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Title	A looking-glass for a covetous miser, or, Comfort to a contented minde : being a serious discourse between a rich miser in the west country, and a poor husband-man, as they accidentally met upon the way : their dispute being so tedious, and of so great concernment, a neighbour of theirs hearing them, took pains to write down the subject of their discourse, after he had heard what had befallen to the rich-man, he sent a letter to a friend of his in London, and desired that he would get it printed for an example to all unthankful men : to the tune of, the Fair angel of England, or, the Tyrant.
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A Looking-glass for a covetous Miser :
OR,

Comfort to a Contented minde.

Being a serious discourse between a Rich Miser in the West Country, and a poor Husband man, as they accidentally met upon the way: their dispute being so tedious, and of so great concernment, A neighbour of theirs hearing them, took pains to write down the subject of their discourse, after he had heard what had befallen to the Rich-man; He sent a Letter to a friend of his in London, and desired that he would get it Printed for an example to all unthankful men.

to the tune of, the Fair Angel of England; or, the Tyrant



Some listen hind neighbours with heart and good
I promise you truly I think no man ill, (will,
The onely inform you what news I do hear,
By Letters at London out of Devonshire,
There was a rich miser that hoarded up grain,
Like wife a poor Husbandman honest and plain
The miser with sorrow did look pale and wan,
And thus to disputing this Couple began.

The Miser.
Well met honest neighbour the Miser did say,
What is the best Pelves at the Market to day;
How did they sell Barley, their Wheat, & their Rye?
Declare the truth to me without any lye:
For I was sore troubled last night in my sleep,
With dreaming of matters which made me to weep,
I thought my whole Barn full of Barley and Wheat,
The Kats, Dice, and Vermine, did seem to eat.



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Husband-man.
Sed Wheat gave three shillings a strike I protest,
But this I le allure you it was of the best;
The best Rye i th market gave not half a crown,
Which made some rich Misers to fret and to frown,
For five goats and two pence good Barley was sold;
To speak the plain truth out a man may be bold,
Therefore be contented good neighbour with me,
Praise God and be thankful such plenty to see.

Miser.
It guides me to thing what a Trade we shall do be,
Our Lands and our livings will not make us thave,
The reason of this now I will tell you plain
Because of the cheapness of all kinde of Grain,
Ere I will sell Barley two shillings a strike,
I now am resolved to throw plough i th ditch;
If Grain hold so cheap as it plainly appears,
I shall be undone within two or three years.

Husband-man.
Thou Covetous wifer dost thou ever hear,
A Farmer undone in a plentiful year,
You know how I Wood and paid a great Rent,
Sole Barley to fifteen and yet was content,
In plentiful seasons Gods mercy is shown,
He sends the poor Ploughman two Shihels for one,
And great store of Cattel with fodder and stufte
Do that is contented hath treasure enough.

Miser.
It troubles me sadly this Tale should be told,
The Counting by me that's full three years old,
They once had five shillings a strike for i I think,
But now I'me persuaded that Barley doth stink
Yet woe I thach no more then our family spends,
I hope that next year it will make us amends,
If Grain holds so cheap as it plainly appears,
I'll sell no more Corn yet this two or three years.

Husbandman.
The Rich-man i th Gospel spake thus, like a child.
He'd pull down his Barnes that he larger might build
Whereby he might solace himself with delight,
Although his Soul was required of him that same night

London, Printed, for W. Thackeray, T. Passinger and W. VVhitwood.

But I am contented I promise you true,
When corn will but last until God see us new,
Though misers do murmur their graine they can't raise
Let you men be thankful and give God the praise.

Miser.
Example by Joseph in Egypt, I have,
That in time of plenty men nup their Corn save,
For fear least a Famine should be in the Land,
That we may have store when comes the command
To furnish such people as then comes to buy,
You know that no wife more such things will buy,
If corn hold so cheap as it plainly appears,
I shall be undone within two or three years.

Husbandman.
You know that I have seen this hath rehearsal,
That man that keeps sack his corn, people will curle,
But he that with cheerfulness letteth his graine
A blessing upon him will surely remain:
But some men to covetousness are inclin'd,
Ere they'd bate a farthing they'd see you men p'd,
Though misers do murmur their graine they can't raise,
Let you men be thankful and give God the praise.

But mark what befall to this covetous Peasant,
His house it was robbed before he got home,
His chests were broke open, his servants were bound,
He lost in one hour two hundred pound,
This sure was a Judgement his neighbours did gulf
Because he these words did so often expell
If Grain hold so cheap as it plainly appears,
He should be undone within two or three years.

Concluding my story mark well what I say,
The poor of this Nation are bound for to pray,
That God would be pleased to help them at need,
That they may have bread their poor Children to feed
For Charity's cold enough as 'tis well known,
God house-keeping like wife is now bad grown,
Take this admonition from me as a friend,
Praise God and be thankful that plenty doth send.

FINIS. T. J.