

*Scots Piper's Queries :*

OR,

John Falkirk's Caraches.

TO WHICH IS ADDED,

His Comical and Witty Jokes,

When in Courtship with an old Fiddler's  
Widow, who wanted all the teeth. With  
a copy of a Love Letter he sent to her,  
who was commonly called Flinging Betty.

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*Old John Piper if you desire,  
Ta read at leisure by the fire ;  
I will please bairns and keep them laughing,  
And mind the Auld Goodwife o'er daffing.*

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CONCLUDING WITH THE

QUAKER AND THE CLOWN,

A WONDERFUL TALE.

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This Catechism deserves no Creed,  
It's only for boys who will not read  
On wiser books them to instruct!  
Let droll John their fancy cook.

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The Scots Piper's Queries, &c.

Q. **WHAT** is the wisest behaviour of ignorant persons?

A. To speak of nothing but what they know, and to give their opinion of nothing but what they understand.

Q. What time is a scolding wife at the best?

A. When she is fast asleep.

Q. What time is a scolding wife at the worst;

A. When she is that wicked as to tear the hair out of her own head, when she can't get at her neighbour's, and through perfect spite bites her own tongue with her own teeth: my hearty wish is, that all such wicked vipers may ever do so.

Q. What is the effectual cure and infallible remedy for a scolding wife?

A. The only cure is to get out of the hearing of her, but the infallible remedy is to nail her tongue to a growing tree, in the beginning of a cold winter night, and so let it stand

till sun-rising next morning she ll become one of the peaceablest woman that ever lay by a man's side.

Q. What time of the year is it that there are most holes open?

A. In harvest when there are stubles.

Q. At what time is the cow heaviest?

A. When the bull is on her back.

Q. Who was the goodman's muckle cow's calf's mother.

A. None but the muckle cow herself.

Q. What is the likest thing to a man and a horse?

A. A taylor and a mare.

Q. What is the hardest dinner that ever a taylor laid his teeth to?

A. His own goose tho' never so well boiled and roasted.

Q. How many toads tails will it take to reach up to the moon?

A. One if it be long enough,

Q. How many sticks gangs to the bigging of a crow's nest?

A. None, for they are all carried.

Q. How many whites will a well made pudding-prick need?

A. If it be well made it needs no more.

Q. Who was the father of Zebedee's chil.

A. Who but himself.

Q. Where did Moses go when he was full fifteen years old?

A. Into his sixteenth.

Q. How near related is your aunty's good brother to you?

A. No nearer than my own father.

Q. How many holes are there in a hen's

A. Two. (doup?)

Q. How prove you that?

A. There is one for the dung and another for the egg.

Q. Who is the best for catching rogues?

A. None so fit as a rogue himself.

Q. Where was the usefulest fair in Scotland kept?

A. At Milguy. (there !)

Q. What sort of commodities were sold

A. Nothing but ale and ill wicked wives.

Q. How was it abolished?

A. Because those who went to it once would go to it no more.

Q. For what reason?

A. Because there was no money to be got for them but fair Barter, wife for wife, and he who put away his wife for one fault got a wife with two as bad.

Q. What was the reason that in those days a man could put away his wife for pissing the bed and not for sh——g it?

A. Because he could shute it away with his foot and ly down.

Q. What is the reason now a-days that men court, cast, marry and re-marry so many wives, and keep but only one in public at last?

A. Because private marriage is become as common as smugling and cuckolding the kirk no more thought of than a man to ride a mile or two on his neighbour's mare! men get will and wa'e of wives, the best portiou and properest person is preferred, the first left the weak to the worst, and the whom he does not love, he shutes away with his foot and lies down with whom he p'eales.

Q. How will ye know the birns of our town by others in the kingdom?

A. By their ill breeding and bad manners

Q. What is their behaviour?

A. If you ask them a question in civility, if it were but the road to the next town, they'll tell you to follow your nose, and if go wrong curse the guid.

Q. Are young and old of them no better?

A. All the odds lies in the difference, for if you ask a child to whom he belongs, or who is his father, he'll tell to you kifs father's a---

Q. What kind of creatures are kindest when they meet?

A. None can exceed the kindness of dogs when they meet in a market.

Q. And what is collies conduct there?

A. First they kifs others mouths and noses, smell all about, and last of all, they are so kind as to kifs other below the tail.

Q. What is the coldest part of a dog?

A. His nose,

Q. What is the coldest part of and?

*The Scots Piper's Queries.*

1. His knees.

Q. What is the coldest part of a woman?

A. The back part of her body.

Q. What's the reason that these three parts of men women and dogs are coldest?

A. Fabulous historians say, that there was three little holes broke in Noah's ark, and that the dog put his nose in one, and another the man put his knee in it, a third and biggest hole broke, and the woman bang'd her backside into it; and these parts being exposed to the cold blast make them always cold ever since.

Q. And what remedy does the man take for the warming of his cold knees?

A. He holds them towards the fire and when in bed draws his shirt down over them.

Q. And what does the woman do to warm her cold parts?

A. The married women turns their backside about to the goodman's belly: virgins, and those going mad for marriage, the heat of their maiden-head keeps them warm, old matrons, whil'd o'er maiden, widows, and widows bewitch'd hold up their cold parts to the fire.

Q. And what remedy does the poor dog take for his cold nose.

A. Stops it below his tail the hottest bit in his body.

Q. What is the reason that dogs are worse on chapmen, than on other strange people,

A. It is said the dogs have three accusations against the chapmen, handed down from father to son, or from one generation of dogs to another: The first is as old as Aesop, the great wit of Babylon the dog having a law suit against the cat, gained the plea, and coming trudging home with the decreet below his tail, a wicked chapman throwing his elwan at him, he let it fa', and so lost his previeges. The second is becau'e in old times the chapmen used to buy dogs and kill them for their skins. The third when a chapman was quartered in a farmer's house, that night the dog lost his property the licking of the pot.

\* Q. What creature resembles most a drunk-on piper?

A. A cat when she sips milk; she always sings and so does a piper when he drinks good ale.

Q. What is the reason a dog runs twice round about before he lie down.

A. Because he does not know the head of bed from the foot of it.

Q. What creature resembles most, a long, lean, ill-lookiug greasy-fac'd lady for pride?

A. None so much as a cat, who is costiuually spitting in her lufe and rubbing her face as many of such ladies do the brown leather.

Q. Amongst what sort of creatures will you observe most of a natural law?

A. The hart and the hind meet at one certain day in the year; the broad goose lays

her first egg on Fastern's Even old stile; the crows begin to build their nest the first of March old stile: the swans observe matrimony and if the female die, the male dares not take up with another, or the rest will put them to death; all the birds in general join in pairs and keep so; but the dove resembles the adulterer, when the first one turns old he pays her away and takes another; the locusts observe military order and march in bands: the frogs resemble pipers and preachers for the young ride the old to death.

Q. Who are the merriest and heartiest people in world?

A. The sailors, for they'll be singing and cursing one another, when the waves, their graves are going over their heads.

Q. Which are the disorderliest creatures in battle?

A. Cows and dogs for they all fall upon them that are neathmost

Q. Who are the vainest sort of people in the world?

A. A barber, a taylor, a young soldier, and a poor dominie

Q. What is the great cause of the barbers vanity?

A. His being admitted to trim noblemens chafes, thyke their sculls, take kings by the nose, and hold a razor to his very throat which no subject else dare do.



Q. What is the great cause of the tailor's pride?

A. His making of peoples new clothes, of which every person young and old is proud of, then who can walk vainer than a tailor carrying home a gentleman's clothes.

Q. What is the cause of a young soldier's pride?

A. When he lists, he is free of his mother's correction, and the hard usage of a bad master, has liberty to curse, swear, whore, and everything, until convinced by four halberts and the drummer's whip, that he has now got a military and civil law above his head, and perhaps worse masters than ever.

Q. What is the cause of the poor domine's pride?

A. As he is the teacher of the young and ignorant, he supposes no man knows what he knows, the boys call him master, therefore he thinks himse'f a great man.

Q. What sort of a song is it that is sung without a tongue, and its notes are understood by people of all nations?

A. It is a fart, which every person knows to be but wind.

Q. What is the reason that young people are vain, giddy-headed and airy, and not so humble as the children of former years?

A. Because they are brought up and educate after a more haughty strain, by reading

fab'es, plays, novels, and romances; gospel books, such as the psalm book, proverbs and catechisms are like old almanacks: nothing in vogue, but fiddle, flute, Tory and Babylonish tunes, our plain English speech corrupted with beautifi cants, don't, won't, nen and ken, a jargon worse than the Yorkshire dialect.

Q Why is swearing become so common amongst the Scotch people?

A. Because so many lofty teachers come from the south amongst us where swearing is practised in its true grammatical perfection, hot paths new struck with as bright a lustre as a new quarter guinea.

Q How will ye know the bones of a mason's mare at the back of a dyke, amongst the bones of a hundred dead horse?

A. Because it is made of wood.

Q Which are the two things not to be spared, and not to be abused?

A. A soldier's coat and a hired horse.

*The end of John FALKIRK'S CARICHES.*

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*The Comical and witty Jokes of JOHN FALKIRK the MERRY PIPER.*

**A**N old gentleman and his two sons, being in a company, his eldest son sit ing next to him, spoke a word which highly displeas'd his father, for which his father gave him a hearty blow on the side of the head; a well:

said he, I will not lift my hand to strike my parent, but he gives his other brother that fat by him a blow on the ear saying, give that about by way of a drink till it comes to my father again.

A sailor traveling between Edinburgh and Linlithgow which is twelve long computed miles; and as he was setting on in the morning about eight o'clock, he saw a vain-like young spark go running past him, which he never minded but kept jogging on at his own leisure: and as he was going into Linlithgow about twelve o'clock, up comes the young spark, and asked the sailor what o'clock it was, why says the sailor, I see you have a watch and I have none, what is it? out he pulls his watch, no! said he it's directly twelve, and what do you think, it was half an hour after tenor I came out of Edinburgh I have walked it in an hour and a half; it is pretty well tript, says the sailor but pray sir, what man of business are you? O! said he I am a watch maker, I was thinking so said the sailor for you have made your watch to answer your feet for they cannot answer a right watch and I suppose your tongue cannot keep time with either of them, do you remember where you pass'd me this morning about eight o'clock? O yes, said he and off he went.

A certain old reverend priest being one night at supper in a gentleman's house; and for one article having eggs, the serger of the

table<sup>d</sup>aid a cloth on every one's knee for to hold their egg in when hot; when supper was over, the priest looked down between his legs, an' seeing the white cloth, thought it was his own shirt tail, and very slyly staps into his breeches bit and bit, which the lady and the maid observed, but was ashamed to tell him; so home he went with the servit in his breeches and knēw nothing of it till going to bed, when it fell from him: his wife enquired how he came by it, he could not tell, but was surpris'd how he came to have mōre bulk in his breeches than formerly but observing the name they sent it back again, the priest pleaded to be excus'd, own'd himself only a thief in ignorance.

As two maids were coming from milking their cows, one of them stepping over a stile, fell and spilt the whole pailful of milk from her head. 'O said she what will I do, what will I do. O said the other maid let it go, who can help it now, you can't take it up again, its not your maidenhead: my maiden head, said she, if it were my maiden head, I would think nothing of it, many a time I have lost my maiden head with great pleasure and it ay came back to its ain place again, but I ll never gather up my milk.

A drover who frequented a public inn in then'orth of England, as he pass'd and re-pass'd, agreed with the servant maid of the house for a touch of love; for which he gave

her a six and thirty shilling piece : On the next morning he mounted his horse, without asking a bill or what was to pay ; but sir, said the landlord, you forgot to pay your reckoning: well minded sir, I want my change, the maid was called in all haste yes, said she I got it. but it was not for that, throw it down and off she goes: her mistress gave her the challenge she told her it was so, but she should be up with him. Twelve months after he coming past with his drove, puts up at the same inn as formerly : The girl then goes to a neighbour woman, who had a young child about three months old, lays it on the table, saying sir the e's the change of your six and thirty ; and away she comes: the child cries and the bell's rung, the landlord was ready enough to answer. O sir, said the drover, call her back, for this will ruin my family and crack my credit: but sir, said the girl, you thought nothing to ruin my character and crack my maiden-head : Peace, peace, said he. my dear, here's one hundred and fifty pounds, and take away the child and trouble me no more : Well, said she, I will take it, and you'll make more of buying cows than maiden-heads ; so away she came with the money, and returned the borrowed child to its own mother.

Three merry companions having met on a Saturday night at an ale house, (a hatter &

shoe-maker, and a taylor,) where they drank heartily all that night, and to morrow until mid day : and their bets were who had the lovingest wife : So they agreed for a trial of their good nature, that every man should do whatever his wife bad him do, as soon as ever he went home ; who did not as she ordered him was to pay all the reckoning, which was seven and sixpence : or if all of them did as their wives bade them then they were to pay all alike. So on this agreement they all came away first to the hatter's house, and in he goes like a madman, dancing and jumping round the floor, his wife at the time was taking off the pot and setting it on the floor, he still dancing about now says the wife, ding over the pot with thy madness, so he gives it a kick and over it went and that saved him as he had done what his wife bade him do. Then away they go to the taylor's house in he goes dancing likewise, but his wife fell a scolding him : O says he my dear give me a kiss? kils my arse you drunken rogue, said she, then to her he flies and lays her over the bed up with her petticoats and kisses her arse before them all, and that saved him; then away they went to the shemakers, and in he goes very merry, and dancing about as he saw the other two do : saying, come my dear heart, and give me a kiss? go hang yourself you drunken dog, said she : so he must either go and hang himself directly, or pay the reckoning.

An honest Highlandman not long since, not much acquainted with the law, fell out with one of his neighbours, and to the law they went; he employed one advocate, and his opposite another, and as they were debating it in court before the judges, the highlandman being there present, a friend on his side asked him how he thought it would go, or who would gain the day, indeed says the highlandman, his lawman speaks well, and my law-man speaks well, I think we'll both win, and the judges will lose, for they speak but a word now and then.

A young woman by the old accident having got herself with child, was called to the session for so doing and after one e'der another examining how she got it, and where she got it, and what tempted her to get it: and no doubt the deil wad get her for the getting it; last of all the minister he fell enquiring how she got it, which run the poor lass out of all patience about the getting, says the priest, tell me plainly where it was gotten? I tell you, said she, that it was gotten in the byre, at a cow's stake, and what other place do ye want to ken about? but said he, did he not tie you to the cow's stake: no, said she, I did not need any tying; and how far was between the byre and the house? just but ar'd ben up and down two slaps of a stane stair; then says the priest why did you not cry to the folks in the house? indeed sir, said she, I could not get cried for the laughing at it.

An old soldier being on a furlough from the north of Scot' and having got no breakfast, fell very hungry by the way and no ale house being near, came into a farmer's house, and desired they would sell him some bread, or any kind of victuals; to which the surly goodwife replied she never sold any bread, and she was not going to begin with him. he had but three miles and a bittock to an ale-house, and he might walk on, as she did fair enough when she gied bits of bread for naething to beggars. tho' she gied nane to idle sodgers, he had naething to do there awa'. Hout said the goodman, gie m a ladlefu o' our kail, he'z been somebody's bairn before he was a sodger. What? said she there's not a drop in the pot, they're a i the plate before you, then gie'm a spoon and let him sup wi us; The sodger gets a spoon, and thinki'g he could sup all he saw, the first sup he took he spouted back again into the plate and cries out, O my fore-mouth, the hide's all off yet since I had the clap: every one throwing down his spoon the soldi-r got all to sup himse f; the wife stood cursing and scolding all the while and when he was done, burnt both plate and spoon in the fire, to prevent the clap. So the soldier came off with a full belly leaving the wife dressing the goodman's rigging with a four footed stool for bidding him sup.

A churlish man and a virtuoss wife, one time fell out, because the wife had given



something to the poor; what said the mistress I'll let you know there is nothing about this house but what is mine: well, well goodman then you'll let me have nothing, take it all and give me peace: So away they went to bed, the goodwife turned her backside toward the good man; and as he was falling asleep she draws up her smock and lets fly in the goodman's shirt tail, which awakened him in as great fright as he had been shot; ay, ay woman what are ye about? what am I about said she: dear woman you're filling the bed. Not I goodman, for when my arse was my own I took care of it, and take you care of it now, its yours. O rise woman and clean the bed and keep your arse and a' the liberty ye had before and more, if ye want it; feigh, feigh, what's this? I m a dirt.

A ships crew being one time in great distress at sea by reason of a violent storm and being all fallen down to prayer, expecting every moment to go to the bottom: there happened to be an old gentleman a passenger on board with them, who had a great big red nose with drinking ale and whisky: and being all at their last prayers as they thought, a little boy burst out into loud laughter: O thou thoughtless rogue, said the captain what makes thee to laugh in seeing us all on the point of perishing? why said the boy, I cannot but laugh for to think what fine sport it will be when

we are a' drowning, to see how that man's red nose will make the water biz when it comes about it; at which words they all fell a laughing and therished the crew, so that they made another attempt to weather it out, and got all safe ashore at last.

*My lovely Bet,*

The beauty of old age, the hoary head, and louching shoulders incline to mortality; yet I'll compare thee to the Eagle that has renewed her youth, or a leek with a white head and a green tail. This comes to thee with my kind compliments for kisses of thy lips and the kindness I had to thy late bed-fellow, Fidler Pate my brother-pensioner, ah! how we drank o'ther's health with the broe of the brucket ewes, we brought from boughs of the German Boors but it's nonsense to b'ow the deed, when in the dust, yet a better Vialer never screeded on a silk'n cord, or kittl'd cat's trypes wi' his finger-ends; his elbows were supple as aneel, and his fingers dabbed at the jigg'ing end like a hungry hen picking barley: I seldom or ever saw him drunk, if keep him from whisky, and whisky from him: except, that night he trystet the pair of free-stane breeches from Joseph the mason; and now my dear Bessy he's got them. he's got them for a free-stane covers his body, holds him down, and will do: and now, now my dainty thing, match for matrimony, come take me now or tell me now, I'm in danger, I'll wait nae langer

I say be clever, ei her now or never, it's a rapture of love which does me move, I'll have a wife, or by my life if she should be blind and cripple, I'll se'l my win' for her meat and fun, the like ne'er gade down her the apple: so now Bessy I love you, my love lies upon you: and if you love me not again, some ill chance come upon you, as I'm flyting free, I'm both in love and banter, or may your rumple rust for me. I've sworn it by my chanter

THE END.

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*The QUAKER and CLOWN  
WONDERFUL TALE.*

A Certain clown, named Roger, loved the chimney corner so much better than a church pew, that he constantly pass'd his Sundays in it. It was so long since he had attended divine service that he scarce remembered the colour of the parson's cassock. His wife, who heartily wished his absence was more frequent, took occasion one day to represent to him in the most emphatica manner what an heinous crime it was to neglect divine service. She he'd forth so long and so loud on this head, that he, tired by her arguments, determined to leave his beloved seat, with an intent on to go to church. He went accordingly from home; but happening in his way to the church to see the doer of the quaker's

quaker, s meeting open, he went in, sat down on a form and fell fast asleep.

Aminadab Heldforth having sustained some losses, was telling his auditors that whatever they gave him should be returned two-fold. Roger waked just as he made this declaration; and from the meeting to his cottage revolved these words in his mind.

When he got home he repeated them to his wife; telling at the same time that as he thought it improbable his friend Aminadab should lie, he was determined to make him a present of his cow Cherry; as it would, according to his promise in the meeting, be returned two fold.

On this extraordinary information the door woman set up an horrid outcry; urging in the strongest terms that her dear Cherry's milk was their chief support; but all to no purpose, Roger was absolutely bent on his design, and drove her away immediately Aminadab, regardless of his wife's lamentations and piteous moans.

When he arrived at his house, Friend Aminadab happened to be at the door. Roger directly doff'd his hat & gnawing its corner, addressed him in the following manner:— Friend Aminadab, I've brought you here our cow Cherry, an you please to acceptan her. Thou art an honest fellow, replies Aminadab: Here, Sarah, take our honest neighbour into the kitchen and let him eat heartily: and hark ye, make him drink some of our best

a'c. At these sounds Roger's heart leapt with joy. He was conducted to the kitchen where he acted his part most manfully: and in two hours, was sent home as happy as a prince.

When he came home he boasted to his wife that he had already received something in part of his gift that should be returned in time, and he was certain his friend Aminadab had spoken truth: but his wife interrupting him in the harangue with an accusation of stupidity and having foolishly ruined himself and her. Roger to avoid farther altercation retired to bed, and slept soundly till morning.

As soon as Roger waked his ears were attracted by the sounds of moo—moo—moo, under his window. He got up and looking out perceived his own cow Cherry and Aminadab's bull whom she had decoyed home with her. Overjoyed at the sight he waked his wife, and informed her of their good fortune; and likewise upbraiding her for her unbelief of words uttered at the meeting; and remarked that his friend Aminadab had been better than his word, for he had not only returned his gift twofold but had likewise given him the best dinner he had ever tasted in his life.

It was then determined to sell the bull and keep the cow. No sooner resolved on than put in execution? the bull was sold, and the cow reserved for her former use.

Roger having such success by going to meeting determined to go there again. The next Sunday, being feated as before, he was

very attention to Aminadab's discourse; and towards the conclusion, he was greatly astonished to hear him pronounce the following words: "that whereas on Monday last I have lost my bull together with a cow lately made me present of; whoever can give information of the said cow and bull, so as they may be recovered may receive a crown reward."

This appearing somewhat mysterious to Roger, he resolved to intimate his surprize to Aminadab; whom he addressed accordingly, as he was coming out of the meeting. The Quaker finding by his discourse that he was the person who had got both cow and bull, told him in a great passion that he would the next morning take a ride to Mr. Clearcase (a justice of peace, who lived at about three miles distance) and inform him of the affair. Roger determined to be at the justices as soon as the Quaker, and set out accordingly the next morning early.

On the road, Roger espied the Quaker's horse tied to the door of a small hedge-alley-house to which he immediately went; and, peeping thro' a window perceived Aminadab and the landlord's wife transacting some affairs which could not be termed absolutely descreet. At this unexpected sight Roger was greatly overjoyed, knowing he could intimidate the Quaker at any time by letting him understand what he was privy to, which would excite the rage of his own conjugal termagant.

Roger entering the house, drunk a pint of ale with all possible speed; and then informed the servant Mr Ho'dforth and he had agreed to ride *speel and spel*: or what is otherwise called *edride and tye*: a method practised in the country when two go together and have but one horse between them, one riding first and leaving the horse at a place appointed: or if neither of them knew the way tying him to the door of some public house, in such a manner as the other must absolutely see it; and describing to the people of the house, the person they are to deliver the horse to; in this manner they proceed during the whole journey:

Roger having got possession of Aminadab's horse rode it to the town where the justice of the peace lived and struck up a bargain with a great deal of expedition and sold it; then waited at the justice's door for the Quaker.

Poor Aminadab whose corpulence was no great friend to his walking in a short time after came puffing and blowing towards the justice's. Roger immediately informed him, that being very much tired by the journey, and seeing his horse stand idle at a door, he had made bold to use him: and finding a chap who was willing to give a good price for him he readily sold him, thinking it a sin to refuse a good offer; and therefore hoped he would not take it ill what he had done.

Upon hearing this the Quaker was in a great passion; and said, "Thou villain! what after

having robb'd me of my bull and cow, to steal my horse!—why—why fellow don't you think to be hang'd? —' I hope not,' replies Roger, but however that may be pray friend let me ask the one question, What might you be doing when I took the horse? —' Hush! Hush?' cries the quaker in a terrible fright, "never mention what thou hast seen, and I'll forgive thee all. Go thy ways, and hark thee, take *grace* with thee "

Roger bowed, and proceeded homeward; but as the quaker moved slowly, determined to call at his house. When he arrived, the maid accosted him with, 'Well Roger, how hast thou and my master rode it out? Oh! very well, replies Roger, "we're as good friends as ever. He bid me go and take *grace* with me 'Grāce'" cries the maid; "what, and all her pigs!"

Now reader you must know *grace* was a favourite sow of the quaker's who had lately littered a fine parcel of pigs. The maid thinking it her master's intention turned the sow and her litter out of the sty, and Roger drove them home before him.

The quaker's wife being made acquainted with the affair; the reception Aminadab met with from her when she saw him come home without his horse is better imazined than expressed---But I am credibly informed that his harangues in the meeting were for some time after very much larded with investives against rage---hard words—and an immoderate indulgence of the passions.