

What tho' some envious folks have said,
 That *Stella* now must hide her head,
 That all her stock of beauty's gone,
 And ev'n the very sign took down:
 Yet grieve not at the fatal blow; 25
 For if you break a while, we know,
 'Tis bankrupt like, more rich to grow.
 A fairer sign you'll soon hang up,
 And with fresh credit open shop:
 For nature's pencil soon shall trace, 30
 And once more finish off your face,
 Which all your neighbours shall out-shine,
 And of your Mind remain the Sign.

NOTES:

Title *Small Pox* A virulent disease. In eighteenth-century Europe, 400,000 people died annually of smallpox, and one third of the survivors went blind. Most survivors were left with disfiguring scars (Barquet, Nicolau, and Pere Domingo, "Smallpox: The Triumph over the Most Terrible of the Ministers of Death," pp. 635-642).

6 *Haberdasher* "A dealer in small articles appertaining to dress, as thread, tape, ribbons, etc." (*OED*).

8 *Monmouth Street old tatter'd suits* Monmouth Street was famous for its old clothes shops (Weinreb, et al, *The London Encyclopaedia*, 3rd edition, p. 557).

9 *nymph divine* "Any of a class of semi-divine spirits, imagined as taking the form of a maiden inhabiting the sea, rivers, mountains" (*OED*).

13 *coquet* "A woman who trifles with men's affections; a woman given to flirting or coquetry" (*OED*).

22 *Stella* Name used by Jones to refer to her friend, Charlot Clayton, in several of her poems (Kennedy, *Poetic Sisters*, p. 170).

Source: *Miscellanies in Prose and Verse* (Oxford, 1750), pp. 79-80. [Google Books]

Edited by Elizabeth Holt