

what Repentments she had towards him. And when by some Confidants, who had their Ends upon him from those Offices, he was informed of some bitter Expressions fallen from her Majesty, he was so exceedingly afflicted and tormented with the Sense of it, that sometimes by passionate Complaints and Representations to the King; sometimes by more dutiful Addresses and Expostulations with the Queen, in bewailing his Misfortune; he frequently exposed himself, and left his Condition worse than it was before, and the Eclaircisement commonly ended in the Discovery of the Persons from whom he had received his most secret Intelligence. C

N<sup>o</sup> 440. Friday, July 25.

*Vivere si rectè nescis, discede peritis.*

Hor.

I Have already given my Reader an Account of a Set of merry Fellows, who are passing their Summer together in the Country, being provided of a great House, where there is not only a convenient Apartment for every particular Person, but a large Infirmary for the Reception of such of them as are any way indisposed, or out of Humour. Having lately received a Letter from the Secretary of this Society, by Order of the whole Fraternity, which acquaints me with their Behaviour during the last Week, I shall here make a Present of it to the Publick.

Mr. SPECTATOR,

WE are glad to find that you approve the Establishment which we have here made for the retrieving of good Manners and agreeable Conversation, and shall use our best Endeavours so to improve our selves in this our Summer Retirement, that we may next Winter serve as Patterns to the Town. But to the end that this our Institution may be no less Advantageous to the

the Publick than to our selves, we shall communicate to you one Week of our Proceedings, desiring you at the same time, if you see any thing faulty in them, to favour us with your Admonitions. For you must know, Sir, that it has been propos'd among us to choose you for our Visitor, to which I must further add, that one of the College having declared last Week, he did not like the *Spectator* of the Day, and not being able to assign any just Reasons for such his Dislike, he was sent to the Infirmary *Nemine Contradicente*.

ON Monday the Assembly was in very good Humour, having received some Recruits of *French* Claret that Morning: when unluckily, towards the middle of the Dinner, one of the Company swore at his Servant in a very rough manner, for having put too much Water in his Wine. Upon which the President of the Day, who is always the Mouth of the Company, after having convinced him of the Impertinence of his Passion, and the Insult he had made upon the Company, ordered his Man to take him from the Table and convey him to the Infirmary. There was but one more sent away that Day; this was a Gentleman who is reckoned by some Persons one of the greatest Wits, and by others one of the greatest Boobies about Town. This you will say is a strange Character, but what makes it stranger yet, it is a very true one, for he is perpetually the Reverse of himself, being always merry or dull to Excess. We brought him hither to divert us, which he did very well upon the Road, having lavished away as much Wit and Laughter upon the Hackney Coachman as might have served him during his whole Stay here, had it been duly managed. He had been lumpish for two or three Days, but was so far connived at, in hopes of Recovery, that we dispatched one of the briskest Fellows among the Brotherhood into the Infirmary, for having told him at Table he was not merry. But our President observing that he indulged himself in this long Fit of Stupidity, and construing it as a Contempt of the College, ordered him to retire into the Place prepared for such Companions. He was no sooner got into it, but his Wit and Mirth returned upon him in so violent a manner, that he shook the whole Infirmary with

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‘ the Noise of it, and had so good an Effect upon the rest  
 ‘ of the Patients, that he brought them all out to Dinner  
 ‘ with him the next Day.

‘ ON *Tuesday* we were no sooner sat down, but one of  
 ‘ the Company complained that his Head ached; upon  
 ‘ which another asked him in an insolent manner, what  
 ‘ he did there then; this insensibly grew into some warm  
 ‘ Words; so that the President, in order to keep the Peace,  
 ‘ gave directions to take them both from the Table, and  
 ‘ lodge them in the Infirmary. Not long after, another  
 ‘ of the Company telling us, he knew by a Pain in his  
 ‘ Shoulder that we should have some Rain, the President  
 ‘ ordered him to be removed, and placed as a Weather-  
 ‘ glass in the Apartment above-mentioned.

‘ On *Wednesday* a Gentleman having received a Let-  
 ‘ ter written in a Woman’s Hand, and changing Colour  
 ‘ twice or thrice as he read it, desired leave to retire in-  
 ‘ to the Infirmary. The President consented, but denied  
 ‘ him the Use of Pen, Ink and Paper, till such time as he  
 ‘ had slept upon it. One of the Company being seated  
 ‘ at the lower end of the Table, and discovering his se-  
 ‘ cret Discontent by finding fault with every Dish that  
 ‘ was served up, and refusing to Laugh at any thing that  
 ‘ was said, the President told him, that he found he was  
 ‘ in an uneasy Seat, and desired him to accommodate  
 ‘ himself better in the Infirmary. After Dinner a very  
 ‘ honest Fellow chancing to let a Pun fall from him, his  
 ‘ Neighbour cried out, *to the Infirmary*; at the same  
 ‘ time pretending to be Sick at it, as having the same  
 ‘ Natural Antipathy to a Pun, which some have to a  
 ‘ Cat. This produced a long Debate. Upon the whole,  
 ‘ the Punster was Acquitted, and his Neighbour sent  
 ‘ off.

‘ ON *Thursday* there was but one Delinquent. This  
 ‘ was a Gentleman of strong Voice, but weak Under-  
 ‘ standing. He had unluckily engaged himself in a Dis-  
 ‘ pute with a Man of excellent Sense, but of a modest  
 ‘ Elocution. The Man of Heat replied to every Answer  
 ‘ of his Antagonist with a louder Note than ordinary, and  
 ‘ only raised his Voice when he should have enforced his  
 ‘ Argument. Finding himself at length driven to an Ab-  
 ‘ surdity, he still reasoned in a more clamorous and con-  
 ‘ fused