

Nimble and Quick:

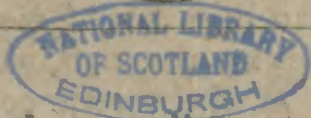
Pick and chuse where you will, here is Something to please every Body.

CONTAINING THE

HUMOURS of the AGE.

B E I N G

Whimfical, witty, diverting, comical
and useful Remarks, on the Vir-
tue and Vices of the Times.



Entered according to Order.

VIRTUES *and* VICES of the AGE, &c.

I NEVER think of a wife till I am hungry; and then I look out for a whore, in hopes she will bring me to a morsel of bread. I love strong beer but twice in the year; and that is in Winter and Summer. I hate Lawyers and Liars, because they breed wrangling and jangling. I would be a Soldier, was there all plundering and no fighting. I love a Clergyman that practices what he preaches; but we must mind what he says, not what he does. If ever I marry, I'll have the ugliest woman I can find, and then I shall be sure to have her to myself. Shew me a Poet, a Lawyer and a Quaker, and I'll shew you three Liars. Of all the men in the world, blind men walk the most upright, and they are the most charitable; for they never see any one's faults. Of all people, I pity Whores; for they hazard soul and body for a miserable livelihood. Was I a man in power, I would build Alms-houses for the rich, and maintain them at their own cost. The greatest

greatest folly in the world, is, to love the world. In ancient Ages, the world bragged of seven wise men, but now every one is wise in his own conceit; but tho' some are wise, yet the most are otherwise. Of all callings, I hate Quack Doctors, for, if they do good, the world shall hear fast enough of it. The greatest enemies the whores have, are the French-pox, and the small-pox; one spoils their face, and the other their constitution. I hate riches for the danger that attends them; for I would not have my throat cut for a bushel of gold. Ballad singers have the honestest trade in the world, for they always deal with ready money; it is also an ancient and an honourable employment, for Homer himself was one of the business. Sailors are the bravest and merriest fellows alive, when there is but an inch between them and their grave. Though the Astrologer be a wise man and tell future events, he seldom can tell the man that cuckolded him, or when. It would puzzle a Philosopher, who to give the preference to, a chimney-sweeper, or Tom-turd-
man,

man, seeing they are both useful and necessary. Tea and Tobacco are pernicious weeds, and grand thieves, and deserve hanging more than Highwaymen, for they pick the pockets of the whole nation. What's the difference between ale-drappers and linen-drappers; Only this, One cheats you with froth, and the other with cloth. If extortioners cannot enter the kingdom of Heaven, where must Usurers, Tallymen and Pawn-brokers go? By Cards and Dice a man is ruined in a trice; for gaming and whoring often hang together. Soldiers and Butchers are bloody near relations, for they equally live by killing and slaughtering. I never see a Taylor, but he puts me in mind of cabbage, nor a Miller, or a Weaver, but I think of a Thief. Actors and Apes are the greatest mimicks in the world; it is hard to determine whether they are rational creatures. Now good women and good small beer are hard to be found; yet those are good in their kind. A sober wise boy is preferable to a vicious grey-headed old fool; like as a living Dog is better than a dead

dead Lion. Number me the stars in the sky, and the sand on the shore, and then I'll number you the numberless faults of lewd women: yet a fair and virtuous woman is the pride of nature, and the glory of the universe; but, where shall I find her? Swearing and cursing is the language of hell; which wicked people take pains to learn before they go there. Beauty is the fairest flower in nature's garden, then who would doat on such a fading toy; yet, had I my will, all batchelors at the age of 20, should be obliged to marry, and live honest with handsome women for their own sake, and homely women, for charity, I would constrain wealthy misers to marry poor women, and rich ladies to marry poor batchelors, in order to bring the world on a level if possible. If I could dispose of Nature, I would have all hypocrites with two faces, because like watermen, they look one way, and row another. If all men's faults were writ in their faces, what a black scroll would there appear in their foreheads. Portioning of daughters,

-and

and building of ships are chargeable things; yet, after all our cost and pains, they prove but leaky vessels. If I had three sons and one of them a dunce, two should practise Law and Physic, and the third should be a Parson. There are five great rarities hard to be found, and those are, a black Swan, a Phoenix, a Unicorn, the Philosopher's Stone, and a maid at sixteen. There is one abominable practice I can't help reminding you of, that is, neighbours going to law about trifles, when their families have scarce food to eat. There are five things that are wonderful swift, viz. Fame, which, like a snow-ball, gathers as it goes, a Musket-shot that kills before you hear the report, the Sight that reaches the highest heavens in an instant, Thought that traverses the globe in an instant, and Lightning, which kills the child in the womb, and hurts not the mother, and also melts gold in a bag without singeing the bag.

Some say, that England is the garden of the world, but, as the King of France says, ' There is many a bitter
 ' weed

'weed in-it.'—Others call it a paradise for women, a purgatory for servants, and a hell for horses.

We have the handsomest women in the world, I must own, and we give them the greatest privilege, viz. The honour of the hat, the wall, and the third of estates, and the like, yet they seldom give any thing in return but a swinging pair of horns, and like the devil, if you humour them an inch, they will then take an ell; but still there is no general rule without exceptions; what I speak is upon the common humour of man, one story is good till another is told, in the mean time, give me leave to speak my thoughts, and those are, that I believe good husbands make good wives, and if they are bad, there are six of the one, and half a dozen of the other, so mend us all.

*And thus I've finish'd what I first propos'd,
And if I've more or less than truth disclos'd;
Then what you like not, excuse me for this time,
'Tis need makes old wives trot and Poets rhyme;
Therefore extend your halfpence if ye please,
And I'll pray for you all my remaining days.*



CURIOUS CONUNDRUMS,

BY WAY OF QUESTION AND ANSWER.

Quest. *WHY* is a man in debt like a nobleman?

Ans^w. Because he has many to wait on him.

Q. *Why* is swearing like a shabby coat?

A. Because it is a bad habit.

Q. *Why* is a bad pen like a wicked man?

A. Because it wants mending.

Q. *Why* is a church-bell like a good story?

A. Because it is often toll'd.

Q. *What* is a man like, that is in the midst of a river and cannot swim?

A. Like a man drowning.

Q. *Why* is a drawn tooth like a thing forgot?

A. Because it is out of one's head.

Q. *Why* is a book like a tree?

A. Because it is full of leaves.

Q. *Why* is a good sermon like a plumb-pudding?

A. Because there is reasons in it.