

Smith, 'I'll sing it for you;' and he struck up—

'When forced from thee to pooh—pooh—pooh---part.'

We laughed for an hour, and Wilson would not sing another note. 'A Muggins to the rescue!' Tomlins volunteered a song, and all was silence, as he struck up 'Love's Young Dream'

"But there's nothing half so sweet in life

As Love's young dream;

Oh there's nothing half so sweet in life,'

'As lump sugar!' chimed in that provoking fellow, Smith, with a vociferous jollity of voice that put all the sentiment of the song to immediate flight. Our laughter must have been heard along both shores. Wilson being one of the Grocer's Company; thought the joke a little too personal; but who can take a lasting offence at the frolics of Smith? Throughout this memorable day he shewed himself a wag of the first water. We all, except Jones, who was rather jealous of his success, allowed him to carry away the palm of preference; the ladies' eyes, too,

'Rain'd influence, and adjudg'd the prize.'

By this time we neared Battersea Bridge—it is the Scylla and Charybdis of amateur aquarions; if you escape S. you come bump against C., and *vice versa*. The station of the steersman is therefore one of serious responsibility, and requires the steadiest skill, an eye like a mathematician's, a hand like a watch-maker's, and the most undaunted courage. We were shooting cleanly and cleverly, and in the most seamanlike manner, through the centre arch, when Jones, perhaps over anxious for the success of this fine evolution, dipped his oar in, and giving a pull, drove our nose plump between the starling. All was immediate confusion! the ladies shrieked in the most piercing manner—Wilson turned as white as his waistcoat—Jones trembled—Tomlins was terrified—Smith looked as if all the jokes were taken out of him—and I in some measure gave up all for lost. The tide rose like a rampant beast at the stern, and our boat pitched deeper and deeper still at the head. To add to the