



The Old Gentleman's WISH,

OR

The Reformed Old Gentleman.

I am grown old, Alas!
My seventy years are past:
I *Wish* with all my heart,
I may grow wife at last.

2. When I was past a Child,
I left the Grammer-school,
(Fond Parents!) Ah! I *Wish*,
I had not been a Fool.

3. Having my liberty,
And Money, every day,
(I *Wish* none wou'd do thus)
Ah! I did game and play.

4. Youth is the feeding time,
From whence good fruits shou'd
I brought forth noisom weeds: (grow
I *Wish* I'd not done so.

5. I kept ill Company,
My Hawks, and Hounds, and worse:
One can't to enemies
Wish any greater Curse.

6. I and my bonny Fellowes
Had many a vagary,
And after drank down sin,
In Clarret and Canary.

7. But now I see my faults,
How I have gone astray:
That God wou'd set me right,
I hugely *Wish* and Pray.

8. O Happy Change! When Grace
Assisting Industry,
Preventing, following Grace
(I *Wish*) may wants supply.

9. My old Companions
Themselves from me withdraw:
I sadly *Wish*, I had
Their Faces never saw.

10. O Time! most precious Time!
I *Wish* thee come again.
Impossible it is:
To *Wish* it is in vain.

11. Time past cannot return:
You can't undo, what's done.
'Tis as hard, as in's course
To stop the Giant Sun.

12. Yet I do *Wish* and pray,
My Time I may redeem,
By double Diligence:
This a Wise *Wish* will seem.

13. And now I entertain
A Sober, Learned Friend,
To improve me, and I *Wish*
To keep him to my end.

14. We read the Psalmodie,
And Gospel, every Day:
At the Church and at home,
We Two together pray.

15. We love God's Ministers,
Obey in every thing:
We dayly pray and *Wish*
All Honour to the King.

16. My Noble Friends, do ye
Get such a Guide, and then
You may be what I *Wish*,
Right good Old Gentlemen.

C B.

