

## THE HEN-PECKED MAN

“These are the toils in which I am taken, and I carry off my servitude as well as most men ; but my application to you is in behalf of the hen-pecked in general ; and I desire a dissertation from you in defence of us. You have, as I am informed, very good authorities in our favour, and hope you will not omit the mention of the renowned Socrates, and his philosophic resignation to his wife Xantippe. This would be a very good office to the world in general ; for the hen-pecked are powerful in their quality and numbers, not only in cities, but in courts : in the latter they are ever the most obsequious ; in the former, the most wealthy of all men. When you have considered wedlock thoroughly, you ought to enter into the suburbs of matrimony, and give us an account of the thralldom of kind keepers and irresolute lovers ; the keepers who cannot quit their fair ones, though they see their approaching ruin ; the lovers, who dare not marry, though they know they