

917201₂

Thou would'st not compensate for wrong,
Insert the injur'd one's reply,
Ev'n in thine ephemeral page,
Nor make the least apology :

Rude Mercury !

"Ephemeral !" Yes ! for passing by
A broken window, th'other day,
I saw sheets pasted in as panes,
To guard Æolus's breath away.

Weep Mercury !

Yet this were useful ; but the lines
Thyself had scratch'd, now on the frame !
Obstructed beaming light of heav'n :
The house made darker by dark name

Of Mercury !

And through one pane, behold ! there scowl'd
Thy monstrous face, 'midst serpents twin'd,
Glooming on the domestic hearth ;
Inspiring pride, vain looks unkind :

Proud Mercury !

But thy smear'd water-closet doom,
Chaste decency shall hide ;
As where thy up-turn'd nose we put,
Thou long since hast descried.

Snuff Mercury !

Why spoil such reams of paper pure
With but past *copied news* of earth ?
'Tis well *thou* dost not lead on mind ;
Give thy deform'd conceptions birth :

Lame Mercury !

But when thou fling'st o'er honest names,
Of muck thy periodic mass,
Wilt thou their plea again refuse,
Thou "DEVIL'S" scribe with face of brass :

Imp Mercury !



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