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The Works Of Alexander Pope Esq.

In Nine Volumes Complete. With His Last Corrections, Additions, And Improvements; As they were delivered to the Editor a little before his Death

Containing His Translations And Imitations

Pope, Alexander

London, 1751

I. Of Chaucer

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IMITATIONS

O F

ENGLISH POETS.

I.

CHAU CER.

WOMEN ben full of Ragerie,
Yet fwinken nat fans secrefie.

Thilke moral shall ye understond,
From Schoole-boy's Tale of fayre Ireland :

Which to the Fennes hath him betake, 5
To filch the gray Ducke fro the Lake.

Right then, there passen by the Way
His Aunt, and eke her Daughters tway.

Ducke in his Trowfes hath he hent,
Not to be spied of Ladies gent. 10

“ But ho ! our Nephew, (crieth one)

“ Ho ! quoth another, Cozen John ;

And stoppen, and lough, and callen out,—

This sely Clerk full low doth lout :

They asken that, and talken this, 15
 " Lo here is Coz, and here is Mifs.
 But, as he glozeth with Speeches soote,
 The Ducke fore tickleth his Erse roote :
 Fore-piece and buttons all-to-brest,
 Forth thrust a white neck, and red crest. 20
 Te-he, cry'd Ladies ; Clerke nought spake :
 Mifs star'd ; and gray Ducke crieth Quaake.
 " O Moder, Moder, (quoth the daughter)
 " Be thilke same thing Maids longer a'ter ?
 " Bette is to pyne on coals and chalke,
 " Then trust on Mon, whose yerde can talke.