Thomas Blacklock, â??An Irregular Odeâ?•

Description

THOMAS BLACKLOCK

â??AN IRREGULAR ODEâ?•

Sent to a LADY on her Marriage-Day.

I.

With all your wings, ye moments, fly,
And drive the tardy sun along;
Till that glad morn shall paint the sky,
Which wakes the muse, and claims the
rapturâ??d song.

II.

See nature with our wishes join,
To aid the dear, the blest design;
See Time precipitate his way,
To bring thâ?? expected happy day;
See, the wishâ??d for dawn appears,
A more than wonted glow she wears:
Hark! Hymeneals sound;
Each muse awakes her softest lyre;
Each airy warbler swells the choir;
â??Tis music all around.

III.

Awake, ye nymphs, the blushing bride,
Tâ??eclipse Auroraâ??s rosy pride;
While virgin shame retards her way,
And Love, half-angry, chides her stay:
While hopes and fears alternate reign,
Intermingling bliss and pain;
Oâ??er all her charms diffuse peculiar grace,
Pant in her shivâ??ring heart, and vary in her face.

IV.

At length consent, reluctant fair,
To bless thy long-expecting loverâ??s eyes!
Too long his sighs are lost in air,
At length resign the bliss for which he dies:
The muses, prescient of your future joys,
Dilate my soul, and prompt the chearful lay;
While they, throâ?? coming times, with glad surprize,
The long successive brightning scenes survey.

V.

Lo! to your sight a blooming offspring rise,
And add new ardour to the nuptial ties;
While in each form you both united shine;
Fresh honours wait your temples to adorn:
For you glad CERES fills the flowing horn,
And heavâ??n and fate to bless your days combine.

VI.

While life gives pleasure, life shall still remain,
Till death, with gentle hand, shall shut the pleasing scene:
Safe, sable guide to that celestial shore,
Where pleasure knows no end, and change is fearâ??d no more!

NOTES:

8 *precipitate* â??Relating to haste or speedâ?• (*OED*).

12 *Hymeneals* Wedding hymns (*OED*).

14 *airy warbler* A song bird (*OED*).

17 *Aurora* â??Roman goddess of the dawnâ?• (*OED*).

19 *chides* â??To compelâ?• (*OED*).

28 *prescient* â??Having knowledge of the futureâ?• (*OED*).

33 *ardour* â??Enthusiasmâ?• (*OED*).

36 *CERES* â??Roman goddess of the growth of food plantsâ?• (*Britannica*).

SOURCE: *Poems on Several Occasions* (Edinburgh, 1754), pp. 51-53. [Google Books]

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