

The Sig.

AMBITION is a noble flame,

But then how various is its aim :

For look through Life, or great or small,

From Council Board to humble Stall,

It is a Passion felt by all.

When the brave Soldier seeks the wreath

Through hostile realms 'mid blood and death ;

When Statesmen's plotting arts combine

To raise to Power the gilded shrine ;

When Eloquence pursues the fame

That waits upon a Tully's name ;

When Poetry invents the verse

For future ages to rehearse,

When deep Philosophers display

To Science many an added ray ;



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The Gig,

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Away they go in chaise & onc,
Or to undo or be undone.

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How far the bosom

Is Beauty to the

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Is an Ambition to

In the world's gay

Whatever honour they attain,
It is Ambition leads the train.

In other scenes the Passion glows
It's tide in other Channels flows,
As it is seen to be allied
To all the forms assum'd by Pride.
—In Fashion's course to take the Ton,
When to leave off and when put on ;
What plumes should nod upon the brow,
What flounces deck the dress below ;
Whether the foot should just appear,
Or the Robe leave the Ankle bare ;
How far the bosom should display
Its Beauty to the glaring day ;
Whether with upright gait to stalk
Or with a bending grace to walk ;
In short to give the varying rules
To the Ton's all-obedient fools,
Is an Ambition to be found
In the world's gay and giddy round.

Thus Lady *Gew-gaw* feels a pride
To be the youthful Female's guide.
As *Bond Street's* range she's seen to grace,
By Blood-Bays drawn in stately pace,
I give, she cries, the ev'ry air
To all the Misses tramping there.

Among the Forms this passion takes,
Of high-born men it Coachmen makes ;
And bids the Heir of wealth assume
The low-wrought semblance of a Groom.
Thus, while we mark the high-flown dream,
There is a *Bathos* in the scheme.
While we the power of rising view,
We see the art of sinking too.
Hence while one Noble shall appear
To be the nation's Charioteer,
Others of equal rank and birth,
Will mix with common sons of earth ;
Nor think they of the wheels of State,
But how to drive through *Hyde Park* gate,

And, on a Sun

To play Jehu,

The Chief of

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With a Philosoph

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And, on a Sunday in the Spring,
To play *Jehu*, and be *the Thing*.

The Chief of *Macedon* unfurl'd
His Standard o'er a conquer'd world ;
But, having not enough to do,
He ask'd another world or two ;
For, form'd of such ambitious stuff,
He thought one world was not enough.
But in the midst of all his power,
He sought to pass a Leisure hour
With a Philosopher of Greece,
Well known as one *DIOGENES* ;
And here he found a surly Elf
Full as ambitious as himself :
Within the mind his haughty pride
Was full as long, as broad and wide ;
But the same Spirit, strange to tell,
Confin'd him to a narrow Cell,
Nor suffer'd him to push a quarrel
Beyond the limits of his barrel.

Ne'er did the Conq'r'or whose name
Is graven on the rock of Fame,
E'er feel more pride at what he'd done
E'en though the world were looking on,
Than the rude Cynic at *the rub*
He gave the Victor *from the Tub*.

But if the Muse should turn her Car
And eastward drive of Temple Bar,
Then onward, in due order range
Or to the Bank or the Exchange,
Ambition will be found possesst
Of various forms as in the *West*.
But MONEY there gives all the fire:—
'Tis Wealth to which they all aspire.
If Honour shares the anxious mind,
'Tis Honour that's with Wealth combin'd;
The splendor of a titled Mayor,
Or power of a Director's Chair.
But some will, now or then, launch forth
Before their time, to prove their worth;

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Who have the Ambition to appear
More wealthy than in fact they are ;
Or, in their pride, to shew their taste,
Will idly run themselves to waste.

JACK MUSLIN understood his trade,
And such a Fortune might have made,
As was well suited to his station,
With a good *Cheapside* Reputation,
Had he resolv'd to toil and strive
On to the Age of Forty-five :
But JACK had some how got the itch
To be reputed growing rich ;
And thought too, while yet in his vigour,
It was the time to make a figure :
Thus his ambition run the rig
To have a well-bred Horse and Gig ;
While Madam thought it might prepare
The way to have a Chaise and Pair.
—Thus 'twas not many weeks before,
From time to time, at Warehouse door,

The Horse and Gig the Neighbours spy,
And wonder at the Luxury.

—No longer now it was JACK's boast

What this thing fetch'd—what that thing cost ;

How fair his trade, how few his crosses,

And how his Gains surpass'd his Losses.

—He now declares, and stakes his word,

He gave the *GO-BY* to a Lord ;

And that He'd driven to a stand

SIR HARRY, with his *FOUR-in-hand*.

So fine his Horse, and such his power,

He could trot fourteen miles an hour ;

And then he'd wager, play or pay,

To go to *Brighton* in a day.

—Ma'am Muslin, also, ceas'd to tell

To whom their various goods they sell,

Or boast their windows' rich supply

To tempt the wish, to catch the eye

Of the vast throng of passers by.

She simper'd now, and would declare

How sweet to breathe the *Windsor* air ;

That the Princes

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That the Princesses she had seen,
 And humbly curtsied to the Queen:
 While Epsom, Egham, Ascott Races
 Were such delightful, charming Places.

Thus Folly grew, and soon the Shop,
 With all its gains, began to drop:
 For Trade, as known to common sense,
 Can never thrive by negligence.

When JACK appear'd, with shaking head,
 The neighbours to each other said,—

“ Aye, there He goes,—but 'tis so fast,
 “ His Horse and Gig will never last.”

And it pleas'd Fate, as we shall see,

Soon to fulfill the Prophecy;

Though not exactly in the way

That Prudence threat'ned every day.

One morning JACK, in all his pride,
 Went out with Madam by his side,
 When, as they drove down *Shooter's Hill*,
 DEATH grac'd a mile-stone, squat and still.

Th' affrighted Horse now plung'd, now flew:
Th' unequal reins then snapp'd in two:
JACK was thrown back and tumbled o'er,
Groan'd for a while, then breath'd no more:
While Madam, jumping from the side,
Fell at the Spectre's feet, and died.—

As poor JACK's credit 'gan to fail him,
And without Children to bewail him,
His Friends did not that Fate regret,
Which sav'd his name from the GAZETTE;
For, had he liv'd, he would have found the Art
To turn his GIG into a BANKRUPT CART.

DANCE OF DEATH.

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