

## TO PUNCH.

O! Punch! what art thou Punch? a *rum* compound,

Of foe-ingredients, curious to define :—  
A liquid ambiguity, renown'd,  
Strong, weak, acidulous, and saccharine :—  
A pure antithesis, untaught at schools,  
But soon familiar once “beyond the rules.”

O! Punch! what art thou Punch?—another Muse;  
Th' eleventh—a Poet's mistress in the tenth—  
How brave! to stand in old Anacreon's shoes,  
Inspir'd by *thee* in thy collective strength:  
What verse immortal might not *then* be sung,  
When scurvy *wine* grows racy on the tongue!

O! Punch! what art thou Punch? prompt antidote

To pois'nous care, the precious gift of Reason;  
Who stigmatizes all thy vot'ries quote  
In thy behalf, against *her* empire treason :—  
Her ladyship's a model of politeness  
In this assumed regard—but this is triteness.