

The grocer's wife presumes to ape  
The merchant's wife in gown and shape.  
The merchant's wife the pattern gets  
From the lawyer's wife, who forgets 30  
Not to copy unto the pin,  
The judge's wife in every thing.  
The judge's wife the model takes  
From the earl's wife, who ever makes  
The duke's great wife her archetype  
In fashion, and who will not wipe  
Her lips, nor clean her nose, without  
Identic hue of rag or clout.  
The duke's wife by some lucky chance,  
Gets from a tailor's wife in France, 40  
The specimen that all follow  
And from one another borrow.  
A life of apery is led  
By feet, by body, and by head,  
From the grand duchess down unto  
The kitchen maid, whom lackeys woo ;  
By fashion all are swayed, that oft,  
Has been fashioned out in a loft.  
But the fashion of doing good,  
And known by all and understood, 50  
Yet as tho' it they never knew,  
Is followed but by very few.  
Among the few is Caroline,  
Whose gems in darkness brighter shine ;  
The gems of love and mercy bright  
On gloomy want that fling their light.  
While many ladies take their sport  
At balls, masquerades, and the court ;

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