon, and fed them with bread and water, but allowed his sister Clerimond the liberty of the castle, where she met the Empress Bellisant, who had been confined twenty years in the castle of Feragus.

She seeing her so full of grief, comforted her, enquiring the reason, which she told her.

The Empress was mightily grieved, but Pacolet comforted them, telling them he would release them all that evening, which he accordingly did in the following manner:

In the dead of the night he goes to the dungeon, where lay Valentine and Orson bound in chains, and touching the doors with his magical wand, they flew open; and coming to the Knights he released them, and conducted them to the apartment where Bellisant and Clerimond were, who were exceedingly

transported; but Pacolet hindered them from discouraging long, by telling them they must depart before the guards of Feragus awaked, which would put a stop to his proceedings. So Pacolet led them out of the castle, and having prepared a ship, he conveyed them to Lady Fazon, at the city of Aquitain.—Next morning when Feragus heard of their escape, he was enraged to the highest degree.

The Knights and Ladies being out of danger, soon arrived at Aquitain, to the great joy of Lady Fazon, who was soon after married to Orson with great solemnity; upon which tilts and tournaments were performed for many days; but Valentine carried the prize, overthrowing at least a hundred brave Knights.

## CHAP. VI.

*Feragus raises a mighty Army, and lays Siege to the City of Aquitain.*

**F**ERAGUS, to be revenged on them, assembled an army, and laid close siege to it, with a vast army of Saracens; when Duke Savary perceived it, he resolved to give them battle the very next morning, and accordingly he sallied forth with all his forces, but venturing too far, he was taken by the Saracens, and carried to Feragus's tent.

Now Orson was resolved to set him free, or lose his life; so putting on the armour of a dead Saracen, he called Pacolet, and went through the enemy without being molested, until they arrived at the tent where the Duke was confined; which done, they gave him a horse, and rode to the Christian army; on their return a general shout was made by all the army, Long live the Duke of Aquitain! which so

dismayed the Saracens, that they fled away in confusion, and the Christians pursued them till the night, obliged them to give over.

Soon after this victory, Valentine, Orson, the Ladies Bellisant, Clerimond, and Fazon, set out for Constantinople, to see the Emperor their Father, after they had leave of Duke Savary and his nobles, and were received with great joy.

At length the Emperor set out from Constantinople, after taking leave of his family to visit a strong castle he had in Spain.

While he was absent, Brandifer, brother to Fergus, invaded the empire with a very great army, and at length besieged Constantinople, where lay Valentine and Orson, the Green Knight, and all the ladies.

Valentine seeing the condition they all were in, resolved to give Brandifer battle, and thereupon divided his army into ten battalions, commanded by ten Knights, and sallying out of the city, began the fight with the Saracens, who drew up in readiness to receive them.

In the mean time the Emperor, who was at sea, returned homeward, and in his way he met a fleet going to the assistance of Brandifer, which bore upon him with full sails; whereupon exhorting his companions to behave like men, they made ready to receive them, and after a most bloody and obstinate battle, the Emperor got the victory, having slain many of the Pagans, and dispersed their ships.

After this victory, the Emperor commanded his men to put on the arms of the vanquished, as he did himself, thinking thereby the better to fall upon the besiegers his enemies; but the stratagem proved most fatal to him, as we shall hereafter find.

All this while the Christians and Valentine bravely

encountered Brandifer and his men, before the walls of Constantinople, sometimes getting, and sometimes losing ground: but at length Valentine came to the standard of Brandifer, where an Indian King ran against him with great force, but Valentine avoiding him, struck him with such fury as cleft him down the middle.

On the other hand, Orson and the Green Knight were not idle, but with their brandished swords cut themselves a passage quite through the Pagan army, destroying all that opposed them.

Soon after, news came that a mighty fleet of Saracens were entering the harbour; whereupon Valentine judged it was necessary to go thither, and oppose their landing, but it proved fatal; for in this fleet was the Emperor his father, who being clad in the Saracen's armour, Valentine by mistake ran him quite through the body with his spear; which when he knew, he was going to kill himself, had not his brother & the Green Knight prevented him; but getting a horse with an intent to lose his life, he rushed into the midst of the enemy, till he came to the Giant Brandifer, who, when he saw Valentine, encountered him so fiercely, that both fell to the ground; but Valentine recovering, gave him a stab, which sent him to hell, to see his false prophet Mahomet.

The Pagans seeing their King dead, threw down their arms and ran, and the Christians pursued them with a mighty slaughter. At last the pursuit being over, they returned to Constantinople, and Orson acquainted the Empress of the death of his father, but concealed by whom it was done.

Upon which it was concluded that Valentine and Orson should govern the empire by turns, with their wives, the Ladies Fazon and Clerimond, whose bro-

ther, the Green Knight was crowned King of the Green Mountain, the people of which were much delighted to have so brave a warrior for their King.

## CHAP. VII.

### *Valentine dies, and Orson turns Hermit.*

**N**OW Valentine being greatly vexed in mind for the death of his father, whom he had killed out of a mistake, resolved to make a pilgrimage to the Holy Sepulchre; and thereupon taking leave of his wife Clerimond, and giving the government of the empire unto his brother, he departed, to the great sorrow of all, particularly his brother Orson, and the fair Clerimond.

Valentine, after seven years absence, returned, dressed like a poor palmer, begging victuals at the gate of his own palace; and at length being sick, and about to die, he called for Clerimond, and made himself known to her, at which she was ready to give up the ghost.

At last, having recommended the care of her to his brother, and the Empress his dear mother, and blessing them, he turned on one side, and breathed out his noble soul from his illustrious body, to the great grief of all the valiant Knights of Christendom, to whom he had been a most noble example, and a generous reliever. But Clerimond never would espouse any one, but betook herself to a single life, always lamenting the loss of her beloved husband.

After his death, Orson governed the Empire with great wisdom and justice for seven years, till at length seeing the fragile state of human affairs, he gave the charge of his empire, wife, and children, to the Green

Knight, and then turning hermit, he became once more a voluntary resident of the forest and woods, where, after living to a great age, this magnanimous and invincible hero surrendered up his body unto never sparing death, and his soul to the immortal Deities, of whose attributes it had a true resemblance.

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## THE HISTORY

OF THE

## COURTIER AND TINKER.

### CHAP. I.

*The Courtier finds the Tinker asleep; he has him carried in that posture to his house; lays him on a Bed in a stately Room with rich Clothes by him; feasts and entertains him with fine Music; makes him drunk, and then conveys him back again.*

**A** COURTIER one day riding along with his retinue, espied a Tinker (who had been taking a very early draught to quench the spark in his throat) lying fast asleep, and snoring under a sunny bank, having made his budget into his pillow to rest his drowsy head upon; and the Courtier's country house not being far off, he immediately caused his servants to take him up very softly, and carry him thither, then to put him in a stately bed in the next chamber, pull off his foul shirt, and put on him a clean one, then convey away his old clothes, and lay rich ones

by him. This was punctually observed. The Tinker being thus laid, slept soundly till evening; when rousing up between sleeping and waking, and being dry, as drunkards usually are, he began to call for some drink; but was greatly frightened to find himself in such a palace, furnished with lights and attendants about him, that bowed to him, and harmonious music, accompanied with most charming voices, but none of them to be seen. Whereupon, looking for his old clothes and budget, he found a muff and rich attire glistening with gold by him, which made him fancy himself metamorphosed from a Tinker to a Prince. He asked many questions, but in vain, yet being willing to rise, the attendants arrayed him in the richest attire; so then he looked on all sides, admiring the sudden change of fortune, and as proud as a peacock, when he spreads his tail against the glittering beams of the sun. And being arrayed, they had him into another room, where was a costly banquet prepared, and placed him in a chair, under a fine canopy, fringed with gold, being attended with wine in gilded cups. At first he strained courtesy, but being intreated to sit down, the banquet being solely at his disposal, he fell to most heartily. Then after supper they ply'd him with so much wine, as to make him dead drunk, then stripped him, and put on his old clothes; they carried him as they had brought him, and laid him in the same posture they found him, being all this time asleep; and when he awoke, he took all that had happened before for a vision, telling it wherever he came, that he had really and verily dreamed he had been a prince, telling them as well as he could all that had happened, but plainly he saw now again his fortune would raise him no higher than to mend old kettles; yet he made

the following song for the fraternity to sing at their leisure :

ALL you that jovial Tinkers are,  
Come listen unto me:

I dream'd a dream that was so rare,  
That none to it I can compare,  
No Tinker such did see.

I thought I was a King indeed,  
Attired gay and fine;  
In a stately palace I did tread,  
Was to a princely banquet led,  
And had good cheer of wine.

But soon I found me in a ditch,  
That did no comfort lend;  
This shews a Tinker, though he itch  
To be a Prince, or to grow rich,  
Must still old kettles mend.

## CHAP. II.

*The Courtier buys all the stock of a Butter-woman going to Market; and how he served her for her Covetousness; which caused the saying, "That when a Woman scratches her Breech, Butter will be cheap."*

**T**HIS merry Courtier riding one day a hunting, met a country-woman in a narrow lane, with a basket on her head, which she carried as if it was heavy, and had almost tired her. He then asked her what she had in it? She told him, butter, and that she was carrying it three miles farther to market. O poor woman, said he, I pity thee, what wilt thou sell it for?—So much, Sir, said she.—Upon which he gave her the money, and taking the butter, clapt



it upon a tree, and calling his hounds, away he went, concluding what the woman would do, when he was out of sight. He got within-side the hedge, and lay close till she returned, and clawing off the butter, put it into her basket, and was about to be gone; when leaping over the hedge, and catching fast hold of her, he cried out, "O thou wicked covetous wretch! Art thou robbing me before my face? How much more then wilt thou do behind my back? But I will be so revenged on thee that whenever any one sees a woman scratching of her breech, they shall cry, 'Butter will be cheap;'" (and from thence indeed, that saying came) and so throwing her down, in spite of all her pleading, that it was a pity good butter should be spoiled, her resisting and entreaties were all in vain; for turning up her clouts, he so bedaubed her buttocks and thighs, and called his hounds to lick it off; while the poor woman cried out lamentably, expecting every moment she should be devoured in the bellies of these loud-mouthed voracious curs; but he suffered them not to hurt her, only sending her away with a greasy pair of buttocks, which she fell to rubbing immediately, as also doubting, lest there had been some collops taken out of them.

## C H A P. III.

*The Courtier's Trick upon the Tinker, for complaining that he could get no drink at his house.*

**T**HE Tinker I have before mentioned, not knowing the house where he had been so nobly entertained, and which he only took for a vision, and often walking that road and crying old brass to mend, had been called in to work, and was often asked var-

ious questions by the servants, and as often told them his imaginary vision; but they giving him no strong liquor, he often complained of it in the town, saying, 'Though some had praised Sir John's liberality, and how free he was of his liquor, yet for his own part, he could say no such thing, as having ever found him so stingy and niggardly, that not so much as one sup of his fam'd March or October beer could he get. This being babbled about, came to the Courtier's ears, who was resolved to punish his sauciness, though in a comical way: So one day as he was passing by, he ordered him to be called in to do some work; and after he had done it, to come to him (as having laid all the scheme with his servants beforehand.) Come old fellow, said he, you look as if you were as dry as Vulcan. What say you, if I should order you where you may have your full of good drink? Would not you be glad of it? Ay, Master, said he, making a nod and a scrape, God's blessing on your heart for it, and I thank you too.

Upon this, he ordered his butler to have him down, and be sure not to stint him, but let him have his full swill: They instantly went, and the Tinker followed them very joyfully; but they had no sooner gotten him down, but shutting to the door close, they ordered him to strip immediately; at the which he much wondered, and began to make excuses on account of the blackness of his hide, which would be very undecent and unseemly. But they pretended it was the way of the cellar, when a new comer was to be made free of it, but never after, how oft soever he came. He being willing to comply, that he might have his skin full of good liquor, that might prove both as meat and cloth to him; off went his leathern doublet, breeches, shoes, stockings, and hat; as for

shirt he had none, having pawned it to his hostess that morning for three noggins of brandy. Then taking a frisk or two in a merry vein, they surprisingly whipt him up by the heels, and put him into a full butt of strong beer, the upper head being taken up for that purpose. So he dipped over head and ears like a duck that dives. Yet after he had recovered his legs, it was but just shoulder deep, for when upon winding of the horn; whilst he would have been scrambling out, down came Sir John, demanding what was the matter. They told him, "The Tinker was not content to drink full horns at the cock, but would needs get in to drink all at a draught."—"Aye," said he, "this is a thirsty soul indeed; but since he undertakes to drink it, he shall do it, for none of my servants shall drink it now, he has washed his dirty hide in it;" crying to him with an angry voice, "Sirrah, you rogue, drink it as you proposed, or it shall be worse for you;" and while he stood shivering up to his neck, and was endeavouring to lay the blame upon others, the Courtier seemed impatient to be dallied with, drew a broad sword that was two-edged, protesting his head should go off for abusing his good liquor, was there no more Tinkers in the world, and with that, making a full blow at him, as the Tinker believed, and seeing him in such a passion, he to avoid the coming stroke, dropped down over head and ears, staying under as long as he could, and peeping up, and seeing the threatening danger, he dropt down again for six or seven times. 'Till fearing to carry the jest too far, he gave him a short respite, telling him, "Now he could not report abroad he was so very niggardly of his drink, for he had or might have enough of it."—Then bidding his servants to take him out, and order

him to depart, or drink it up, which he thought fit. And thus he went away laughing. The Tinker, who was at first very angry, but being cheered up with a cordial dram, and so made sensible that all this was but a frolick, and that for the future, their master would be his good friend if he behaved civilly. He was pacified, and so putting on his clothes, he beat the road for a gang of merry fellows of his acquaintance, informing them, there was a hogshhead of March beer at Sir John's, which they all might be partakers of if they chused; they came joyfully, and had it brought into the court-yard, in black jacks. — After they had drunk it, the linker told them the cause of its being given away, was because there was a swine that had unexpectedly fallen into it; but on further enquiry he told them all the circumstances, which set them a laughing till their sides were almost crackt. Afterwards they had plenty of victuals sent them, and the Tinker being thus made free of the cellar, was ordered to call at the house, and have victuals and drink as often as he came that way. — And so they departed, spreading the fame of Sir John in every place they came, as a bountiful benefactor: singing as they went, the following song:

Good house-keeping, they say, is fled,  
 Or hawks or hounds, and whores have rid her;  
 But we say she's not fled nor dead,  
 Who have so plentiful beheld her.

Long may he flourish in this nation,  
 And get it praised as of old;  
 That we by following the French fashion,  
 May not make charity grow cold.

## C H A' P. IV.

*A Comical Trick he made the Tinker serve an old Farmer, who used to ride sleeping, making him think that his Horse was the Devil.*

THE Tinker being better pleased with his treatment, often frequented the house, making the Knight merry with his pleasant songs, &c. so that he was much pleased with his conversation, and often gave him money, and one day put him upon a frolick, seeing him an apt fellow. He had seen an old curmudgeon farmer, sleeping and nodding on his horse, as he came from market, and giving the Tinker directions what to do, when he should come by, knowing his hour, and delivering him a parcel of crackers and other fire-works, he caused him to be dressed in a raw hide with horns, when the Tinker, according to order, with the help of a servant, having stopped the farmer's horse, while the rider was sleeping, pitched four stakes, one at each corner of the pannel, and ungirting, he drew the horse from under, when taking off the bridle, he put his own head into the headstal, so then after he placed the fireworks under the pannel, he put a fuze lighted to them, and so kept motion as the horse used to do with the nodding farmer, who having the reins about his wrist, by his kicking he awaked, and seeing himself on a frightful beast, which he took for Beelzebub, he cried out, when the fire-work taking, blew up him and the pannel, and made him to fall quash to the ground, so that the Tinker made off with the stakes and pannel. The old man no sooner got up, but he fell to running, crying out, "The Devil, the Devil," and never durst come that way again but in company, rather chusing to go five miles about.

## CHAP. V.

*The Tinker complains to the Courtier of a Butcher's Dog that often assaulted him. The Courtier, in the Tinker's habit, fights and kills him; and of his Examination before a Justice.*

**T**HE Tinker being rewarded with a crown for his dexterity, went away; but one day being in merry talk with our Courtier, he changed his tone sadly, and told him, That a butcher, on such a road, kept a lion-like mastiff-dog: that he was not so much afraid to encounter him, as that if he would kill him, the butcher, as he told him, would send him to jail, and punish him at the next sessions, having one Justice Clodpole on his side, who was his landlord, and whose house he served with meat, and doubted not would hearken to any thing he said against him although ever so false and unjust.

Sir John having listened to his complaint, and laughed, bid him be of good cheer, for himself would try the dog adventure. Upon this he ordered some clothes to be brought, which the Tinker stripping, put on, and the Knight put on his, except his shirt, and taking his budget, pike-staff, kettle, and hammer, away he went, beating his ketile, and crying, Work for a Tinker, till he came near the butcher's house. The dog soon heard the tink, tink, and away he runs open mouthed to meet the Tinker, they laughing to see how he would fright him; but Sir John having now thrown down his budget, was ready to receive him with the pike end of the staff, and after the dog wheeled, he returned and advanced eagerly to fly at his throat, but he thrust the pike of his staff into his breast; upon which he ran away howling, and tracing the ground with his blood, till

he came to his master's, where he died: at this, he was so much enraged, that he carried a constable, and seized the Knight, who purposely made no resistance: So taking him before a Justice, he made very great complaints against him.

The Justice very gravely demanded, what the fellow was brought before him for? The butcher said, 'An't please your Worship, for killing my servant.' 'Aye, said the Justice, he looks like a bloody-minded villain, therefore write his mittimus, and see he be well ironed, lest he make his escape.'

I beseech your good Worship not to be so rash and hasty, said the Knight, as to pass sentence upon me so hard. Pray ask this butcher what servant of his I killed? Ay, said the Justice, let him speak. "Then in truth," said the Butcher, "I ought in conscience to speak the truth; it was but a dog, but such a dog, as I say I would not have taken the best five guineas in the country for. Do you see me, Sir, he had rare qualities over other dogs; he would not only fetch home my sheep out of the field, when I wanted them, and save me that trouble, but do you see, Mr. Justice, he would go a sheep-hunting, and drive me home a couple, and sometimes half a dozen of wild sheep, which no body owned, or I did not think fit to enquire after, or they after me; so that he made me a thriving man; besides he was the safeguard of my house; and I believe, that he killed him on purpose that he might rob me."

"Ay, ay," said the Justice; "all this is true, and you speak like an honest man, and he looks indeed like a rogue, and I believe you; but however we can't indeed hang him for a dog; but I'll send him to jail, and there he shall lie and rot in his lousy linen, and drink kennel-water, and not one bit of meat, unless

now and then a roasted turnip, cooled on a burdock leaf." "This is a very hard sentence indeed, Mr. Justice," said our counterfeit Tinker. "No, no," replied the Justice, "it is too mild a one, for such a villain as you are." But; added, "I had like to have forgot a material point in his examination. Tell me, sirrah, how you came to kill this honest man's dog?" "Why, Sir," said he, "with the pike end of my staff, for running at me to bite me." "Aye, aye," said the Justice, "that was villainous in you; could you not have turned the other end, and given him a rap upon the pate?" "Yes," replied he, "if he had come to me with his tail foremost."

"Prihee, shew me, said the Justice, how he came at thee?"—"I will shew your worship; he came open mouthed, as I do to you now, crying, Bow, wow, wow." And here running against the Justice, overthrew him in his chair to the ground; so that he most loudly cried out Murder! and being got up, he ordered his mittimus to be made, reviling him at a desperate rate. But all on a sudden the tables were turned; for no sooner being asked, but he told his name. When up starts the Justice, and coming unto him with a low reverence, "Oh! Sir John," said he, "Is it you! who could have ever have thought it! I am heartily sorry for what I have said." Then turning to the butcher who stood wondering, said, "Sirrah, you rascal, do you keep dogs to assault gentlemen? but I will teach you better manners; come bind him over to the sessions directly, and if he has no bail, take him to jail. This is a pretty thing indeed, that people cannot pass the road peaceably for such rogues as you keeping dogs." But Sir John interposing, all was pacified, and the butcher went home with a flea in his ear.

FINIS.