

OS THE DUPE!

A Farce,

IN TWO ACTS.

Y MAS. COWLEY.

TOUR DAT THE THEATRES ROYAL.

With Remarks.



NEW-YORK:

Optioned by CHARLES WILEY, No. 3. Walk-atreet,
And II. C. CARLA & I. LEA, and MCARTA & DAVIS
Ph. delphi. and SAML. H. PARKER, Hoston.

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CORRECTLY GIVEN,

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DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.

	Drury Lane.
Doiley	Mr. Dowton.
Sandford	Mr. Holland.
Gradus	Mr. Bannister.
Granger	Mr. Decamp.
Servant	Mr. Evans.
Elizabeth	Mrs. Dormer.
Charlotte	Miss Mellon.

WHO'S THE DUPE?

ACT THE FIRST.

SCENE I. THE PARK.

Flower girls and several persons passing.

1 Girl. Ivow I han't had a customer to-day. Summer is coming, and we shall be ruined. When flow-

ers are plenty, nobody will buy 'em.

2 Girl. Aye, very true; people talks of summer, but, for my part, give me Christmas. In a hard frost, or a deep snow, who's drest without flowers and furs? Here's one of the captains.

Enter Sandford.

Flowers, sir!

Sand. I have no silver.

2 Girl. Bless your honour! I'll take gold.

Sand. Indeed !

2 Girl. Here's hyacinths, and a sprig of myrtle. Sand. I'd rather have roses. What will you take for these? (pinching her cheek.)

2 Girl. I can't sell them alone—the tree and the

roses must go together

Enter Granger.

Sand. Ah! Granger, by all that's fortunate. I wrote to you last night, in Devonshire, to hasten your return.

Grang. Then your letter and I jostled each other at two o'clock on this side Hounslow. My damned postilion—nodding, I suppose, over the charms for

15

some Greasalinda—run against the letter-cart, tore off my hind wheel, and I was forced to mount his one-eyed hack; and, in that curious equipage, arrived at three this morning.

Sand. But how has the negotiation with your brother ended? Will he put you in a situation to-

Grang. Yes, to take a sweating with the Gentoos. He'll speak to Sir Jacob Jaghire to get me a commission in the East Indies: and, you know, every body grows rich there—and then, you know, you're a soldier, you can fight. (in a tone of mimickry.)

Sand. Well, what answer did you give him?

Grang. Yes, Sir Bobby, I can fight (mimicking,) but I can't grow rich on the smell of gunpowder. Your true East India soldier is of a different genus from those who strewed Minden with Frenchmen, and must have as great a fecundity of character as a Dutch Burgo-master. Whilst his sword is in his hand, his pen must be in his cockade: he must be as expert at fractions as at assaults: to-day mowing down ranks of soft beings, just risen from their embroidery: to-morrow selling pepper and beetle nut: this hour, a son of Mars, striding over heaps of slain; the next, an auctioneer, knocking down chintz and calico to the best bidder.

Sand. And thus your negotiation ended?

Grang. Except that I was obliged to listen to some very wise dissertation about 'running out,' as he calls it. Five thousand—enough for any younger son, but the prodigal. (mimicking) Really, Sandford, I can't see how I can help it. Jack Spiller, to be sure, had nine hundred—the poor fellow was honest; but he married a fine lady, so died insolvent. I had a few more accidents of the same kind; my captaincy cost a thousand; and the necessary expenses in America, with the distresses of my fellow soldiers, have swallowed the rest.

Sand. Poor Granger! So, with a spirit to do honour to five thousand a year, thou art not worth five shillings.

Grang. Cest vrai. Should my affairs with Elizabeth be crossed, I am the most undone dog on earth.

Sand. Now tell me honestly, is it Elizabeth or the

fortune, which is your object?

Grang. Why, look'ye, Sandford; I am not one of those sighing milksops, who could live in a cottage on love, or sit contentedly under a hedge and help my wife to knit stockings; but on the word of a soldier, I had rather marry Elizabeth Doiley with ten thousand pounds, than any other woman on earth with a hundred.

Sand. And the woman must be very unreasonable, who would not be satisfied with such a distinction. But do you know that Elizabeth's father has taken the liberty to choose a son-in-law without your

permission?

Grang. Ha! a lover! That then is the secret she hinted, and which brought me so hastily to town. Who—what is he?

Sand. Every thing that you are not.

Grang. There is such a mixture of jest and earnest-

Sand. Upon my soul, 'tis confoundedly serious. Since they became my neighbours in Suffolk, I am in the secrets of the whole family; and, for your sake, have cultivated an intimacy with Abraham Doiley, citizen and slop-seller. In a word, the father consults me, the daughter complains to me, and the consin, fille-de-chambre, romps with me. Can my importance be increased?

Grang. My dear Sandford! (impatiently, Sand. My dear Granger! The sum total is this:—Old Doiley, bred, you know, in a charity-

school, swears he'll have a man of 'learning' for his son. His caprice makes him regardless of fortune; but Elizabeth's husband must have Latin at his fingers' ends, and be able to teach his grandsons to

sputter in Greek.

Grang. Oh! I'll study Hebrew, and write odes in Chaldee, if that will content him: but, may I perish, if all the pedants in England, with the Universities to back 'em, shall rob me of my Elizabeth!—See here——(producing a later) an invitation from her own dear hand.—This morning—this very hour—in a moment I shall be at her feet. (going)—Go with me through the Park.—Oh, no—I cry you mercy——You walk, but I fly.

[exit.

Sand. Propitious be your flight!—Egad! there are two fine girls—I'll try 'em—half afraid—the women dress so equivocally, that one is in danger of attacking a countess, when one only means to address a nymph of King's Place.

[exit.

to address a nymph of King's Place. [ex

SCENE II. AN APARTMENT AT MR. DOILEY'S.

Mr. and Miss Doiley at breakfast.

Doil. Here, take away—take away. Remember, we are not at home to nobody, but to Mr. Gradus. Serv. The formal gentleman that was here last

night, sir!

Doil. Yes, (snappishly) the gentleman that was here last night. [exit Servant] What I see you are resolved for to have poor Gradus's heart, Elizabeth!—I never saw you so tricked out in a morning before. But he isn't none of your chaps that's to be catched with a mountain head, nor knots, nor gewgaws.—No, no; you must mind your P's and Q's with him, I can tell you. And don't laugh now, when he's with you. You've a confounded knack at laughing; and there's nothing so odious in the eyes of a wise wan, as a great laugher.

Miss D. Oh! his idea is as reviving as burnt feathers in hysterics. I wish I had seen him last night, with all the rust of Oxford about him; he must have

been the greatest provocative to mirth.

Doil. How! What! a provokive to mirth!—Why, why, hussey, he was recommended to me by an antikary doctor of the Royal Society—he has finished his 'larning' some time; and they want him to come and drink and hunt in Shropshire. Not he—he sticks to Al Mater; and the College-heads have been laid together many a time to know whether he shall be a great judge, a larned physician, or a civility doctor.

Miss D. Nay, then, sir, if he's all this-laugh-

ing will be irresistible.

Doil. Non't put me in a passion, Betty; don't go for to put me in a passion. What would you have a man with an etarnal grin upon his face, like the head of a knocker? And hopping and skipping about like a Dutch doll with quicksilver in its heels? If you must have a husband of that sort, so be it—so be it—you know the rest.

Miss. D. Surely, sir, 'tis possible for a man who does not move as if cut in wood, or speak as though he delivered his words by tale, to have breeding, and

to-

Doil. May be—may be; but your man of breeding is not fit for old Doiley's son. What! shall I go fee to give the labour of thirty years to a young jackanapes, who'll come into the room with a dancing-school step, and prate of his grandfather Sir Thomas, his great grandfather, the general, and his great great-grandfather, merely because I can't tell whether I ever had one or no?

Miss D. I hope, sir, that such a man could never

engage inv

Doil. Pshaw! pshaw! you can't pertend for to judge of a man—all hypocrites and deceivers.

Miss D. Except Mr. Gradus.

Doil. Oh, he! He's very different from your men of breeding, I assure you: the most extraordinary youth that was ever turned out of college. None of your randans, up all night—not drinking and wenching. No, in his room—poring, and reading, and reading and studying. Oh, the joy that I shall have in hearing him talk! I do love 'larning.' I was grieved—grieved to the soul, Betty, when thou wert born. I had set my heart upon a boy; and if thou hadst been a boy, thou shouldst have had Greek, and Algebra, and jometry enough for an archbishop.

Miss D. I am sorry-

Doil. No, no; don't be sorry; be obedient, and all will be as it should be. You know I dote on you, you young slut. I left Eastcheap for Westminster, on purpose to please you —Haven't I carried you to Bath, Birmingem, and Warley Common, and all the genteel places? I never grudge you no expense, nor no pleasure whatsomever.

Miss D Indeed, sir, you are most indulgent.

Doil. Well then, don't thwart me, Betty; don't go for to thwart me, that's all. Since you came into the world, and disappointed your father of a son, 'tis your duty to give him a wise son-in-law, to make up his loss.

Enter Charlotte.

Char. Mrs. Taffety, the mantua-maker, is in your dressing-room, ma'am.

Doil. Then send her away: she hasn't no time

now for Mrs. Taffety.

Miss D. Aye, send her away, Charlotte. What does she want? I didn't send for her

Char. Bless me——'tis the captain. (apan-Miss D. Oh, heavens! (aside) Yes, I do remember——Aye, I did——I did send for her about the painted lutestring.

Doil. Bid her come again to-morrow, I say.

Char. Lord bless me, sir, I dare say she can't come again to-morrow. Such mantua-makers as Mrs. Taffety won't wait half a dozen times on people.—Why, sir, she comes to her customers in a chair of her own; and her footman beats a tattoo at the door as if she was a countess.

Doil. A mantua-maker with her footman and chair! Olud! Olud! I should as soon have ex-

pected a duchess in a wheel-barrow.

Miss D. Pray, sir, allow me just to step and speak to her. It is the sweetest gown—and I'd give the world were you as much charmed with it as I am.

Doil. Coaxing slut! [exeunt Miss. D. and Charlotte]—Where the devil can Gradus be now?—Well, good fortune never comes in a hurry. If I'd pitched upon your man of breeding, he'd have been here an hour ago—sipped his jocklate, kissed Elizabeth's fingers, hopped into his carriage, and away to his wench, to divert her with charatures of the old fellow and his daughter. Oh! before I'd give my gains to one of these puppics, I'd spend'em all in building hospitals for lazy lacquies and decayed pimps.

SCENE III. A DRESSING ROOM.

Miss Doiley and Granger.

Miss D. A truce to your transports! Perhaps I am too much inclined to believe all you can swear; but this must be a moment of business. To secure

me to yourself, are you willing to enter into measures that.—

Grang. Any thing! every thing! I'll have a chaise at the Park-gate in five minutes; and we'll be in Scotland, my Elizabeth, before your new lover has settled his address.

Miss D. Pho! pho! you're a mere bungler at contrivance; if you'll be guided by me, my father shall give me to you at St. James's church, in the

face of the world.

Grang. Indeed! Miss D. Indeed.

Grang. I fear to trust to it, my angel! Beauty can work miracles with all mankind; but an obstinate father—

Miss D. It is you who must work the miracle. I have settled the whole affair with my cousin, who has understanding and wit——and you have only to be obedient.

Grang. I am perfectly obedient. Pray give me

my lesson.

Miss D. Why, luckily, you know my father has never seen you: he left Bath before you had the sauciness.

Enter Charlotte, with a bundle

Char. There! you're finely caught! Here's your father and Mr. Gradus actually upon the stairs, coming here.

Grang. Zounds! where's the closet?

Miss D. Oh, Lord! here's no closet?——I shall faint with terror.

Grang. No back stairs? No elothes press?

Char. Neither, neither! But hore—I'm your guardian angel—(uniying the bundle) I told 'em Mrs. Taffety was here: so, without more ceremony,

rlap on these—speak broken English, and, my life for it, you'll pass muster with my uncle.

Grang. What! make a woman of me? By Jupi-

ter-

Char. Lay your commands on him. If he doesn't submit, we are ruined.

Miss D. Oh, you shall, I protest. Here, I'll put

his cap on.

Doil. (without) This way, sir; come this way— We'll take her by surprise—least preparation is best—(pulling at the door) Open the door!

Miss D. Presently, sir.

Doil. (knocking) What the dickens are you doing,

I say? Open the door!

Char. In a moment——I'm only pinning my cousin's gown Lord, bless me! you hurry one so, you have made me prick my finger.—There, now you may enter.

Enter Doiley and Gradus.

Doil. Oh! only my daughter's mantua-maker—
(Granger makes curtseys, and goes out, followed by
Charlotte) Here, Elizabeth, this is that Mr. Gradus I
talked to you about. Bless me! I hope you a'n't ill
—you look as white as a candle.

Miss D. No, sir, not ill; but this woman has fret-

ted me to death-she has spoiled my gown.

Doil. Why, then, make her pay for it, d'ye hear? It's my belief, if she was to pay for all she spoils, she'd soon drop her chair, and trudge a foot. Mr. Gradus—beg pardon—this is my daughter—don't think the worse of her because she's a little dashed or so.

Grad. Bashfulness, Mr. Doiley, is the robe of modesty, and modesty, as hath been well observed, is a subbeam to a diamond—giving force to its beauty,

and exalting its lustre.

Doil. He was a deep one, I warrant him, that said that. I remember something like it in the Wisdom of Solomon. Come, speak to Elizabeth there—

I see she won't till you've broke the ice.

Grad. Madam! (bows) hem—permit me—this honour—hem—believe me, lady, I have more satisfaction in beholding you, than I should have in conversing with Gavius and Gronovius: I had rather possess your approbation than that of the elder Scaliger; and this apartment is more precious to me than was the Lyceum Portico to the most zealous of the Peripatetics.

Doil. There! Show me a man of breeding who could talk so! (aside.

Miss D. I believe all you have said to be very fine, sir; but unfortunately, I don't know the gentleman you mentioned. The education given to women shuts us entirely from such refined acquaintance.

Grad. Perfectly right, madam, perfectly right. The more simple your education, the nearer you approach the pure manners of the purest ages. The charms of women were never more powerful—never inspired such achievements, as in those immortal periods, when they could neither read nor write.

Doil. Not read nor write! Zounds, what a time was that for to bring up a daughter! Why a peeress in those days did not cost so much as a barber's daughter in ours. Miss Friz must have her dancing, her French, her tambour, her harpsicholl, her jography, her 'stronomy—whilst her father, to support all this, lives upon sprats; or once in two years, calls his creditors to a composition.

Grad. Oh, tempora mutantur! but these exuberances, Mr. Doiley, indigitate unbounded liberty.

Doil. Digitate or not—ifackens, the ladies would take my advice, they'd return to their distaffs,

and grow notable-to distinguish themselves from

their shopkeepers' wives.

SCENE III.

Grad. Ah! it was at the loom, and the spinning wheel, that the Lucretias and Portias of the world imbibed their virtue; that the mothers of the Gracchi, the Horatii, the Antonini, caught that sacred flame with which they inspired their sons, and with the milk of their own pure bosoms gave them that fortitude, that magnanimity which made them conquerors and kings.

Enter a servant.

Serv. Sir, here's a lord! Lord Pharo!

Doil. Lord Pharo! hum, then the four aces run against him last night. Well, the ill-luck of some, and the fine taste of others, makes my money breed like rabbits.

(aside.

Serv. Sir-

Doil. Well, well, I'm coming. When a lord wants money, he'll wait as patiently as any body. Well, Mr. Gradus, I'm your humble sarvant. Elizabeth! you understand me.

Grad. How unlucky the old gentleman should be called away! Hem! (addressing himself to speak to her) There is something in her eye so sarcastic, I'd rather pronounce the terræ filius, than address her. Madam!—What can I say? Oh, now—that's fortunat- (pulling out some papers) Hem! I will venture to request your ideas, madam, on a little autographon, which design for the world.

Miss D. Sir !

Grad. In which I have found a new chronometer, to prove that Confucius and Zoroaster were the same person; and that the Pyramids are not so ancient, by two hundred years, as the world believes.

Miss D. To what purpose, sir?

Grad. Purpose !- Purpose, madam! Why, real-

ly, miss, our booksellers' shelves are loaded with volumes in the unfruitful road of plain sense and nature; and unless an author can clance himself from the common track, he stands as little chance to be known, as a comet in its aphelion. Pray, ma'am, amuse yourself.

Miss D. O Lord, sir! you may as well offer me a sheet of hieroglyphics—besides, I hate reading.

Grad. Hate reading!

Miss D. Ay, to be sure; what's reading good for, but to give a stiff embarrassed air? It makes a man move as if made by a carpenter, who had forgot to give him joints—(observing him) he twick his hat, and bites his thumb, whilst his hearers, his beholders, I mean, are gaping for his wit.

Grad. The malicious creature! 'Tis my picture she has been drawing, and now 'tis more impossible

for me to speak than ever.

Miss D. For my part—for my part, if I was a man, I'd study only dancing and bon-mots. With no other learning than these, he may be light and frolicksome as Lady Airy's ponies: but loaded with Greek, philosophy, and mathematics, he's as heavy and dull as a cart-horse.

Grad. Fæmina cum voce diaboli.

Miss D. Bless me, sir, why are you so silent? My father told me you was a lover——I never saw such a lover in my life. By this time you should have said fifty brilliant things—found a hundred similies for my eyes, complexion, and wit. Can your memory furnish you with nothing pat? No poetry—no heroics? What subject did Portia's lovers entertain her with, while she sat spinning—aye?

Grad. The lovers of that age, madam, were ignorant of frothy compliments. Instead of being gallant, they were brave: instead of flattery they stu-

Miss D. That down she tumbled in the dust—and there I beg you'll leave her. Was ever any thing so monstrous! I ask for a compliment, and you begin an oration—an oration on a parcel of stiff warriors, and formal pedants. Why, sir, there is not one of these brave, wise, godlike men, but will appear as ridiculous in a modern assembly, as a judge in his long wig and maccaroni jacket.

Grad. Now I am dumb again. Oh, that I had you at Brazen-nose, madam!—I could manage you there

Miss D. What! now you're in the pouts, sir? 'Tis mighty well. Bless us! what a life a wife must lead with such a being! for ever talking sentences, or else in profound silence. No delightful nonsense, no sweet trifling. All must be solemn, wise, and grave. Hang me, if I would not sooner marry the bust of Seneca, in bronze: then I should have all the gravity and coldness of wisdom, without its importinence.

Grad. The impertinece of wisdom !-Surely, madam, or I am much deceived, you possess a mind

capable of-

SBENE III.

Miss D. Now I see, by the twist of your chin, sir, you are beginning another oration;—but, I protest I will never hear you speak again, till you have forsworn those tones, and that manner. Go, sir; throw your books into the fire, turn your study into a dressing-room, hire a dancing-master, and grow agreeable.

Grad. Plato! Aristotle! Zeno! I abjure yc. A girl bred in a nursery, in whose soul the sacred

lamp of knowledge hath scarcely shed its faintest rays, hath vanquished, and struck dumb, the most faithful of your disciples. (enter Charlotte) Here's another she-devil, I'd as soon encounter a she-wolf. (coinc.

Char. Stay, sir, pray, an instant! Lord bless me! am I such a scare-crow? I was never run from by a young man before in my life. (pulls him back.

Grad. I resolve henceforward to run from your whole sex.—Youth and beauty are only other names for coquetry and affectation. Let me go, madam, you have beauty, and doubtless all that belongs to it.

Char. Lud! you've a mighty pretty, whimsical way of complimenting.—Miss Doiley might have discerned something in you worth cherishing, in spite of that husk of scholarship.—To pass one's life with such a being, seems to me to be the very apex of human felicity. I found that word for him in a book of geometry, this morning. (aside.

Grad. Indeed!

Char. Positively. I have listened to your conversation, and I can't help being concerned that talents, which ought to do you honour, should, by your mismanagement, be converted into downright ridicule.

Grad. This creature is of a genus quite different from the other. She has understanding! (aside)—I begin to suspect, madam, that, though I have some knowledge, I have still much to learn.

Char. You have indeed-knowledge, as you ma-

nage it, is a downright bore.

Grad. Boar! What relation can there be between knowledge and a hog!

Char. Lord bless me! how ridiculous. You have spent your life in learning the dead languages, and

are ignorant of the living .- Why, sir bore, is all the

Grad. Ton! ton! What may that be? It cannot be orthology: I do not recollect its root in the pa-

rent languages.

Char. Ha! ha! ha! better and better. Why, sir, ton means-ton is-Pho! what signifies where the root is? These kinds of words are the short hand of conversation, and convey whole sentences at once. All one likes is ton, and all one hates is bore.

Grad. And is that divine medium, which portrays our minds, and makes us first in the animal

climax! is speech become so arbitrary, that-

Char. Divine medium! animal climax! (contemptuously)-You know very well, the use of language is to express one's likes and dislikes: and a pig will do this as effectually by its squeak, or a hen with her cackle, as you with your Latin and Greek.

Grad. What can I say to you?

Char. Nothing ; -- but yield yourself to my guid-

ance, and you shall conquer Miss Doiley.

Grad. Conquer her! she's so incased with ridicule, there is not a single vulnerable spot about her.

Char. Pshaw, pshaw! What becomes of her ridicule, when you have banished your absurdities? One can no more exist without the other, than the mundane system without air. There's a touch of my science for you. (aside.

Grad. Madam, I'll take you for my Minerva-Cover me with your shield, and lead to battle.

Char. Enough. In the first place, (leading him to a glass)-in the first place, don't you think you are habited à la mode d'amour? Did you ever see a Cupid in a grizzle wig, curled as stiffly as Sir Cloudsley Shovel's in the Abbey ?- A dingy brown coat, with vellum button holes, to be sure, speaks an excellent taste: but then I would advise you to lay it by in lavender, for your grandson's christening; and here's cambric enough in your ruffles to make his shirt.

Grad. I perceive my error. The votaries of love commence a new childhood; and dignity would be as unbecoming in them, as a hornpipe to a Socrates.

—But habit is so strong, that, to gain an empress, I could not assume that careless air, that promptness of expression———

Char. Then you may give up the pursuit of Miss Doiley; for such a wise piece of uprightness would stand as good a chance to be secretary to the coterie,

as her husband.

Grad. It is Mr. Doiley, who will-

Char. Mr. Doiley! ridiculous—Depend on't he'll let her marry just whom she will. This Mr. Gradus, says he—why, I don't care a groat whether you marry him or no, says he—there are fifty young fellows at Oxford, who can talk Greek as well as he—

Grad. Indeed!

Char. I have heard a good account of the young man, says he. But all I ask of you is, to receive two visits from him—no more than two visits. If you don't like him—so; if you do, I'll give you half my fortune on the day of marriage, and the rest at my death.

Grad. What a singularity! to limit me to two visits.—One is already past, and she hates me—

What can I expect from the other?

Char. Every thing. It is a moment that decides the fate of a lover. Now fancy me, Miss Doiley—swear I'm a divinity—then take my hand, and press it—thus.

Grad. Heavens! her touch has thrilled me.

Char. And if I should pout, and resent the liberty, make your apology on my lips. (Gradus catches her in his arms and kisses her) So, so, you have fire, I perceive.

Grad. Can you give me any more lessons?

Char. Yes; but this is not the place. I have a friend—Mr. Sandford, whom you saw here last night—you shall dine with him: he will initiate you at once in the fashionable rage, and teach you to trifle agreeably. You shall be equipped from his wardrobe, to appear here in the evening a man of the world. Adieu to grizzles, and——

Grad. But what will the father think of such a

metamorphosis?

SCENE III.

Char. Study your mistress only: your visit will be to her—and that visit decides your fate. Resolve then to take up your new character boldly—in all its strongest lines, or give up one of the richest heiresses in the kingdom.

Grad. My obligations, madam-

Char. Don't stay, now, to run the risk of meeting Mr. Doiley; for, if he should discover that you have disgusted his daughter, Sandford, the dinner, and the plot, will be worth no more than your gravity. Away, I'll meet you at Story's Gate to introduce you.

[exit Gradus.]

Enter Miss Doiley.

Miss D. Excellent Charlotte! you've outgone my expectation—did ever a woodcock run so blindly into a snare?

Char. Oh, that's the way of all your great scholars—take them but an inch out of their road, and you may turn'em inside out, as easily as your glove.

Miss D. Well, but have you seen Sandford?—Is

Miss D. Well, but have you seen Sandford?—Is every thing in train?—Will Gradus be hoodwinked? Char. Hoodwinked! Why, don't you see he's al-

ready stark blind? or, if he has any eyes, I assure ye they are all for me.

Miss D. My heart palpitates with apprehension:

we shall never succeed.

Char. Oh, I'll answer for the scholar, if you'll undertake the soldier. Mr. Sandford has engaged half a dozen of the savoir vivre; all in high spirits at the idea of tricking old Leather-purse——and they have sworn to exhaust wit and invention, to turn our Solon out of their hanks a finished coxcomb.

Miss D. Blessing on their labours! Mr. Granger is gone to study his rival; and will make, I hope, a tolerable copy. Now follow Gradus, my dear Charlotte, and take care they give him just champagne enough to raise him to the point, without turning over it.

ACT THE SECOND.

SCENE I. AN APARTMENT.

Doiley asleep; a table before him, with bottles, &c.

Serv. Sir! sir! (jogging him) sir! What a pise! sure my master has drained the bottles, he sleeps so sound—Oh, no—(pours out a glass)—Here's t'ye, old gentleman! can't think why they send me to wake thee—am sure the house is always quietest when you're a snoring. (drinks, then awakens him.

Doil. Hey!—how! what! Is Mr. Gradus come? Serv. No. sir—but Mr. Sandford's above stairs,

and a mortal fine gentleman.

Doil. Fine gentleman!—aye—some rake, I suppose, that wants to sell an annuity.—I wonder where Gradus is—past seven. (looking at his watch.

Serv. His friends keep the gentleman over a bottle,

mayhap, sir, longer than he thought for.

Doil. He over a bottle!—more liker he's over some crabbed book; or watching what the moon's about, through a microscope. Come, move the things, and empty them two bottoms into one bottle, and cork it up close—d'ye hear. I wish Gradus was come.—Well, if I succeed in this one point, the devil may run away with the rest. Let the world go to loggerheads; grass grow upon 'Change; land-tax mount up; little Doiley is snug. Doiley, with a hundred thousand in annuities, and a son-in-law as wise as a chancellor, may bid defiance to wind and weather.

SCENE II. A DRAWING ROOM.

Enter Gradus, led by Charlotte, and followed by Mr. Sandford.

Char. Well, I protest this is an improvement!— Why, what with satins and tassels, and spangles and foils, you look as fine as a chemist's shop by candle light.

Grad. Madam, do you approve-

Char. Oh, amazingly -- I'll run and send Miss

Doiley to admire you.

Grad. (looking in a glass) Oh, if our proctor could now behold me! he would never believe that figure to be Jeremy Gradus.

Sand. Very true, and I give ye joy. No one would conceive you'd ever been within gun-shot of

a college.

Grad. What must I do with this?

Sand. Your chapeau brass-wear it thus. These

hats are for the arm only.

Grad. A hat for the arm! what a subversion of ideas! Oh, Mr. Sandford—if the sumptuary laws of Lyeurgus——

Sand. Damn it! will you never leave off your college cant? I tell you once more-and, by Jupiter, if you don't attend to me, I'll give you up; I say, you must forget that such fellows ever existed-that there was ever a language but English-a classic but Ovid, or a volume but his Art of Love.

Grad. I will endeavour to form myself from your instructions; but tarry with me, I entreat you-if

you should leave me-

Sand. I won't leave you. Here's your mistress -Now, Gradus, stand to your arms.

Grad. I'll do my best; but I could wish the purse-

keeper was Miss Charlotte.

Enter Miss Doiley.

Sand. Hush! Your devoted: allow me, madam, to introduce a gentleman to you, in whose affairs I am particularly interested ____Mr. Gradus.

Miss D. Mr. Gradus! It is possible.

Grad. Be not astonished, oh lovely maiden, at my sudden change! Beauty is a talisman which works true miracles, and, without a fable, transforms mankind.

Miss D. Your transformation, I fear, is too sudden

to be lasting

Grad. Transformation! Resplendent Virgo! brightest constellation of the starry zone? I am but now created. Your charms, like the Promethean fire, have warmed the clod to life, and rapt me to a new existence.

Miss D. But may I be sure you'll never take up your old rust again?

Grad. Never. Sooner shall Taurus with Pisces join, Copernicus to Ptolomy resign the spheres, than I be what I was.

Miss D I shall burst. (aside.

Sand. Well, you've hit it off tolerably' fer a coup

d'essai.—But pr'ythee, Gradus, can't you talk in a style a little less fustian? You remember how those fine fellows conversed you saw at dinner; no sentences, no cramp words——all was ease and impudence.

Grad. Yes, I remember. Now the shell is burst,

I shall soon be fledged.

Doily, entering, starts back.

Doil. Why, who the dickens have we here? Sand. So, there's the old genius!

Miss D. But I am assisted no

Miss D. But I am convinced now——I am convinced now this is all put on—in your heart you are

still Mr. Gradus.

Grad. Yes, madam, still Gradus: but not that stiff scholastic fool you saw this morning. No, no, I've learned that the acquisitions of which your father is so ridiculously fond, are useless lumber; that a man who knows more than his neighbours, is in danger of being shut out of society; or, at best, of being invited at dinner once in a twelvemonth, to be exhibited like an antique bronze, or a porridge-pot from Herculaneum.

Doil. Zounds! 'tis he! I'm all over in a cold sweat. (behind.

Miss D. And don't you think learning the greatest blessing in the world?

Grad. Not I, truly, madam—Learning! a vile

bore!

Doil. Do I stand upon my head or my heels?

Grad. I shall leave all those fopperies to the graybeards at college. Let 'em chop logic, or make English hashes out of stale Hebrew, till they starve, for me.

Sand. This is your resolution?

Grad. Fixed as Ixion on his wheel. I have no study now but the ton.

Doil. Indeed!

Grad. You shall confess, my friend, in spite of prejudice, that 'tis possible for a man of letters to become a man of the world. You shall see that he can dress, grow an adept in the science of taste, ogle at the opera, be vociferous at the playhouse, suffer himself to be pigeoned with an easy air at Boodle's, and lose his health for the benefit of his reputation in King's Place.

Miss D. Bless me! one would suppose you had been familiar in the bon ton all your life;—you have all the requisites to make a figure in it, by heart.

Grad. The mere force of beauty, madam—I wished to become worthy of you, and that wish has worked a miracle.

Doil. A miracle with a vengeance! Jaquet Droz'-

wood and wire-work was nothing to it.

Miss D. How different from what you was this

morning!

Grad. Oh, mention it not—This morning—may it be blotted from time's leger, and never thought on more! I abhor my former self, madam, more than you can: witness now the recantation of my errors.—Learning, with all its tribe of solemn fopperies, I adjure—abjure for ever.

Doil. You do?

Grad. The study of what is vulgarly called philosophy, may suit a monk: but it is as unbecoming a gentleman, as loaded dice or a brass-hilted sword.

Doil. Larning unbecoming a gentleman !- Very

well!

Grad. Hebrew I leave to the Jew rabbies, Greek to the bench of bishops, Latin to the apothecaries, and astronomy to the almanac makers.

Doil. Better and better.

Gran. The mathematics-mixed, pure, specula-

tive, and practical, with their whole circle of sciences, I consign in a lump to old men who want blood, and to young ones who want bread. And now you've heard my whole abjuration.

Doily, rushing forward.

Doil. Yes; and I have heard too—I have heard. Oh, that I should ever have been such a dolt, as to take thee for a man of larning!

Gran. Mr. Doiley! (confounded.

Doil. What! don't be dashed, man; go on with your abjurations, do. Yes, you'll make a shine in the ton!—Oh, that ever I should have been such a nincompoop!

Sand. My dear Mr. Doiley, do not be in a heat. How can a man of your discernment——Now look at Gradus—I'm sure he's a much prettier fellow than he was——his figure and his manner quite different

things.

Doil. Yes, yes, I can see that—I can see that—Why, he has turned little Æsop upside down; he's the lion in the skin of an ass. (walking about.

Grad. I must retrieve myself in his opinion. The skin, Mr. Doiley, may be put off; and be assured, that the mind which has once felt the sacred energies of wisdom, though it may assume, for a moment—

Miss D. So, so! (angrily.

Sand. (apart) Hark, ye, sir! that won't do. By heaven, if you play retrograde, I'll forsake you on the spot. You are ruined with your mistress in a moment.

Grad. Dear madam! believe me, that as for— What can I say?—How assimilate myself to two such opposite tastes? I stand reeling here between two characters, like a substantive between two adjectives.

Doil. You! you for to turn fop and maccaroni! Why, 'twould be as natural for a Jew rabbin to turn parson. An elephant in pinners—a bishop with rattle and bells, could't be more posterous.

Sand. Nay, now, my dear Mr. Doiley-

Doil. Dear me, no dears. Why, if I wanted a maccaroni, I might have had choice; every alley from Hyde Park to Shadwell Dock swarms with 'em—genuine; and d'ye think I'll have an amphiberous thing—half and half, like the sea-calf at Sir Ashton's?

Sand. Oh, if that's all, an hundred to ten Gradus will soon be as complete a character as if he had never learnt his alpha beta: or known more of the

classics than their names.

Doil. Oh, I warrant him. Now, what do ye think of the Scratchi, the Horsi, and the rest of 'em?

ave?

Grand. Oh, a mere bore! a parcel of brawny, untaught fellows, who knew no more of life than they did of Chinese. If they'd stood candidates for

rank in a college of taste, they'd have been returned ignorantur—Would they not, madam?

Miss D. Oh, certainly.—I could kiss the fellow, he has entered into my plot with such spirit. [exit. Doil. Why, you've been in wonderful haste to get rid of the igranter part—but as it happened, that was the only part I cared for; so now you may carry your hogs to another market; they won't do for me.

Grad. My hogs!

Doil. Aye, your boars—your improvements—your fashionable airs—your—in short, you are not the man I took you for; so you may trot back to college again; go, mister, and teach 'em the

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tone, do. Lord how they'll stare! Jeremy Gradus, or

the monkey returned from travel!

Sand. Upon my honour, you are too severe. Leave us, man——leave us——I'll settle your affair, I warrant. (to Gradus.

Grad. Not so easily, I fear, he sticks to his point, like a rusty weather-cock—all my dependence is on

the lady.

Sand. You'll allow Gradus to speak to Miss Doiley.

Doil. Oh, aye, to be sure—the more he speaks the less she'll like him. Here show Mr. Gradus the dressing-room. [exit Gradus] Give her another dose; surfeit her by all means.—Why, sure Mr. Sandford, you had no hand in transmogrifying the—

Sand. Yes, faith, I had. I couldn't endure the idea of seeing your charming daughter tied to a collection of Greek apothegms and Latin quotations; so I endeavoured to English him.

Doil. English him! I take it shocking ill of you, Mr. Sandford—that I must tell you.—Here are all my hopes gone, like a whiff of tobacco!

Sand. Pho! my dear Mr. Doiley, this attachment

of yours to scholarship is a mere whim-

Doil. Whim !—We'll suppose it is, I will have my whim. Worked hard forty years, and saved about twice as many thousand pounds; and if so much labour and so much money won't entitle a man to whim, I don't know what the devil should.

Sand. Nor I either, I'm sure.

Doil. To tell you a bit of a secret—lack of larning has been my great detriment. If I'd been a scholar, there's no knowing what I mought have got—my plum might have been two—my—

Sand. Why, doubtless, a little classical knowledge

might have been useful in driving your bargains for Russia tallow and whale blubber.

Doil. Aye, to be shure! And I do verily believe it hindered me from being Lord Mayor—only think of that——Lord Mayor of London!

Sand. How so?

Doil. Why I tended the common council and all the parish meetings for fifteen years, without daring for to make one arangue; at last, a westry was called about chusing of a turncock. So now, thinks I, I'll show 'em what I'm good for.—Our alderman was in the purples—so, thinks I, if he tips off, why not I as well as another?—So I'll make a speech about patrots, and then ax for their votes.

Sand. Very judicious!

Doil. If you'll believe me, I got up three times.— Silence! says Mr. Crier; and my tongue grew so dry with fright, that I couldn't wag it; so I was forced to squat down again, 'midst horse-laughs; and they nicknamed me Dummy, through the whole ward.

Sand. Wicked rogues! Well, I ask your pardon—I had no idea of these important reasons. Yet how men differ! Now the family of Sir Wilford Granger are quite distressed by the obstinate attachment to the sciences, of that fine young fellow I told you of this morning.

Doil. Aye! What's he Sir William Granger's son? Knew his father very well:—kept a fine study of horses, and lost many thousands by it; lent him money many a time—good man—always punctual.

Sand. Aye, sir, but this youth disappointed all his hopes. Mighty pleasant, to see a young fellow, formed to possess life in all its points and bewitching varieties, shrink from the world, and bury himself amiest obsolete books, systems, and schisms, whilst

pleasure woes him to her soft embrace, and joys solicit him in vain! Oh, it gave his father great trouble.

Doil. Great trouble! Dear me, dear me! I always thought Sir Wilford had been a wiser man.—Why,

I would have given the world for such a son.

Sand. He swallows it rarely! (aside) Oh, he piques himself on such trifles as reading the Greek and Latin authors in their own tongues, and mastering all the quibbles of our English philosophers—

Doil. English philosophers! I wouldn't give a

farthing for them.

Sand. Why, sure you have heard of a Bacon, a

Locke, a Newton-

Doil. Newton! oh, aye—I have heard of Sir Isaac—every body has heard of Sir Isaac—great man—

master of the Mint.

Sand. Oh, sir! this youth has found a dozen mistakes in his theories, and proved him wrong in one or two of his calculations. In short, he is advised to give the world a system of his own, in which, for aught I know, he'll prove the earth to be concave instead of spherical, and the moon to be no bigger than a punch-howl.

Doil. (aside) He's the man—he's the man!—Look'e Mr. Sandford, you've given a description of this young fellow, that's set my blood in a fernment. Do you—now, my dear friend, do you think that you could prevail upon him to marry my daughter?

Sand. Why, I don't know-neither beauty nor gold has charms for him. Knowledge-knowledge

is his mistress.

Doil. Aye! I'm sorry for that—and yet I'm glad of it too. Now, see what ye can do with him—see what ye can do with him!

Sand. Well, well, I'll try. He promised to call

on me here this evening, in his way to the Museum.

I don't know whether he isn't below now.

Doil. Below now! Ifackins, that's luckey—hang me if it isn't! Do, go and—and speak to him a bit—and bring him up—bring him up. Tell him, if he'll marry Elizabeth, I'll give him, that is, I'll leave him every farthing I have in the world.

Sand. Well, since you are so very earnest, I'll see

what I can do.

Doil. Thank'e, thank'e! I'cod! I'll buy him twice as many books as a college library, but what I'll bribe him—that I will. What the dickens can Elizabeth be about with that thing there, that Gradus! He a man of learning? Hang me, if I don't believe his head's as hollow as my cane. Shure, she can't have taken a fancy to the smattering monkey! Ho, there they are—here he comes! Why, there's Greck and Algebra in his face.

Enter Sandford and Granger, dressed in black. Mr. Granger, your very humble servant, sir, —I'm

very glad to see you, sir.

Grang. I thank you sir. (very solemnly. Doil. I knew your father, sir, as well as a beggar knows his dish. Mayhap, Mr. Sandford told you that I wanted for to bring you and my daughter acquainted—I'll go and call her in.

Grang. 'Tis unnecessary.

Doil. He seems a mighty silent man. (apart. Sand. Studying—studying. Ten to one he's forming a discourse in Arabic, or revolving one of Euclid's problems.

Doil. Couldn't you set him a talking a bit! I long

for to hear him talk.

Sand. Come, man! forget the old sages a moment. Can't the idea of Miss Doiley give a fillip to your imagination?

Grang. Miss Doiley, I'm inform'd, is as lovely as a woman can be. But what is woman?-Only one

of Nature's agreeable blunders.

Doil. Hum! That smacks of something! (aside) -Why, as to that, Mr. Granger, a woman with no portion but her whims, might be but a kind of a Jew's bargain; but when fifty thousand is popt into the scale, she must be bad indeed, if her husband does not find her a pen'worth.

Grang. With men of the world, Mr. Doiley, fifty thousand pounds might have their weight; but, in the balance of philosophy, gold is light as dephlogis-

ticated air.

Doil. That's deep-I can make nothing of it; that must be deep. (aside) Mr. Granger! the great account I have had of your larning, and what not, has made me willing for to be a kin to you.

Grang. Mr. Sandford suggested to me your design, sir; and as you have so nobly proposed your daughter as the prize of learning, I have an ambi-

tion to be related to you.

Doil. (aside) But I'll see a bit father into him though, first. Now pray, Mr. Granger! pray now -a-I say (to Sand.) Ax him some deep question,

that he may show himself a bit.

Sand. What the devil shall I say? A deep question you would have it? Let me see !- Oh, Granger, is it your opinion that the ancient antipodes

walked erect, or crawled on all fours?

Grang. A thinking man always doubts-but the best informations concur, that they were quadrupedes during two revolutions of the sun, and bipedes ever after.

Doil. Quadpedes! Bipedes! What a fine man he (aside.

Sand. A surprising transformation!

Grang. Not more surprising than the transformation of an eruca to a chrysalis, a chrysalis to a nymph, and a nymph to a butterfly.

Doil. There again! I see it will do—I see it will do: aye, that I will—hang me if I don't. (aside.

[exit, chuckling and laughing.

Grang. What's he gone off for, so abruptly?

Sand. For his daughter, I hope. Give ye joy, my dear fellow! the nymph, the eruca, and the chrysalis, have won the day.

Grang. How shall I bound my happiness! My dear Sandford, that was the luckiest question, about

the antipodes.

Sand. Yes, pretty successful. Have you been at

your studies?

Grang. Oh, I've been in the dictionary this half hour; and have picked up cramp words enough to puzzle and delight the old gentleman the remainder of his life.

Sand. Here he is, faith-

Grang. And Elizabeth with him-I hear her dear

footsteps! Oh, how shall I-

Doil. (without) Come along, I say—what a plague are you so modest for? Come in here, (pulls in Gradus by the arm) Here, I've brought him—one of your own kidney—ha! ha! ha! Now I'll lay you a gallon you can't guess what I've brought him for; I've brought him—ha! ha! ha! for to pit him against you (to Granger) to see which of you two is the most larned—ha! ha!

Grang. Ten thousand devils, plagues, and furies!

Sand. Here's a blow up!

Doil. Why, for all he looks so like a nincompoop in this pye-picked jacket, he's got his noddle full of Greek and Algebra, and them things. Why, Gradus, don't stand aloof, man—this is a brother scholar, I tell ve.

Grad. A scholar! all who have earned that distinction are my brethern. Carissime frater, gaudeo te videre.

Grang. Sir-you-I-most obedient. I wish thou wert in the bottom of the Red sea, and the largest folio in thy library about thy neck. (aside.

Sand, For heaven's sake, Mr. Doiley, what do you

mean?

Doil. Mean! why I mean for to pit 'em, to be sure, and to give Elizabeth to the winner.-Touch him up, touch him up! (to Granger) Show him what a fool he is.

Sand. Why, sure you won't set them together by

Doil. No, no; but I'm resolved for to set them together by the tongues. To cut the business short -Mr. Gradus! you are to be sure a great dab at larning, and what not; but I'll bet my daughter, and fifty thousand to boot, that Granger beats ye --- and he that wins shall have her.

Grang. Heavens, what a stake! 'Tis sufficient to

inspire a dolt with the tongues of Babel.

Sand. My dear friend, think of the indelicacy-

Doil. Fiddle-de-dee!—I tell you, I will have my whim—and so Gradus, set off. By Jenkin! you'll find it a tough business to beat Granger-he's one of your great genus men-going to write a book about Sir Isaac, and the moon, and the devil knows what.

(Miss Doiley and Char. enter at the back of the

stage.

Grad. If so, the more glorious will be my victory. Come, sir! let us enter the lists, since it must be so, for this charming prize; (pointing to Miss Doiley) chuse your weapons-Hebrew-Greek-Latin, or English. Name vour subject; we will pursue it syllogistically, or socratically, as you please.

Grang. (aside) Curse your syllogisms and socraticisms.

Doil. No, no, I'll not have no English—what a plague! every shoe-black jabbers English, so give us a touch of Greek to set off with—come, Gradus, you begin.

Miss Doil. Undone! undone!

Grad. If it is merely a recitation of Greek that you want, you shall be gratified. An epigram that occurs to me, will give you an idea of that sublime language.

Char. (aside) Oh, confound your sublime language. Grad. Panta gelos, kai panta konis kai panta to

\ meden

Panta gar exalagon, esti ta ginomena.

Doil. Panta tri pantry! Why, that's all about the pantry. What, the old Grecians loved tit-bits, may-hap—but that's low! aye, Sandford!

Sand. Oh, cursed low! he might as well have

talked about a pig-stye.

Doil. Come, Granger, now for it! Elizabeth and

fifty thousand pounds!

Grang. Yes, sir. I—I—am not much prepared: I could wish—I could wish—Sandford! (apart. Sand. Zounds! say something—any thing!

Char. (aside) Ah! it's all over. He could as easily furnish the ways and means, as a word in Greek.

Doil. Hoity, toity! What, at a stand! Why sure

vou can talk Greek as well as Gradus.

Grang. 'Tis a point I cannot decide, you must determine it. Now, impudence, embrace me with thy seven-fold shield! Zanthus, I remember, in describing such a night as this—

Grad. Zanthus! you surely err. Homer mentions but one being of that name, except a river,

and he was a horse.

Grang. Sir, he was an orator—and such an one that, Homer records, the gods themselves inspired him.

Grad. True, sir-but you won't deny-

Doil. Come, come! I sha'n't have no browbeating—nobody offered for to contradict you—so begin

(to Granger) What said orator Zanthus?

Grang. Yon lucid orb, in æther pensile, irradiates th' expanse. Refulgent scintillations, in th' ambient void opake, emit humid splendour. Chrysalic speroids th' horizon vivify—astifarious constellations, noctural sporades, in refrangerated radii, illume our orb terrene.

Miss Doil. I breathe again. (aside.

Doil. There! there! well spoke, Granger!—Now, Gradus, beat that!

Grad. I am enwrapt in astonishment! You are imposed on, sir,—instead of classical language, you

have heard a rant in English-

Doil. English! Zounds! d'ye take me for a fool? D'ye think I don't know my own mother-tongue!—
'Twas no more like English, than I am like Whittington's cat.

Grad. It was every syllable English.

Doil. There's impudence!—There wasn't no word of it English—if you take that for English, devil take me if I believe there was a word of Greek in all your try-pantrys.

Grad. Oh! the torture of ignorance!

Doil. Ignorant!—Come, come, none of your tricks upon travellers. I know you mean all that as a skit upon my edication—but I'll have you to know, sir, that I'll read the hardest chapter of Nehemiah with you for your ears.

Grad. I repeat that you are imposed on. Mr.

Sandford, I appeal to you.

Grang. And I appeal-

Sand. Nay, gentlemen, Mr. Doiley is your judge

in all disputes concerning the vulgar tongue.

Doil. Ave, to be sure I am. Who cares for your peals? I peal too; and I tell you, I won't be imposed on. Here Elizabeth, I have got ve a husband, at last, to my heart's content.

Miss Doil. Him, sir! You presented that gentleman to me this morning, and I have found such a

fund of merit in him-

Doil. In he! what in that beau-bookworm! that argufies me down, I don't know English? Don't go for to provoke me-bid that Mr. Granger welcome to my house-he'll soon be master on't.

Miss Doil. Sir, in obedience to the commands of

my father-(significantly.)

Doil. Sha'n't say obedience, say something to him

of yourself-he's a man after my own heart.

Miss Doil. Then sir, without reserve, I acknowledge your choice of Mr. Granger is perfectly agrecable to mine.

Doil. That's my dear Bet! (kissing her) --- We'll have the wedding directly. There! d'ye understand

that, Mr. Tri-pantry ?- is that English?

Grad. Yes, so plain, that it has exsuscitated my understanding-I perceive I have been duped.

Doil. Aye, well! I had rather you should be the

dune than me.

Grad. Well, sir, I have no inclination to contestif the lovely Charlotte will perform her promise.

Char. Agreed! provided that, in your character of husband, you will be as singular and old fashioned, as the wig you wore this morning.

Doil. What, cousin! have you taken a fancy to the scholar? Egad; you're a cute girl, and mayhap may be able to make something of him; and I don't care if I throw in a few hundred, that you mayn't repent your bargain. Well, now I've settled this affair exactly to my mind, I am the happiest man in the world. And, d'ye hear, Gradus? I don't love for to bear malice. If you'll trot back to college, and larn the difference between Greek and English, why you may stand a chance to be tutor—when they've made me a grandfather.

Grad. I have had enough of languages. You see I have just engaged a tutor to teach me to read the world; and if I play my part there as well as I did at Brazen-Nose, your indulgence will grant me ap-

plause.

THE END OF WHO'S THE DUPE.





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