

George Woodward, "On the Death of a Monkey"

Description

GEORGE WOODWARD

• "On the Death of a Monkey" •

Poor *Pug* is dead! the briskest Thing on Earth,
Harmless and kind, but wanton from his Birth:
Grave was his Look, and Politick his Mien,
Easy and Gay, a Stranger to the Spleen!
No State-Affairs disturbâ€™d his downy Rest, 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15
Nor Party-Zeal raisâ€™d Tumults in his Breast:
Perhaps, he grievâ€™d Himself to Death to see
So many *Brother-Apes* preferrâ€™d, and He
Left here behind, in such a low Degree.

NOTES:

1 *Pug* • A monkey, an ape (OED).

2 *wanton* • Undisciplined, ungoverned; rebellious (OED).

3 *Mien* • The bearing, character, appearance, or instinct of an animal (OED).

4 *spleen* • Excessive dejection or depression of spirits (OED).

5 *downy Rest* Sleep.

6 *Party-Zeal* Partisan political passion; or strong feeling toward a particular political stance (OED); *Tumults* • Great disturbance or agitation of mind or feeling (OED).

9 *Degree* • A stage or position in the scale of dignity or rank (OED).

Source: *Poems on Several Occasions* (Oxford, 1730), p. 130. [Google Books]

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