

**THE PRETTY
GENTLEMAN; OR,
SOFTNESS OF MANNERS**

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The pretty gentleman; or, Softness of manners by Edmund Goldsmith

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EDMUND GOLDSMITH

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GENTLEMAN; OR,
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THE
PRETTY GENTLEMAN.





LANCASTER, Nathaniel

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THE
PRETTY GENTLEMAN;
OR,
SOFTNESS OF MANNERS
VINDICATED

From the false RIDICULE exhibited under the
Character of

WILLIAM FRIBBLE, Esq.

ASSEMBLED BY

EDMUND GOLDSMID, F.R.H.S.

PRIVATELY PRINTED, EDINBURGH.

1885.

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under the Character of

WILLIAM FRIBBLE, Esq.

LONDON,
1747.





TO
MR. GARRICK.

SIR,

AS in the Wantonness of your petulant Fancy, you have fallen upon a Sett of Gentlemen, who cannot possibly have given you any personal Provocation ; I have thought proper to prefix your Name to this their Defence, and call upon you thus publickly to justify your Behaviour, if it be possible. But surely, Sir, it must have been a secret Admiration of their Elegant and Refined Manners, that called forth your Spleen, to turn into Ridicule those soft Accomplishments you despised to equal ; and, as a Comic Writer did by the Divine *Socrates*, mimic and burlesque upon the Stage what you had not the Face to imitate in real Life. But your Wit was as impotent as your Malice was strong. Your Farce was no sooner seen, than it was laughed at ; you know, Sir, it was laughed at ; most prodigiously laughed at : A plain Proof, that it was judged to be very *ridiculous*.

Believe me, Sir, you have fallen most miserably short in your Attempt. And how should it be otherwise ? You pretend to exhibit a Representation of *The Pretty Gentleman*, who are by no

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