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### **Frailties of fashion, or, the adventures of an Irish smock**

interspersed with whimsical anecdotes of a Nankeen pair of breeches

Illustrated with some of the most striking and humorous descriptions in high and low life, that fancy can suggest ...

**London, 1783**

Chap. XXII.

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me, who, at this moment, loves and adores you as much as she did till she saw C—.

Your truly afflicted,  
M. BAYNTUN."

"I shall send my maid, as I cannot trust any body."

We suppose, said Florizel, Lady Bayntun, in her hurry forgot the word *else*, as she is not an Irishwoman, though her mother, the celebrated Miss G—g, was born in the kingdom of St. Patrick.

C H A P. XXII.

*The chapter of obstinacy and good things;  
or bon mots pour la Bonne Bouche.*

**I** WONT, says *Lady Positive*—positively! what won't you do? replies *Lord Pliant*—Pray, my lady, what

what is it you will not do?—your ladyship has done almost every thing.

Why then to tell your lordship the truth, although I had nearly made use of a woman's reasoning—that I would not—because I would not—I will be explicit; “Pray do, my lady, you seldom are to me.”

In one word, fashionable as it is, I do not like a divorce. “Very well, my lady.” “No, very bad, my lord; divorces are very cruel things, they expose a woman to the world, aye, and in print too most frequently, as well as a man.”

“But, my lady, the *eclaircissement*?”

“Why then, my lord, I believe your Dutchman, and though he has made his advances very formidably, as one of the household, and wants to be upon the same establishment as the *rest*, I will not—I say, I will not let him.” “Let

“Let him, what my lady?”

“Get upon my establishment. I  
 “would sooner admit Count *Morpion*  
 “himself or any of his family, though  
 “they are very numerous; but then  
 “they are of good *extraction*, and  
 “many of them derived from *noble*  
 “*blood*.”

“Well then my lady, I may ven-  
 “ture to suppose that *Mynbeer Van-*  
 “*belter Schelter*, has not *helter skelter*  
 “made me a cuckold.”

“No, your lordship may be assured  
 “you have not been made a cuckold,  
 “*Helter skelter*.”

“My lady, that is sufficient—I  
 “would not mind being cornuted  
 “by a Turk or a Jew, or a French  
 “marquis—who by the bye never  
 “think of any thing but a *Ba-*  
 “*varoise* at *Madame Montigni's* up-  
 “on the *Boulevards*, but to be cuc-  
 kolded

" kolded by a Dutchman would almost  
 " make me curse father and mother,  
 " turn Turk, and dance naked in  
 " Moorfields, between Bedlam and  
 " St Luke's."

" My lord, I like your lordship's no-  
 " tion, but" [*enter servant*] Monsieur  
*Bon Mot* is announced. " Monsieur  
 " *Bon Mot*, I am happy to see you—so  
 " great a traveller, and so great a ge-  
 " nius must be acceptable any where."

*Bon Mot.* To a lady of your genius,  
*Bon Mot* must certainly be acceptable,  
 and flow as it were imperceptibly, and  
 spontaneously from your lips. But it  
 is an universal appetite; it may be  
 called the concupiscence of the tongue  
 to say *good things*; the doing of them  
 is different from his Grace down to  
 poor—you know who I mean.

" Upon my word, Mr. *Bon Mot*,  
 " you

“ you do end like an epigram, with  
 “ your own name upon all occasions—  
 “ Pray, my lord, what do you think  
 “ of doing good things?”

His Lordship replied, I abhor, saying or doing *good things*, as you call them—and I shall leave you and Monsieur *Bon Mot* to settle that business, between you—I suppose he is upon the petticoat establishment as he is not a Dutch man.

During his lordship's absence *Bon Mot* and her ladyship said and did many *good things*—but *mum*, the reader perhaps may gain some more intelligence respecting this business in the next chapter, if *helter skelter* does not peep through the key-hole, or apply his ear to know whether R—r is, amongst others, according to Captain Peyton's vocabulary, an excellent *Bon Mot pour la bonne bouche*.

CHAP.

## C H A P. XXIV.

## LA LOTTERIE DE L'AMOUR ;

*Or, the Lottery of Love ; being a  
give - and - take plate, weight for  
inches, for Lady Positive's Whim.*

AFTER the first attack her  
Ladyship testified such uncom-  
mon satisfaction, that she resolv'd to  
keep the field, though her assailant  
was very vigorous, and she was un-  
willing as her opponent, to give up  
the contest. My lady clasped him in  
her arms, and almost swore she never  
would let him beat a retreat, whilst  
he was so capable of keeping his post  
with so much glory and reputation.  
In a word the song of Alexis was re-  
peatedly verified, and it was not till  
the Sopha gave way, and her lady-  
ship gave no other way than one,  
The