Robert Luck, â??The Dry Jokeâ?•

Description

ROBERT LUCK

â??The Dry Jokeâ?•

God *Bacchus* well warmâ??d,
With Beauty was charmâ??d;
And *Cupidâ??s* bright Mother addrest.
She cryâ??d, you are silly â??â??
I hate you â?? nor will I
Be thus by a Toper carest.

Thus slighted the God,
With an angry Nod,
Said , Adieu to you, Madam â?? in vain
Youâ??ll try to allure me:
Your Pride shall secure me,
From Courting coy Beauty again.

What *Bacchus* then spoke,
She hopâ??d was in joke:
And again Wine and Love wouâ??d agree.
But he, as malicious
As she was capricious,
Her Error soon made her to see.

For Nymphs sweet as *May*,
All met at a Play;
Where each was as fine as a Queen.
In each lovely Creature,
Art yielded to Nature;
Thoâ?? deckâ??d all in Jewels are seen.

Apollo was there,
To charm eâ??ery ear;
But (what a mild Dove wouâ??d provoke.)
The Beaus who appearâ??d on
The Stage, slily learâ??d on;
And left the fair Circle to choke.

Now *Venus* in vain,
Does to *Bacchus* complain,
That Beauty was dying with thirst.
The God replyâ??d, smiling,
Her Coyness reviling â??â??
Why did you provoke me then first?

O ye Ladies, beware,
Be as kind as youâ??re fair;
Nor requite your fond Slaves with disdain.
A Lover defeated,
With vengeance is hated;
And Mischief still runs in his Brain.

NOTES:

1 *Bacchus* â??The god of wineâ?• (*OED*).

3 *Cupid* â??In Roman Mythology, the god of love, son of Mercury and Venusâ?• (*OED*).

6 *Toper* â??One who topes or drinks a great deal; a drunkardâ?• (*OED*).

25 *Apollo* Greek god of sun, light, music and poetry.

28 *Beaus* â??A man who gives particular, or excessive, attention to dress, mien, and social etiquette; a dandyâ?• (*OED*).

31 *Venus* The ancient Roman goddess of beauty and love.

SOURCE: ***A Miscellany of new Poems, on Several Occasions*** **(London, 1736), pp. 56-58. [*Google Books*]**

Edited by Ivan Li