George Woodward, â??Upon an Ugly Fellowâ?¦â?•

Description

GEORGE WOODWARD

â??Upon an Ugly Fellow, who Thought Himself Handsome, because the Girls Gazâ??d upon Him So Muchâ?•

Poor *Jackâ??s* of late grown
The Talk of the Town,
The merest *Self-Dotard* in Fashion;
From a *Sloven* turns *Smart,*
And thinks from his Heart,
Heâ??s the Handsomest Man in the Nation.

If a Girl does but place
Her Eyes on his Face,
In order her Laughter to move;
The Fool seems in Anguish,
Looks aside with Languish,
And concludes the poor Girl is *in Love.*

Come, *Jack!* then attend,
I speak as a Friend,
Prithee! never look out with that View:
Donâ??t think to prevail,
Where a Thousand may fail,
Perhaps, ten Times as *Pretty* as You.

Should You think eâ??ery *Miss*
In Love with that *Phyz,*
Who looks at You, as I may do now;
Eâ??en think youâ??re a Bait,
And enjoy your Conceit,
By my Soul! youâ??ll have *Lovers* enough.

NOTES:

3 *Dotard* â??An imbecile; a silly or stupid personâ?• (*OED*).

4 *Sloven* â??An untidy or dirty person; a person who is habitually indolent, negligent, or careless with regard to appearance, personal hygiene, household cleanliness, etc.â?• (*OED*); *Smart* â??A person who affects smartness in dress, manners, or speechâ?• (*OED*).

11 *languish* â??A tender or amorous look or glanceâ?• (*OED*).

13 *attend* â??To turn oneâ??s ear to, listen toâ?• (*OED*).

15 *Prithee* â?? â??I pray theeâ??, â??I beg of youâ??; pleaseâ?• (*OED*).

20 *Phyz* â??A face or facial expression; countenanceâ?• (*OED*).

Source: *Poems on Several Occasions* (Oxford, 1730), pp. 150-51. [*Google Books*]

Edited by Estrellita Rui