Anonymous, â??On seeing Saphira in a Riding Habitâ?•

Description

ANONYMOUS

â??On seeing* SAPHIRA *in a Riding Habitâ?•

WHEN *Sapphira*, in her sexâ??s garb we see,
The queen of beauty then she seems to be:
Now, fair *Adonis*, in this male disguise,
Or *Cupid*, killing with his motherâ??s eyes:
No stile of empireâ??s changâ??d by this remove,
Who seemâ??d the goddess, seems the god of love.

NOTES:

Title *Riding Habit* â??A garment or outfit worn for horse riding; (in later use) a riding dress worn by women or girls, consisting of a long skirt and tight-fitting, double-breasted jacketâ?• (*OED*).

3 *Adonis* In classical myth, a beautiful youth loved by both Aphrodite and Persephone. In extended usage, an Adonis is an extremely handsome young man (*OCD*).

4 *Cupid, killing with his motherâ??s eyes* In classical mythology, the god of love and desire. He is often portrayed as the son of Venus, the goddess of love.

5 *stile* Variant spelling of the word â??style.â?•

Source: *The Gentlemanâ??s Magazine,* vol. 36 (February 1766), p. 89.

Edited by Sierra Moreno