



BOOKE OF

Pretty Conceits :

Taken out of Latine, French,
Dutch, and English.

Very merry, and very pleasant,
and good to be read of all such
as doe delight in new and
merry Conceits.

Newly enlarged, corrected and
amended.



LONDON,
Printed by *James Fleisher*.

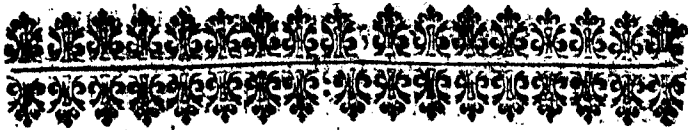


To the Reader.

WHo so is bound for another mans debt
doth bring himselfe in care,
And is compeld to pay the same,
though he be poore and bare.
In every degree love honesty,
be shamefac'd to doe ~~ill~~,
Ill company see that thou fly,
as members of the Devill.

A word once spoken can returne no more,
but flies away, and oft thy bane doth breed,
A wise man sets a watch before the dore,
and while he may doth frame his words with
(heed.

The Bird in hand we may at will restrain,
but being flown we call her back in vain.



An easie way to procure Fire
Speedily.

TAke a round Glasse, and fill it with fair water, and set it against the Sunne, so that it may stand fast: then take something which is very dry, and hold it near the Glasse (between the Glasse and the Sun) and it will set the thing to holden on fire, which is very strange to behold, the rather because Fire which is a hot and dry element, is procured out of Water, which is cold and a moist Element.

A speedy remedy for a prick of thorn in ones foot, or else where.

TAke the gall of a beast, chaulk scraped, Honey and Aquavitz, of each of them a reasonable quantity, and boile them well together, then make a plaster thereof, and lay it to the place grieved as hot as may be suffered.

Another way to draw out any thorn, stub, or iron in any place whatsoever.

TAke the gall of an hog, Beane flower, lavender, and Bacon grease, and mingle
A 2 these

these well together, and fry them well and lay
the same to the place grieved like warm : use
it every day till it be come forth and whole.

Another way to draw out a thorn.

Take barke of Hatothorn tre and stamp
it well in a mortar with red wine, and seeths
them well for a long time, and then take it
& lay it plaister-wise to the place grieved, as
hot as the Patient may suffer it, and it will
take away the swelling and rankling of it,
and the thorn will come forth.

To light a Candle at the mouth of an
Image painted on the wall.

Take and put some bymstone to the mouth
of an Image, and then take a burning candle
and blow it out : and before the wick of the
candle be cleane out set it to the mouth of the
Image and it will burn. So you may doe if
you think good against glasse.

To take Fish by night.

Take a Lantern of glasse and put a bur-
ning candle in it, and set the Lantern on the
water, and the fish will come to the light. Or
else take Bettles and Housleeke, and make
saice thereof, and put it into a Pond, and all
the fishes will gather thither, and if your
hands be anointed therewith, you may at
your pleasure take them.

To

To make that no dog shall bark
at you.

Take an herb that is called Serpentine,
and they shall not bark at you.

To make birds come to your
Culver house.

Cast Barly Aleps in Honey where they
doe use to feed, and they will gather to the
Culver-house.

To put an apple into a Viall.

Hang the Viall on the twig of an Apple-
tree and put a young Apple in the mouth of
the Viall, and it will grow therein, and so
you may doe with grapes and other fruit.

To put an Egge into a Viall.

Steep the Egge two dayes and two nights
in vinegar, and roule it on a table softly, and
it will stretch as wax, and then you may put
it into the Viall or draw it through a ring.

To make folk seem black.

Put Oyle Olive into a lamp, and put
therein fine powder of ground glasse, and
light it, and all those that be about it will
seem black as Egyptians.

To prove if a Maiden be cleer.

Burne Mother-wort, and let her take the
smoak at her nose, and if she be corrupt she
will pisse, or else not. Otherwise take gray

**Pettles whilst that they be green, and then
let her pisse on them, and if she be no maiden
they will wither sozthwith, or else not.**

To keep Ink from freezing.

**Take Aquavitz and mix it with writing
Ink, and the same will never freeze.**

To write a Letter with such Inke as cannot
be perceived, unlesse it be holden.
before the fire.

**Take a sheet of faire white paper, & write
thereon with the juce of a red Onyon well
mixed or tempered with the white of an egge
and then dry it well, and then it cannot be
perceived to be any other then plain white
paper without any writing on it: but if you
hold it betwixt you and the fire, you may the
more easily read it and perfectly perceibe the
letters or contents thereof.**

Another way to write Letters that cannot
be read but in this sort.

**Take Allom and beat it into fine powder,
and then put it into faire water, and what-
soever you write therewith, neither that
writing nor letters will appear, except you
put the said paper in water, and then you
may read it perfectly.**

To cause a dog to cease barking.

**Take a Doggs tongue and lay it under
your**

your great Toe (within your shoe) and the dog will cease barking as long as you wear the same.

To cause a Pike to follow one.

Take the juce of Bugwort, and the juce of red Fennell, of each of them a little quantity, and the crams of Rye bread, and mingle them together with a good quantity of Salarmoniack, and grind them well together, and scrape a good quantity of Asaphetida to them, and then rub your line next the booke very well therewith.

An easie way to take Eeles.

Take new Hay that is sweet, and make a bottle thereof, and as you make it up shake upon it some new calves blond, with the liber shred therein, & so want of Calves blond take the blood of a Bull, Dre, or Cow, with the liber as aforesaid, and then bind up your bottle as hard as you can with some ropes of the same hay, and cast it into a river or pond where Eeles are, so tye it to a cord to pull it up at your own pleasure again. Note the chiefest time for the taking of Eeles and other running fish, is at the dark of the Moon in the beginning of May, at the Wooting of Days, and in the Month of September and October, when all waters turne white after

a floud : and for want of Hay, take Oſſers
and ſeethe them in blood as aforeſaid, and
make your purpoſe therewith.

Another way to take Ecles.

Take a good long wiſp of Hay, and make it
hard up, & boile the ſame well in new Calves
blood, and then put it into the midſt of a
bigger truſſe of new Hay, the ſame being
hard made up with the curdled blood, and ſome
of the liver. Make ten or twelve of the bun-
dles, and lay them nere to the banke ſide in
the deepeſt place of the river or pond and put
them a quotts caſt aſunder, in the dark night
after a drought : and if the weather be ſome-
what inclined to rain, it will be the better :
and put to your bundles either ſome ſhining
night worms, or the peeces of ſome rotten
wood, or the ſkins of herrings or ſpats, or
elſe ſome ſuch like ſhining things, whereby
you may perceiue where to take them up at
your pleaſure, as well in the night as in the
day.

To know if a ſick perſon ſhall die
or not.

Take gray Nettles while they be green,
and put them in the patients urin, and if they
remain greene, he ſhall liue : and if they wi-
ther, not.

To

To make salt water fresh.

Take clay, and put it into a bagge, and strain it throughtill it be clere, and it will be fresh.

To kindle a candle at the Sunne.

Take a bright Bason, and put a new looking glasse therein, and set the Bason in the hottest of the Sunne, and lay about it very dry Towe chopped small, and the Towe will take fire with the heat of the Sunne.

To make a candle that it cannot be blowne out.

Take a quill of Dempe stalke, and fill it full with Waxstone, and make it warme, and fire it and it will never goe soth with blowing.

To heale the biting of a mad dog.

Take white Pettles, and the innermost thin skin of a great and angry Oxen, with a little running water and bonep, & bathe it.

To see by night as by day.

Anoint your eyes with the blood of a bat.

To make flesh cleave to the pot.

Take dwall or Pigst shade, and stamp it well and put it in the pot with meat, and the meat will cleave together.

To take birds quick.

Take Pease and keep them in wine lees,
nd

and in the juce of hearb Bennet, and Hemlocke, and then cast them to the birds, and as many as doe eat thereof will be so amazed that they cannot fly away.

To take birds.

Put Barley in the juce of Rets and Wineger, and cast it there as the birds doe haunt or come, and as soon as they have eaten it they cannot fly, and then you may take them.

To make silk wormes.

Take the brain of a Calfe, and it put into a ptt of Madder, and let it lye three weeks, & they will breed of the brain, and ye may feed them with Mulberries and mulbery leaves.

To take away haire.

Anoint the rough place that is taken with the blood of a black Otter, and hair shall never grow there.

To fat Hens and Capons.

Make a deep ptt in the earth, and make therein a bed of Dung, and a bed of Nettles and doe so till it be full, and there keep your Pullen till the herbs begin to grow, and then let them out, and within a short while they will be very fat.

Certain notes to be observed in fishing, viz.

In the Spring time of the year when fish
doe

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Certain notes to be observed in
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doe

a paffe with as many coloured flowers as you can get, and lincare the paffe with the aforesaid dough, and hang it in the midst of a bow net, and put the Pickerell into the net also, then hang the net in some clear place in the midst of a Pond or River and so remain there all night, and in the morning you shall see the experience thereof.

To take a Pickerell in winter or summer.

Take a greene Hearn in the full of the Moon, and take the marrow out of the leg, and put it into a Lin box, and when you list to take a Pickerell, batt your hook either with a Rock, Dace, or Gudgeon, and anoint the baste with the same Oyle, and you shall presently speed.

An easie way to take fish with ones hand.

Take Henbane, Wormwood, Herbin, and stamp them all together, and then hang the same in three Canvas bags, and put them in three severall places of the Pond, and all the fish will gather thereunto.

Another way.

Take Housleek and Pettie roots of each of them a good quanttie, and Stamp and strain them, and then wash your hands in the juice thereof, and then poure it into the Pond, and then

then the fish will gather to the same place in such sort as you may take them up at your pleasure with your hands.

Another way.

Take an ounce of Honey, two ounces of Cheese, foure and twenty grains of Oculus Indix, and two penny worth of Caster, stamp all these together in a mortar, and make it in forme of a paste, and make it in small pieces, and then cast them where the fish be and you shall quickly speed.

Another way.

Take a pewter Bason, and let it be made as bright as may be, and hold it toward the water and the fish will come to the brightness of the Bason.

To take Roches.

Take Oculus Indix, Henbane seed, the yolk of an Egge, English Honey, and Wheaten flower, and mingle them all together, and make a paste thereof.

To take Tench both in March and April.

Take small crummes of household bread, moistned with tar, and cast the same into the water where you purpose to fish: then, thres nights after bait a large botw net with toastts of like bread well tarred and tied fast in the midst of the net, & if you can get a byseder or two

two out of a ranke fofle, and tie in the net,
you fhould try a rare conclufion.

That one fhall not be drunke.

Drinke the iuice of yerrow fafting, and
ye fhall not be drunke foꝛ ne drinke, and
if you were drunke, it will make you sober: oꝛ
elfe eat the marrow of porke fafting, and ye
fhall not be drunke, and if you be drunke a-
noynt your pꝛibꝛ members in vinegar, and
ye fhall waꝛ sober.

To make a good bate for fiſh at all
times of the year.

Take wheat flower and tallow of new
flaine ſheep, and the glaſt of an Egge, and
beat them all together, and baſte your hooks
therewith.

To make an Egge goe up to a
Speares end.

Empty the Egge at a little hole, and fill it
full of May dew, and ſtop the hole cloſe with
a little waꝛ & parchment glued, that the dew
goe not out, then ſtick a ſpeare in the earth
in the heat of the Sun, and lay the Egge, by
the ſpeare, and it will mount up to the top
thereof by the heate of the Sun.

To make a candle burne in the water,

Take White, Oyle, Salt Wꝛimſtone, quack-
ſilber, Waxe and Honey, and put them to-
gether.

gether and make a Candle thereof, and the same will burn in water.

To make fish or flesh seem raw.

Take the blood of a **W**at or **R**id, and dye it and keepe it from the ayre, then cast it on fish, or flesh that is hot, and it will seeme raw.

To make wormes to seem to be in meat.

Take **H**arpe strings: and cut them in small pieces, and cast them but on meat, and they will stirre like wormes.

To make pottage runne out of the pot.

Take and cast sope in the pot and it will run over.

A good medicine for poultery that have the pip.

Take **R**ue, and put it into their troughs of water, where the **P**oultry do use to drinke, and the same will help them presently.

To kill Hens and Ducks.

Cast them the seed of **H**enbane, and they will fall downe as they were dead.

Make powder of **S**aint Johns wort, and when that the coales are wasted, and the fire neer out, cast it thereon and it will lye.

That a man shall not be weary of going.

Drink the iuce of **M**ugwort, and beare the hearb it selfe about you, with the hearbs **H**edelton and **C**rowfoot,

Another way to avoid wearinesse.

Take Mugwort and carry it about you, and you shall not be weary, neither shall there any wicked spirit come neer you having it about you.

A Present remedy to assuage both hunger and thirst.

Take the quantity of a massie nat of Roch Allom (that is both fine and pure) and when you feel either hunger or thirst to oppresse you, put it into your mouth, and suck it for a little space, and use it oftentimes in the day, and it will presently assuage your hunger and thirst; use this as often as need shall require one peny worth of Allom will serve almost a whole week.

To write without Inke.

Take fine white paper, and with the juice of a red Onion, well mixed and tempered with the yolke of an Egge, you may write, which being very drye will shew as though it were onely plain paper, without any writing at all, but if you hold it against the fire, you may then easily reade it, and perceive the letters.

Another way to cause writing not to be perceived.

Take powder of Allom, and put it into water

water, and whatsoever you write therewith
neither the writing nor the letters will ap-
pear, except you put the same writing in wa-
ter, and then you may read it perfectly.

To keep Inke from freezing.

Take a little Aquavitæ (some few drops)
and mix it with writing inke and the same
will never freeze at all.

A present remedy to destroy
a Carbuncle.

Take Costander seed, and beat it to pow-
der, and mingle it with Honey, and make
a plaster thereof, and lay it upon the carbun-
cle or other greivous botles, and the same
will speedily destroy them.

A ready and easie way to try whether
a Maid be a pure Virgin or not.

Take rotes of red Pettie and stamp
them small: and mix the juice thereof with
Ale, and let her drink thereof, and if it doe
remaine with her then she is a maide, other-
wise she is not.

To try if a woman (being with child)
be with childe with a man child
or a woman child.

Take faire well water, and put it into
a clean Bason, and let the woman with child
milke a drop or two of her milke into the
water

water, and if the milke sinke to the bottome, it is a man child, and if it float on the top above the water it is a woman child.

To make yarn and linnen cloth white.

Take a herring barrell, and fill it nigh full of good Ale Dregs, and stop it fast, but you must have a good dish full of parched beans, and put them in a linnen bag, and very hot put them to the dregs till they coole, and shut it fast the space of a quarter of an houre, then take two pounds of Allom, ground to small powder, and cast it thereon, and let it lie foure dayes naturall well closed, and then wash your yarne.

To make that a horse may not goe through a street.

Take the guts of a wolfe, and lay them overthwart the street, and cover them with earth or sand, and he will not go that way as long as the guts covered lie there. Proved.

To take Conies with ones hand.

Take a Coney that is full of young Rabbits, and kill her: and put her all whole into a pottle of oyle Olive, and put thereto some Asafetida, and so boyle them together from a pottle to a pint, and then make a paire of Gloves of Calse skins fit for your hands, and tolle the Gloves in the same liuor with

with the coney, and let it boyle from a pottle to a pint, and when the globes be well boyled let them be safe kept untill you come where fozes of Conies are, then put on the globes, and stand on the wind side of the coney hertes, and the coney will come forth to thee.

Another.

Take a quantity of Ivy leaves, and lay them to steep in Aquavita for the space of three or four dates, and then cast the same leaves near the coney holes.

Another way to catch Moles.

If you will catch Moles or Warts, take Garlick, Leeks, and Onions, and put them in the mouth of the holes, or entrance into the ground where they are, and you shall see them come leaping out of the ground as if they were amazed.

Another way to catch Moles.

Take the quantity of a pint of Asafetida and two spoonfulls of cummin seed, and beat them together into powder, and make dough with flower of it, then work it well, and make it into balls as big as a pease, and then put them into the mole holes in every hole. But first scrape away the earth cleane from the holes: and the Moles will come forth of

the earth, therefore watch them well, Also
this in the moneth of March when they
goe a clicketting.

To ripen Nuts.

Take Nuts at Midsummer, and delve them
well in the ground, and cover them well, and
they will be as ripe as those that you shall
gather when they be upon the tree.

To drive away Rats.

Take the hooft of a Ston'd horse, sliced in
pieces, and put it on a chafing dish of coales,
and the very scent or smell thereof being well
perfumed, will drive away all the Rats from
the house.

Ad capiendum pisces.

Recipe luce Mullage, vel scolares tortes,
collectum circa medium Maii quando Luna
sit plena, distemperata comminge sape, ser-
va in olla terrea, & quando vis occupare, un-
ge manus tuas eclava sita in aqua, loco, ubi
sunt pisces.

To take Rats.

Take a quick Rat, and put her in a net,
and make a soft fire about it and under it, and
when she feelth the heat she will cry, and the
Rats that hear her will come to help her, and
then you may take them. And in like manner
you may doe, by moles.

To

To take Moles.

Take a couple of quick Moles, and put them in a deep pot, and set the pot in the earth to the brim, and when they cannot get out, they will peepe, and all the other Moles will come and fall into the pot to them.

To make light for ever.

Take the wormes that Wine commonly in the night and gather the liquor of them, and mingle it with a quartern of Quicksilver, and put it in a Glass, and then you shall see all the night long by it.

To put ones hand into any hot seething thing.

Anoynt thy hands with beere Mercury: and put them in a seething-thing, and it will doe thee no harme at all.

To kill Lice.

Make a good fire, and put Quick Silver therein, and hang the cloaths that are troubled with Lice over the fire in the smoak, and then assure your selfe no vermines will breed or come in them.

To kill Lice and Nits.

Take the powder or scraping of Harke bozne, and let the party that is troubled with them, drinke often thereof, and there will neither Lice nor Nits breed either in his head

oz body. Also if you strake the same powder
either upon his head, or on his cloathes, all
the Lice and Bits will presently dye.

An easie way to kill Fleas.

Take the heerb Costander, and seeth it
well in water, and then spynkle the same
water in your chambers and roomes, and it
will destroy all the Fleas.

Another way.

Take Wormwood and Rue, and stamp
them together, then mingle them well with
good wine, and put them all together in a
linnen cloth, and rub all thy body well with it
befoze thou goest to bed, and the Fleas will
not come near thee.

Question.

Question.

Five wives, and five, and five, and fifteen
They all assembled on a green,
And every wife rode on a mare
And another mare their gear bare :
And every mare a filly sole,
And every one of them a double hole.
Now tell me fellow by thy say,
How many lickholes were there that day.

FINIS.
