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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

Phryne

[urn:nbn:de:hbz:466:1-54928](https://nbn-resolving.org/urn:nbn:de:hbz:466:1-54928)

P H R Y N E.

P HRYNE had talents for mankind,
 Open she was, and unconfin'd,
 Like some free port of trade :
 Merchants unloaded here their freight,
 And Agents from each foreign state, 5
 Here first their entry made.

Her learning and good breeding such,
 Whether th' Italian or the Dutch,
 Spaniards or French came to her :
 To all obliging she'd appear : 10
 'Twas *Si Signior*, 'twas *Yaw Mynbeer*,
 'Twas *S'il vous plaiſt, Monsieur*.

Obscure by birth, renown'd by crimes,
 Still changing names, religions, climes,
 At length she turns a Bride : 15
 In di'monds, pearls, and rich brocades,
 She shines the first of batter'd jades,
 And flutters in her pride.

So have I known those Insects fair
(Which curious Germans hold so rare) 20

Still vary shapes and dyes;
Still gain new Titles with new forms;
First grabs obscene, then wriggling worms,
Then painted butterflies.