

A
NEW RIDDLE BOOK,

COMPREHENDING,

(Besides many others)

All the Riddles Contained in a

WHEISTONE for DULL WITS.

To which is added the Merry Tales, &c.

Thereto anexed

For the Entertainment of Youth.

FOUR wings I, have, which swiftly mount on high
On sturdy pinions, yet I never fly;
And though my body often moves around,
Upon the self-same spot I'm always found;
And, like a nurse who chews the infant's meat,
I chew for man before that he can eat.

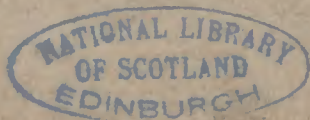
A WIND MILL.



DUNFERMLINE

Printed for and Sold by G. MILLER at whose Shop may be
had, a variety of Small Histories, Sermons &c. Catechisms,
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WHOLE SALE and RETAIL.



Of Merry Books this is the Chief,
 It is a purging Pill,
 To carry off all heavy Grief,
 And make you laugh your fill

A COLLECTION OF RIDDLES.

INTO this world I came hanging,
 And when from the same I was ganging,
 I was cruelly batter'd and squeez'd,
 And men with my blood they were pleas'd.
answ. A Pippin pounded into Cyder.

I'm white and stiff, it is well known,
 Likewise my nose is red ;
 Young Ladies will as well as Joan,
 Oit take me to their bed.
answ. A Candle.

A wide mouth, no ears nor eyes,
 Nor cooling flames I feel ;
 I swallow more than may suffice
 Full forty at a meal.
answ. An Oven.

Though of a great age,
 I am kept in a cage,
 Having a long tail and one ear,
 My mouth it is round,
 And when joys do abound,
 O then I sing wonderful clear.

answ. A Bell in a Steeple; the Rope betokens
a Tail and the Wheel an Ear.

I'm found in most countries; yet not in
earth or sea;

I am in all timber; yet not in any tree.

I am in all metals; yet as I am told,

I am not in iron, lead, silver, nor gold.

I am not in England, yet this I can say;

I'm to be found in Westminster every day.

I'm not in thought; yet never out of mind,

And in ev'ry moment you me find.

answ. The letter M.

I through the town do take my flight,

And through the fields and meadows green,

And whether it be day or night,

I never was, nor can be seen.

answ. The Wind.

My body's taper, fine and neat,

I've but one eye, and yet compleat

You'd judge me by my equipage,

The greatest warrior of the age;

For, if you do survey me round,

Nothing but steel is to be found:

Yet man I ne'er was known to kill,

But ladies blood I often spill. (*anf.* a Needle.

With words unnumber'd I abound;

In me mankind do take delight;

In me much learning's to be found,

Yet I can neither read nor write.

answ. a Book.

The first and the chiefest in riches I'm seen

Although I in poverty always have been ;
 And though I'm in rags, I'am set on a throne,
 For ev'ry one knows I've a right to the crown.

answ. The letter R.

I live in a study ;
 But know not a letter ;
 I feast on the muses,
 But never the better ;
 Can run over English,
 O'er Latin, and Greek,
 But none of the languages
 Ever could speak.

answ. a Mouse in a study

Clothed in yellow,
 Red, and Green,
 I prat' before
 The king and queen ;
 Of neither house
 Nor land possess'd,
 By Lords and knights
 I am carels'd. (*answ.* a Parrot.

I view the world in little space,
 am always restless, changing place ;
 No food I eat ; but, by my pow'r,
 Procure what millions do devour.

answ. the Sun.

Though the moment I'm born, as good Latin
 I speak,
 as a lad of long standing at school ;
 tho' my head-piece is good, I've four arms
 in my back,

and in yellow am dress'd like a fool.
 but however ill-form'd, however ill-dress'd,
 Let me go where I will, I am always cares'd.

answ. a new coined Guinea.

Of mirth the parent, and the child of art,
 a stranger to myself in ev'ry part;
 East-India has a native in my breast,
 the West my softness, and my fire the East.
 Whilst kinder climes my virtues to compleat,
 quicken my mildness, to correct my heat,
 thus perfect, yet humility I show;
 the more I am admir'd the less I grow;
 My faithful friends upon my ruin thrive,
 and see me dying as they grow alive.

answ. a Punch-bowl.

q. What fortune gives, I wear in state;
 a little thing does make me great;
 all admire me, when I wear it;
 Yet cares attend all those that bear it.

answ. a Crown.

I am a joiner, yet no man,
 I do the work that no man can:
 a builder too, and fabricks raise,
 without brick, or stone, that all amaze.
 a Chymist also, and prepare
 tinctures and balsoms the most rare.
 No nation but reports my fame;
 Now, if thou knowest me, tell my name?

answ. a Bee.

The greatest travellers that e'er were known,
 By sea and land, were mighty archers twain;

No armour proof, or fenced walls of stone,
 Could turn their arrows: bulwarks were in vain.
 thro' princes' courts, and kingdoms far & near,
 'as well in foreign parts as Christendom,
 these travellers their weary steps do steer,
 but to the desert they do seldom come.

answ. Death and Cupid, whose arrows pierce
 thro' the Walls of brals, or strong armour
 in all Courts and Kingdoms in the habitable
 World.

a dainty fine thing,
 Which under her wing
 My Lady does commonly wear,
 With a bottomless hole,
 as black as a coal,
 and cover'd all over with hair.

answ. a Muff.

a maid with a basket of eggs,
 She saw a thing stand without legs;
 'twas both stiff and strong,
 and some handfuls long,
 Having a brisk beard;
 She was not afraid,
 and likewise she said

She'd do it no wrong.

answ. an Ear of Rye Corn growing on
 the Land, which a maid saw as she was
 going to Market.

Two calves and an ape
 they made an escape
 From one that was worse than a spright;

they travell'd together
 In all sorts of weather,
 but often were put in a fright.

answ. a Man flying from his scolding wife ;
 the two calves and an ape signify the calves
 of the Legs and the Nape of his Neck, which
 by travelling were expos'd to the Weather.

It flies without wings
 between silken strings,
 and leaves, as you find,
 the guts still behind.

answ. a Weaver, s Shuttle.

It liv'd and dy'd : and after death ;
 bereav'd some hundreds of their breath ;
 assisted by a man of of grief,
 to whom it yielded some relief.

answ. Samson's Jaw-bone of an afs, wi
 which he slew a thousand Men, and was r-
 lieved himself by water springing from t'
 same, when he was thrifty.

To the green wood
 Full oft it hath gang'd,
 Yet yields us no good,
 'till decently hang'd.

answ. a Hog fattened with acorns, wh
 makes good bacon when hanged and dric

There was a fair maid,
 Who merrily said,
 Her lover was stupid and dull ;
 He put a long thing
 into a black hole,

and satisfied her to the full.

answ. a Pen.

I sent a token to my friend,
It was a pledge that had no end;
but when the same my friend did get,
My friend soon put an end to it.

answ. a Ring sent to an ungrateful person,
who sold it.

a thing with a thundering breccia,
It weighing a thousand welly,

I have heard it roar

Louder than Guy's Wild Boar,
they say it has death in its belly.

answ. A Cannon.

In pain was a Squire's daughter,
She hired a young man soon after,
tho' it is not much,

He gave her a touch,

Her sorrow was soon turn'd to laughter.

answ. A maid whose Knee was out of the
Joint, which being set, she rejoiced.

One mouth, one nose, two charming
eyes, two feet, two hands, two heads likewise.

answ. A young Virgin, whose Natural
Head and Maidenhead make two.

Altho' in number I'm the smallest,
Oe'r Kings I reign and beat the tallest.

answ. the Ace of trumps.

My backside is wood,
My belly's as good,

My ribbs they are lined with leather ;
 My nose it is brass,
 With two holes in my arse,
 And commonly us'd in cold weather.

answ. A pair of Bellows.

No teeth I have, and yet I bite,
 And when the bite is seen,
 according to my slender might,
 there are the marks of spleen,
 My beard is red and green.

answ. a Nettle.

Two brothers we are,
 Great burthens we bear,
 by which we are bitterly prest,
 In truth, we may say,
 We are full all the day,
 but empty when we go to rest.

answ. a pair of Shoes.

Rich yellow, and bright,
 Long, slender, and white,
 Both one in another there are ;
 Now tell unto me,
 What this riddle may be,
 Then will I your wisdom declare.

answ. A Diamond Ring on a Lady's Finger.

I am made of wood,
 Clear brass, found and good,
 To keep men that they must not cozen,
 I am twenty-four,
 And can be no more,
 Sometimes I'm reduc'd to a dozen.

answ. A two-foot Rule, being 24 Inches,
but when shut, no more than 12.

There is a precious thing
That always is on wing ;
When on my face it lies,
You'll find how swift it flies.

Ans. A Sun-Dial, which shew the swiftness
of Time.

A man and no man,
Like a fury laid on,
Sir Green was drowned in four :
With Sir White and Sir Black
He stood to the tack
Till all of them he did devour.

Ans. A Taylor at dinner with a dish of
cucumbers, served up with pepper, salt and
vinegar.

It has many eyes,
But never a nose,
When down from the skies,
Wind bitterly blows ;
And likewise does fall
Both hail snow and rain,
It faces them all,
And scorns to complain.

Ans. A Lettice Window.

To ease men of their care,
I do both rend and tear
Their mother's bowels still :
Yet though I do,
There are but few

That seem to take it ill.

Answ. a plough which breaks up the bowels
of the earth for the sowing of corn.

There are many teeth but ne'er a mouth,
A thousand at the least;

They are both east, west, north, and south,
But seldom at a feast.

Answ. a Pair of woolen cards.

My stomach they fit
Sometimes with a bit,

They give, and I am the receiver,
And what I do take,
Does commonly make

My fair face as hot as a fever.

Answ. a Box Iron; the heater betokens
the bit.

By the help of a guide,
I often divide

What once in a green forest stood.

Behold me though I

Have got but one eye,

When that is stopt I do the most good.

Answ. a Hatchet, with which they cleave
wood; till the eye is stopped with the haft it
cannot perform business.

A mighty row of ribs I have,
a back that's wondrous thin,
No belly, head, nor tail I crave,
Yet am a very useful thing.

Answ. a Comb.

Cloſe in a cage a bird I keep,
 That ſings both day and night,
 When other birds are ſaſt aſleep,
 Its notes yield ſweet delight.

Anſw. a Clock.

I'm carry'd quite thro' the city,
 ſeeming mighty pretty,
 No quarrel or wrangle I breed,
 My body is taper,
 I fear not a rapier
 Tho' ſtabb'd not a drop do I bleed.

Anſw. The ſcabbard of a ſword.

I'm puncheon and thick,
 My belly they prick
 With ſharp and pointed ſpears,
 Tho' many a head appears,
 There's neither eyes nor ears.

Anſw. a Pin cuſhion full of pins, whoſe heads
 have no eyes nor ears.

a viſage fair,
 and voice as rare,
 affording pleaſant charms;

Which is with us
 Moſt omniouſ
 Preſaging future harms.

Anſw. a Mermaid, which betokens deſtruction
 to Mariners.

By ſparks of fine lawn
 I am luſtily drawn,
 But not in a chariot or coach:
 I fly, in a word,

More swift than a bird,

What does the green-forest approach.

Ans. an arrow drawn in a bow by a gentleman archer.

My skin is black, my blood is sweet,

My heart resembles wood,

which there's something may be eat,

Tho' not exceeding good.

Ans. a Black Cherry.

My ears they run round;

and reach to the ground,

to the admiration of man;

The one part is dead,

the other well fed;

this riddle expound if you can.

Ans. a Horse and cart; the wheels betoken ears that reach to the ground; the horse is fed, the cart is dead.

a little informer,

Cloth'd in bright armour,

loved by men of degree,

It goes fine and neat,

Without legs or feet,

now tell me what this riddle must be

Ans. a Watch, in a silver case, the hand shews men the hour, while the silver betokens bright armour.

My back is broad, my belly is thin,

and I am sent to pleasure youth;

where mortal man has seldom been,

Tho' strange, it is a naked truth.]

Answ. a Paper kite, which mounts t
lofty air.

'Tis neither flesh nor bone,
Yet it passes on;
By which is fairly shewn
The length and breadth of man.

Answ. a Man's shadow, whilst he is walki
in the sun.

From five feet high,
Up to the sky
It reaches although it is round:
Now try your wits,
If fancy hits,
This riddle you'll expound.

Answ. The sight of a man's Eye.

Preferment lately was bestow'd
Upon a man, tho' mean and small;
a thousand then about him flow'd,
Yet he return'd no thanks at all;
But yet their hands are ready still,
To help him with their kind good will.

Answ. a Man in the stocks.

From whence I came 'tis hard to tell,
But this I'm sure is known full well,
That naughty boys for me do cry:
For me the dunce of school doth hie:
That with the poor I always stay,
and am what misers give away.

Answ. Nothing.

There's a little short gentleman,

that wears the yellow trews,
 durk below his doublet

For sticking of his foes.

er in a singing posture

Where'er you do him see,

and if you offer violence

He'll flap his durk in thee.

He's wiser than the sluggard,

Or any drunken faul,

By laying up his winter's store

that's quite averse to gall.

Answ. a Bee:

Two lookers, two crookers,

four hangers, four gangers,

and a flap to scare the flies away.

Answ. a Cow.

Men often boast of cunning skill,

and me as often strive to kill;

yet notwithstanding all their splutter,

make the farmer oft to mutter.

Answ. a Fox.

I Fly to many foreign parts,

Esteed by my spreading wings;

My body holds a hundred hearts,

say, I will tell you stranger things:

When I am not in haste I ride,

and then I mend my pace anon;

I issue fire out from my side.

The British youths this riddle con.

Answ. a ship.

am call'd by the name of a man;

Yet I am as little's a mouse,
When winter comes, I'm often seen,
With my red target near the house

Answ. A Robin red breast.

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

Answ. A Tree.

At night I timely go to rest,
and early with the sun appear ;
When mounted high I'm at the best,
'Tis my delight to please the ear.

Answ. a Lark.

What is it, which God never made,
Forbade, and is grieved to see ;
Yet has a living soul within,
and saved hopes to be.

Answ. a Cuckold.

A Wretch there is, whose growing wealth,
But serves to make him poorer still.
and tho' his chests their thousands boast,
They cannot once his belly fill.

Answ. The miser.

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

Answ. The moon.

Behold the Lilliputian throng,
 Nor male, nor female, old nor young ;
 Five inches tall, of slender size ;
 Who've neither mouth, nor ears, nor eyes,
 Who never from each other stray, }
 But stand in order night and day, }
 Like soldiers marshall'd in array, }
 a bloody ensign each both bear,
 Tho' none of them were trained to war.

There actions gentler passions move,
 and quench, or fawn the flames of love ;
 Soften the unrelenting fair,
 and soothe the Pensive statesman's care.

Nimble as thought, they skip, they dance,
 Yet ne'er retreat nor e'er advance.
 Nor order change, like the world's frame,
 always unalterably the same.

Tho' active, and to motion free,
 Yet move they never willingly :
 But in their secret caverns sleep,
 Time without end ; nor stir, nor peep,
 Until some heavenly genius comes,
 To raise them from their silent tombs.
 By pow'r unseen then up they spring,
 Without the help of leg or wing ;
 They mount, and as they mount they sing. }

answ. a Lady playing on the Harpsichord.

Tho you seem of me fond,
 For my safety provide,
 And, when you walk out,
 Take me close by your side ;

Yet when age advances,
 You call me away,
 and I to your frowns fall
 an innocent prey.

answ. a Dog.

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

answ. an Ass.

For vigilance and courage true
 I've no supperior, equals few ;
 Which makes me by th' industrious priz'd,
 But by the indolent despis'd ;
 Bold and alert I meet the foe,
 In all engagements valour show ;
 and if he prove too proud to yield,
 One falls before we quite the field.

answ. a Cock.

My patron is wisdom—if wisdom you prize,
 In me put your confidence, borrow my eyes,
 Who into a mill stone can see full as far
 as the best of you all by the light of a star ;
 In short had some wise ones but my pene-
 tration.

It had long ago better sar'd with the nation.

answ. an Owl.

Here follows several conical Questions.

QUESTION. I.

If six shillings and a farthing shall be paid by a select number of men, each paying equal share, how many shall there needs to discharge the same?

answer. Seventeen, each paying fourpence thing.

q. 2. How may a straw be laid upon the ground, that it may not be jumped over? they to whom you propose this question, will think it easy to be done: If it shall come to a wager, lay your straw close to the wall on the ground, and they will soon see it impossible to be done. So yielding the wager lost, it may occasion some laughter.

q. 3. If a Butcher sends his servant to market, and orders him, with twenty shillings, to buy twenty head of small cattle of several prices: that is to say; Weathers at six shillings a piece, Ewes at twelve pence, and Lambs at a groat; and to lay out all the twenty shillings, and to have twenty head, neither more nor less, how many of each must there be to compleat the number with the aforesaid money?

answer. Two Weathers, nine Ewes, and nine lambs.

q. 4. To lay a man's right hand upon himself, where he cannot touch it with his left, will seem strange to those who are unacquainted with the trick; and when they have tried, some will be ready to bet; they take their right hand and lay it upon the backside of their left elbow, and they will soon be obliged to yield the wager lost.

q. 5. How to make two Calves and an ape dance in the middle of the room before company.—When you propose to do this some will say you have the art of conjuration and that you are going to act the second part of Dr. Faustus: others will be curious to see what may be done in it: and the better to bring it about, will be apt to lay some small wager, that you cannot perform what was promised. Now, the wager being laid, rise from your seat, and whereas you promised to make two Calves and an ape dance, dance round the room yourself: and the calves of your legs, and the nap of your neck will dance with you which are what are mentioned,

Here follow merry Tales and comical Jest

IN the reign of Queen ELIZABETH, the County of Lancaster was much pestered with witches, whereupon the queen sent her judges down to try them. This being resolved to try the old men and women

whether or no they were witches. Now
 among many, was a poor man, who
 having a sort of wart on his side, doubted
 that he was a witch; therefore he desired
 his wife to let him go to the place, which
 was about thirty miles, there to be resolved
 of his doubt. His wife, being a very civil
 woman, gave him leave. Now after long
 travel, coming to the court, which was then
 sitting, he rushed in amongst them, and the
 cryer of the court observing it, demanded
 his name, and bid him give an account to the
 court of what he had to say. Marry, quoth
 he, they say these gentlemen can tell one
 whether a body be a witch or no, having a
 wart on my side, I am afraid I am so; I pray
 you'd resolve me. The cryer perceiving his
 ignorance, said, alas! man, thou art no
 witch: thou lookest more like a cuckold
 than a witch. Then making a leg to the
 court, he gave them thanks, and so return-
 ed home chearfully. His wife, meeting
 him at the town's end, said Husband, art
 thou a witch or no? No, wife, they tell me
 I look more like a cuckold. Husband, say
 they so, we will have them taken up for
 witches, for unless they were witches they
 could not tell that you was a cuckold.

A young woman being alone, a gentle-
 man came into her company, who, after a
 friendly salutation, asked how her husband
 did. She said, He is as cross and unkind
 to me as ever man was to a wife; so that

have but little comfort in his conversation; alas! quoth he, why do not you make her a cuckold? She smiling said, Sir, I cannot but you may.

A Welchman meeting with a bonny Scot began to brag of his wonderful adventures and long travels. The Scot replied, what have you learned in far countries? the Welchman said, he has learned to stop three holes with one peg? the Scotchman replied, this is a pretty trick; how is it to be done? why quoth the Welchman, put his nose in my arse, and then there will be three holes stopp'd with one peg.

An old woman in a country village had been such a wonderful cracker of nuts all her life-time, that at her death she willed, that a bag of nuts might be put in her coffin to lay her head upon, which was accordingly done; and the old woman was often seen after her death sitting in the church-porch cracking nuts. Now it happened that a couple of butchers had made a bargain to steal sheep out of a pasture ground adjoining to the church-yard: It was agreed upon between them, that one should sit in the church-porch and watch, while the other fetched sheep on his back to him. It is to be noted that the sexton was a lame man, and used to be carried on a man's back every winter morning to ring the five-o'clock-bell. Coming as usual, the butcher waiting for his companion, thought he had been coming

with a sheep upon his back, and said, Is it fat? Is it fat? the fellow, thinking it had been the old woman cracking nuts, was horribly frightened, and thereupon he threw the lame sexton down, crying Fat or lean, take him as he is, Mr. Devil; and then ran out of the church yard like a fellow distracted, leaving the poor affrighted sexton to crawl home upon all fours.

A country man having one son, named Jack, an unlucky boy, his father one day was about to chastise him for his wickedness; but Jack, getting from him by the help of a light pair of heels, turned about and cried out, you old sheepstealer. I can hang you if you will. His father continued to call him; but he said I will not come, you will beat me. No, said the neighbour coming by, said Jack go to your father, and he will not beat you. Trust him and hang him, quoth Jack. The neighbour calling to his father said, you will not beat him if he comes quickly? No, quoth he, I will not. Jack cried out aloud, Gaffer, wear him, for he will swear like any dog. At which the neighbour went away laughing, and left Jack and his father to fight it out fairly.

A citizen that was more tender to himself than his wife, usually in cold weather made her go to bed first, and when her fat buttocks had sufficiently warmed his place, he came and removed her out of it, and lay in himself; and to make himself merry, cal-

led her his warming-pan. She not being able to endure this indignity any longer, one night (Sir Reverence) beshit the bed. He ridded into it, and finding himself in a stinking condition, cried out, O wife, I am beshit! No, husband, says she, it is only a coal dropt out of the warming-pan.

A young gentleman, late of the country, having more wit than money, and not paying his chamber, study, or commons, was indebted to the house; and it was thereupon ordered that his chamber should be seized. He hearing thereof, cried, I'll remedy that; am resolved, and so presently went and took the chamber-door off the hinges, and locked it up in his closet. The officers coming to fix a padlock thereon, found themselves unappointed; and searching the room found not any thing worth their seizure.

Thus I conclude this little book
 Of Riddles, Jokes, and Tales,
 Which may creat a chearful look,
 When other method fails.

F I N I S.