

Of the Ape and the Fox.

A Paraphrase on one of the Centum Fabulae.

TO his four-footed Subjects through the Nation,
 The King of Brits thus issues Proclamation,
 Being well informed we have incur'd Disgrace
 By Harb'ring in our Realm a scandalous Race,
 A sect that have *No Tails*; These Presents are
 T'enjoyn such Miscreants, All and singular,
 Strait to depart our Land, or on Demurr,
 Our Laws Grand-Treason Penalties incurr.
 Sly *Reynard* strait sifts out this state Design,
 Turns Goods and Chattels All to ready Coyn.
 The unprojecting Neighbour-hood Admire,
 And Flock, th' Occasion of his March t'Enquire,
 Where 'mongst the Rest the ceremonious Ape
 Accosts him with *Grammatic* and formall *Scrape*.

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Bon jour Monsieur ! You pass for a prime Witt;
 But in this Project give small Proof of it.
 We of the *Cur-tailed Tripe* b'express Command
 Of our great *Cham* prepare to quit the Land;
 But why Sir shou'd you Budge, Whose Posterns bear
 A swashing Train well furd to guard your Rear?
 Had Nature lent me but an Inch of Dock,
 A Tuft to Shade, or scutt to grace my Nock,
 I shou'd Presume I had no Obligation
 From the late Act to take this Peregrination.

Then thus the *Fox*——You've spoke an Oracle,
 Doubtless your Gravity reads *Machiavill*.
 I must Confess I've no pretence to rail,
 Or Curse my starrs for stinting me in Tail;
 But grant my Train might with a *Commet's* measure,
 Suppose withall that 'twere his Highness Pleasure
 To say I've None: which if he once Assert,
 Nere doubt but he has Sycophants will swear't;
 Thus charg'd, shou'd I attempt my own Defence,
 (To give his Lawless Tyranny Preence)

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'Tis Odds but I am Dockt upon the Spott,
 And then for want of Tail poor *Reynard* goes to Pot,

The Round.

HOW Vain a Thing is Man whom *Toyes Delight*
 And *Shadows Fright!*
 Variety of *Impertinence*
 Might give our *Dorage* some *Pretence;*
 But to a *Circle bound,*
 We *Toil* in a dull *Round:*
 We *sitt, move, Eat and Drink,*
 We *Dress, Undress, Discourse and Think*
 By the same *Passions hurri'd on,*
Imposing or Impos'd upon:
 We pass the time in *Sport or Toil,*
 We *Plow the Seas or Safer Soil:*
 Thus all that we *Project and Do,*
 We did it many a year agoe.

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