

The Praise of Ugliness.

Chloe I love with frenzied flame,
In Chloe's charms I madly love;
Her chief distinction shall I name?
She is as ugly as the d--v--l.

What boots the fair, the fading grace,
Serves but to stir love's foolish fever;
The rarest beauty flies apace,
But ugliness remains forever.

From ugly lips, when lovers hear
A first avowal soft and sweet,
No fancied music strikes the ear,
No fervid flames the judgment heat.

If one should venture now and then
From that wide mouth to steal a kiss,
No need to think of where or when,
Impartial is the chastened bliss.

To jealous transports wild and vain
Let other gallants be inclined,
The powerless poison I disdain,
For naught disturbs my trustful mind.

Chloe is faithful as the day,
I swear; I know she loves me best;
And if I'm jealous far away,
At sight of her I'm quite at rest.

Dear eyes so small and mouth so wide,
Sweet snubby nose, and drooping ear,
O'er this my soul, in bondage tied,
Forever reign without a peer.

Oh, yes, thy true love's constant mind
Will still be thine, and thine alone;
The harder is the task assigned,
The greater is the honour won.

Lovers in the profanest manner
Compare—methinks they're much to blame—
With Flora, Venus, or Diana,
The charming object of their flame.

But, oh—my fancy straight is checked
Ere such vain praises I indite;
For Truth I've far too much respect,
To fable I'd be more polite.

All you who wonder at my lay
Blame not my taste, I'll tell you why:
Each single verse, the truth to say,
From one to t'other end's a lie.

The name, the beauties of my love
To you I should not dare reveal;
The fool who boasts his wealth to prove
Bids every rascal come and steal.

—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

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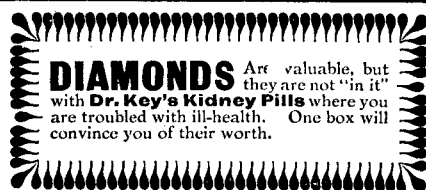
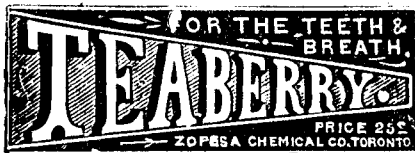
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