



of the BELLE ASSEMBLY, her last production borders on a complete answer to Don ALONZO's objections. In mistaking the expression of a sentiment of regret at the inconsiderate connexions sometimes formed between the sexes, for a general reflection upon wedded love, the latter seems not fully to have ascertained her ideas.

Viewing her original performance with an impartial eye, and setting aside those incoherencies in style, which appeared to flow as naturally from her pen, as torrents from their sources, her sentiments, so far from deserving censure, justly merit the appellation of philanthropic effusions: Don ALONZO however is in some degree excusable, as her ambiguity of style, which proceeded from her not being mistress of facility in expression, led the public in general into the same misconception. When subject to the dictates of prudence, & contracted with that deliberation, which the infinite importance of such a change of condition requires, the hymeneal chain may with propriety be said to be of *divine origin*; and may be considered as one of the greatest manifestations of the wisdom and benevolence of Deity; as tending directly to bestow upon his creatures the highest happiness which, in their probationary state, they are capable of enjoying. But can it rationally be deduced from hence that the unhappy pair, who, deceived by the fascinations of fancied bliss, without fortune, friends, or prospects whereby to support a rising Family, rush heedlessly into the nuptial state, may not at too late a period, awake to all the torturing horrors of distressing indigence? Or rather does not such a situation as this complete a scene of anguish, too painful for humanity to behold? Therefore Miss FEMES' resolution of philosophically supporting those ills to which, by a state of celibacy she may be subjected, rather than by attempting to remedy them, plunge herself into an abyss of disquiet, is an example of prudence well deserving the attention of her contemporaries, either of the eastern or western continent. We therefore feel disposed to compliment Miss FEMES "in words of applause," upon the honor with which she has at length (by correcting the public's ideas) acquitted herself, & which, by her labors she has reflected upon our sex; and cannot take leave of her without thanking her for her politeness in favoring us with the knowledge of her being an "Autoress," and assuring her that the curiosity of the BELLE ASSEMBLY would be extremely gratified, if in her next she would be so condescending as to state the number of folios, quartos, octavos, &c. she has written, together with the various subjects upon which she has treated: as the ASSEMBLY being in want of a few standard Authors upon astronomy, history, metaphysics, &c. would probably wish for some of her works to adorn their library.

In reply to Mr. FAIR DEALER, we shall inform the public, that Miss AMELIA CANDOR, a member of our ASSEMBLY, and Wife to Mr. TRUE CANDOR, the writer to whom he seems chiefly to confine his strictures, declares, that in asserting by way of metaphor, that, in consequence of a hasty shot, she has plunged herself into a thicket of brambles for life, Mr. FAIR DEALER is guilty of a most slanderous and palpable falsehood; as she can boldly affirm, that no person ever enjoyed greater connubial felicity than herself; and that no consideration whatever could induce her to wish for a change of condition. Therefore, altho' we totally condemn Mr. FAIR DEALER's production as a malicious falsehood; we must agreeable to our critical authority, likewise note, that his lenity in pretending to spare his lashes, appears to proceed much more from the want of the necessary weapons than a disposition thereto; otherwise he would have done what he insinuates "their constitution would admit of." He also appears plainly to be a rhymist of the description which POPE gives us, whose Poetry for the sake of a jingle at the end of the lines abounds much more in words than in thoughts; we therefore advise Mr. FAIR DEALER, never again to sacrifice ideas to a propensity to appear in rhyme; and as he seems to have a palate formed for POETRY, in

## Miscellany.

For the MEDLEY, &c.

From the BELLE ASSEMBLY.

Mr. SPOONER,

AGREEABLE to the notice we gave of our intention of continuing our animadversions on the productions of the celebrated FEMES and her antagonists, we proceed to some observations; which, to avoid the imputation of trespassing on the patience of the public, (which Don ALONZO it seems has already incurred,) shall be as concise as the nature and importance of the subject will permit.

And as FEMES presents herself first on the list of combatants, and being ready to avail ourselves of every opportunity to do justice; we must here remark, that, in her replication to ALONZO, she has demonstrated a capacity for very rapid improvement; her last performance exhibiting such a decided superiority over the former, that, were not her signature an *infallible* proof of the contrary, we should be so rude as to imagine that it was indebted for its superior merit to a different author. It is but justice to Miss FEMES to acknowledge, that according to the most general opinion

complaisance to his taste, we conclude our remarks by presenting him with the following relief:

FAIR DEALER's wife we do agree,  
Or when ensar'd, or who the be,  
With much less than the FOX's craft,  
Mistakes a *horn* for Cupid's shaft,  
Demands from all sincerest pity,  
Accur'd with such a *would be* WITTY.

With regard to Mr. PLAIN DEALER, his present piece being as little noticed as his first, we have but little to offer. We can only say that in pursuing his work we found ourselves in no danger like KING AGRIPPA, of becoming converts to his doctrine; and that as he seems to have "done nothing worthy either of death, or bonds," neither appears to be a dangerous person, we shall "set him at liberty."

DON ALONZO takes the field with his usual deliberation and boldness; and with a very ostentatious parade, makes a preposterous attack upon the legitimacy of our authority; of which, however, we shall take but little notice, conceiving his assault to have proved as abortive (tho conducted with similar precaution) as the repeated attempts of his countrymen against the fortress of Gibraltar.

After a motion was made in the BELLE ASSEMBLY, for bringing forward MEDLEY No. 71, and while ALONZO's reply to our report was reading; Miss PENELOPE FLUTTERFAN was observed to apply her smelling bottle three times, and was heard distinctly to articulate this sentence, "The DON is a fool." She also frequently uttered the word Creature! interjectionally, with a monosyllable preceding it, which, as it differed only in one letter from the word *bull*, we will not give, as we do not commend the audacious STERNE, for giving sketches of what passed in the widow WADMAN's thots while TRIM was gone after the map. Chaotic! Chaotic! articulated Miss HARRIOT RHETORIC, from the further end of the room—here the DON says true—that part of our report in answer to him, originating from a heap of irregular and indigested matter was truly "chaotic." Notwithstanding the agitations, at first, were great in the ASSEMBLY, as the whisper went against him, yet order was soon restored, and his replication submitted to our examination, in consequence of which we now proceed to act in our official capacity.

According to what we have seen and read of the COPTRICK language, we think the DON affects its pomposity and obscurity much. One half at least of his piece was completely unintelligible to us. From one of his paragraphs we could pick these words, Kingdom, Congress, Profelytes, Genet, Republican, &c. all within the compass of ten lines, which high seasoning of politics made us suspect it was a libel on the Government. Upon our giving intimation of this to the ASSEMBLY, a Committee of five was immediately appointed to wait on Doctor WEST, a learned and ingenious Clergyman of our acquaintance well skilled in politics, and possessing great knowledge in the above language, in hopes to drag this horrible Treason into light.—'Tis expedied they will report in sixteen days, and if their discovery is found to be of sufficient importance, it will immediately be laid before Congress.

We are authorized to inform the public that Mr. GENE is by principle a Jacobite, or high Republican; and therefore for the DON to assert that republicans would reprobate his principles, is a contradiction of terms.

Now I would wish to know, says the noble DON, What propriety there is in saying that I mounted the MEDLEY metaphorically? Don't ye be so angry DON, we never said so, we said ROSTRUM, & with the same propriety that HORACE said,

*Parturiant Montes, &c.*

For the same figure of speech which makes a mountain a *spe creature*, makes a Newspaper a Rostrum, that is, a place for declamation. Here DON you have been guilty of a very ignorant as well as childish quibble; and to mortify you still more, we would give you the name of this figure of speech, but it is a very crooked word, and the natural ease and elegance of our sex, precludes the necessity of its studying Rhetoric. When you are pleased to say noble DON, that the intent of Miss FEMES' opponents undoubtedly was "to prevent the future appearance of any more such trash in the MEDLEY;" you make us think of the stories we have heard of the peasants, who, when the woods are on fire in one place, set three or four more—just such fires to extinguish that one. But when you say "it is like raising three Demons (Devils) by an attempt to lay one"—Do you mean noble DON to personate old SATANAS, or old APOLLYON, because you was certainly one of her three opponents, and the most honorable of the three it seems, for you sat in the middle, & (as thou wouldst have it) had Mo-

LOCH, as would appear from his pretended cruel disposition, on thy right hand under the fictitious name of CANDOR, and on thy left that simple DIGNITY we have (somewhere read of, called THAMMUS, under the name of PLAIN DEALER—Grace defend us!

But to assume our critical authority we would inform the public, that by Miss FEMES' Friends, the DON could not mean "her sex in general," as they are very far from being her Friends, "the sex in general" being much exasperated against Miss FEMES for appearing in print.

We thank DON ALONZO for his trouble in pointing out the impropriety of connecting the words "bad" and "ought," but would inform him that had they appeared connected agreeable to our expectations, we should have condemned the phrase, and laughed at it as bungling grammar.

Here we cannot but lament to the public that the DON has run into his COPTRICK obscurity again. From barely two lines we could select these terrific words, Heavens, Blackness, Lightnings, Billows, Forked, Gathering, Daring, Foaming, Roaring—What a noble confusion! more tremendous sounds than we could find in SHAKESPEAR'S TEMPEST, and we think a plenty to furnish an Epic Poem—

*Clangor, clamor, stridor, taratatarara, murmur.*

This paragraph is, also, to be searched for treason. There is one sentence in it, which, if we understand aright, we answer thus: *We never read an author whom we do not call "deific" anything as well as DON ALONZO.*

Here the DON proceeds to note—to point out—to show—to demonstrate—to tautologize—to tautologize—Do you understand us noble DON? if you do, we shall hear no more from you on this subject, if you do not, we shall have a long explanation in your next of our own meaning.

We find the terms *mutability and emphasis*, which the noble DON next notices, defensible by recuring to the Metaphysics and Rhetoric of her country, but for the sake of brevity we pass over citations here.

He accuses her of using their, to agree with hand; and upon searching the Chronicles of Persia, we found this remarkable passage—"Mordocai had told of two of the king's Chamberlains, who sought to lay hand (that is their hand) on king Ahafuerus."—And we are informed that kingdom borders upon the Mogul's Empire; also in the Palms, which are of Eastern Composition, we find similar expressions, such as "he turned their heart to hate his people," &c. Therefore, by his discovering this ignorance in texts of Holy Writ, we dare warrant the public the odious Creature! is — a PAPIST.

The DON has wisely placed that Latin Verse at the end of his performance; and we by virtue of our censorial authority, command all readers henceforth to pronounce that very verse at the end of all the pieces the DON ever wrote, or may write; or this translation of it; *The Mountains labor'd, and are brot to bed; Of what?—A mouse from DON ALONZO's head.*

We would observe that one of the arguments in Miss FEMES' last performance, may appear not conclusive to an inattentive reader, we will therefore explain it.—Her conclusion is this, *Therefore the argument is nugatory: her meaning is, Therefore the DON has written nonsense.*—And this consequence may be always drawn with propriety any where in her piece, let her say what she will believe. But we deem it of the highest importance that she should stand corrected in regard to her sentiments, for the introduction of such as (by using words not adapted to the American style) she seemed to express, into Massachusetts, might have been attended with the most pernicious consequences—Which reason is amply sufficient to justify the particular notice we took of the words which conveyed them, altho ALONZO has labored to contrive this notice into indelicacy.

With regard to our using the plural pronoun "them" in conjunction with the definitive pronoun "one," as we wished to conceal the gender, we would ask the DON to coin us a substitute.

Again we would observe to his Gravity, that whatever palliation the defects of a CRITIC may admit of, it seems to be indispensable for an HYPERCRITIC to avoid those errors or improprieties, which he so quibblingly charges upon others: to shew that SATIS. PO. or DON ALONZO has not done this, for a single instance, we would ask him What he means by informing us that he begins with "this" error, and immediately enumerating *two* in succession? But of his errors in Syntax we shall say no more, since a person who is deficient in Orthography cannot reasonably be expected to understand grammatical construction: to prove which deficiency, we need only advert to his word *diffrence*

for *def once* &c. We further direct all readers to be forth to supply the preposition "to" in his piece after the word mentioned.

To conclude our remarks for this week, the ARCH DEMON or noble DON, expresses great disappointment on reading the BELLE COMMITTEE's report, which, had it in reality possessed an unusual share of wit or humor, we could readily account for, it being generally observed that to discover those qualities it requires the possession of them. With regard to *disappointment* we confess, that on reading his last production, we cannot without hypocrisy say that we experienced any similar sensations, as this would imply that our expectations were raised.

We must however ask the further indulgence briefly to take leave of the retreating combatants. And here we must further remark to Mr. FAIR DEALER, that the *falsehood* in his Fable is highly reformed by old ESOR, who says he never mentioned a word concerning an Eagle. By his Poetry we can prove that Mr. FAIR DEALER is dead, as easily as SWIFT proved the death of PARTRIDGE from his Almanack; for no man alive ever wrote *such nonsense*.

CANDOR is silent—Farewell FEMES—Farewell PLAIN DEALER.

— Thus the scribbling fry  
Burn, hiss and bounce; waste paper, stink,  
and die.

We subscribe the Public's very humble servants,

CHARLOTTE LISPER,  
LAVINA PRATTLE,  
PANTHENIA TRIPPERT.  
BELLEVILLE,  
March 18th, 1794.  
A true copy of the Report—  
Attest, MARIA BROOMER, Sec.