

As soon as my son is perfect in the art (which I hope will be in a year's time, for the boy is pretty apt), I design he shall learn to ride the great horse (although he is not yet above twenty years old), if his mother, whose darling he is, will venture him.

TO THE SPECTATOR.

The Humble Petition of Benjamin Easie, Gent, Sheweth :

That it was your petitioner's misfortune to walk to Hackney Church last Sunday, where, to his great amazement, he met with a soldier of your own training ; she furls a fan, recovers a fan, and goes through the whole exercise of it to admiration. This well-managed officer of yours has, to my knowledge, been the ruin of above five young gentlemen besides myself, and still goes on laying waste wheresoever she comes, whereby the whole village is in great danger. Our humble request is, therefore, that this bold amazon be ordered immediately to lay down her arms, or that you would issue forth an order, that we who have been thus injured may meet at the place of general rendezvous, and there be taught to manage our snuff boxes in such a manner as we may be an equal match for her.

And your petitioner shall ever pray, &c.

IV.

The reader can now judge of the good faith of the writer who has led me to trouble him with these republications. In all other cases, as in this, the charge made is totally false. To abuse, written under whatever impulse and with whatever object, I do not reply ; if I did, he may be certain it would not be in worn out phrases of musty vituperation.

THIS BOOK
MAY NOT BE TAKEN
FROM THE LIBRARY.

