

# Pubs, Clubs, and Intoxicating Humour

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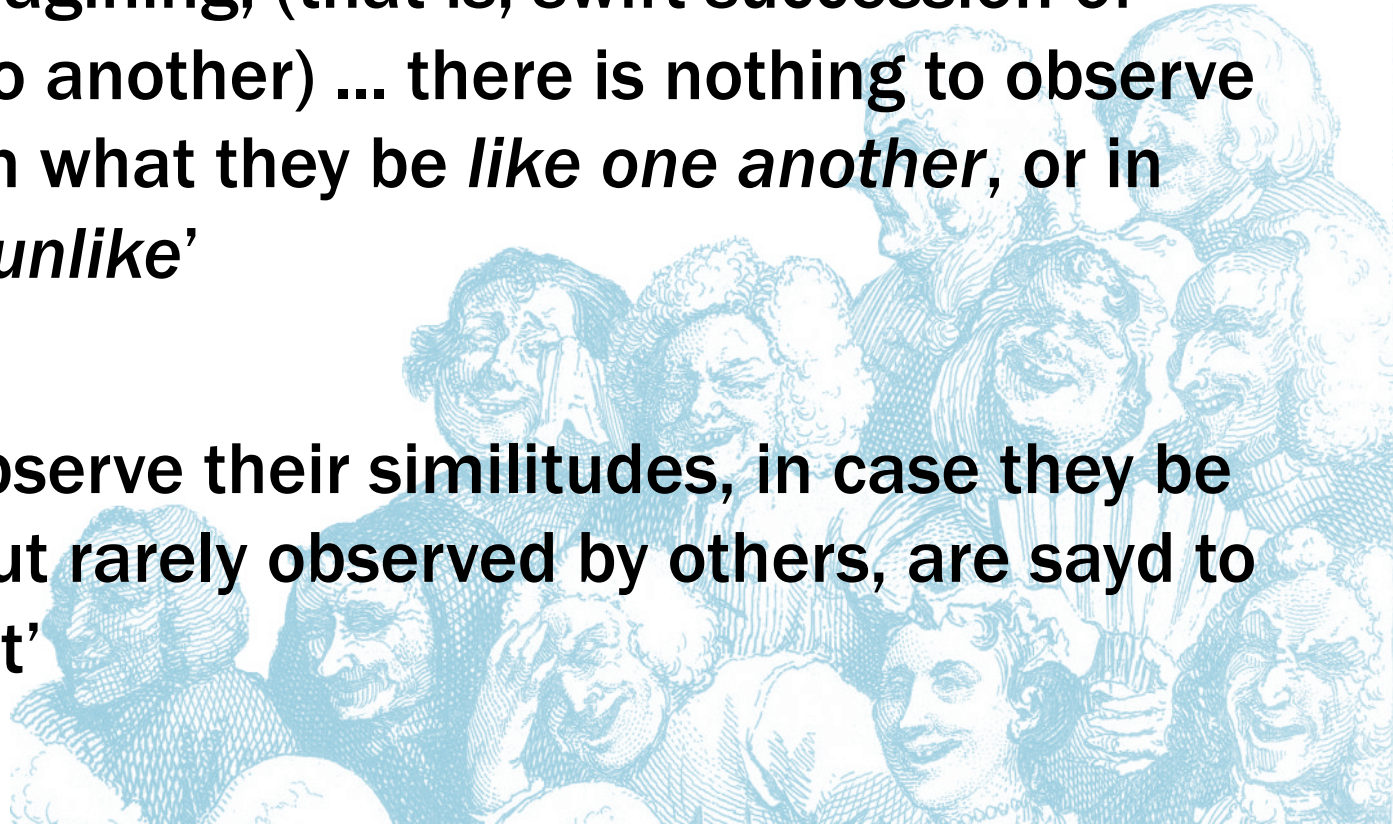


# Admiration for Wit

Thomas Hobbes, *Leviathan*, (1651)

‘Celerity of Imagining, (that is, swift succession of one thought to another) ... there is nothing to observe ... but either in what they be *like one another*, or in what they be *unlike*’

‘Those that observe their similitudes, in case they be such as are but rarely observed by others, are sayd to have Good Wit’

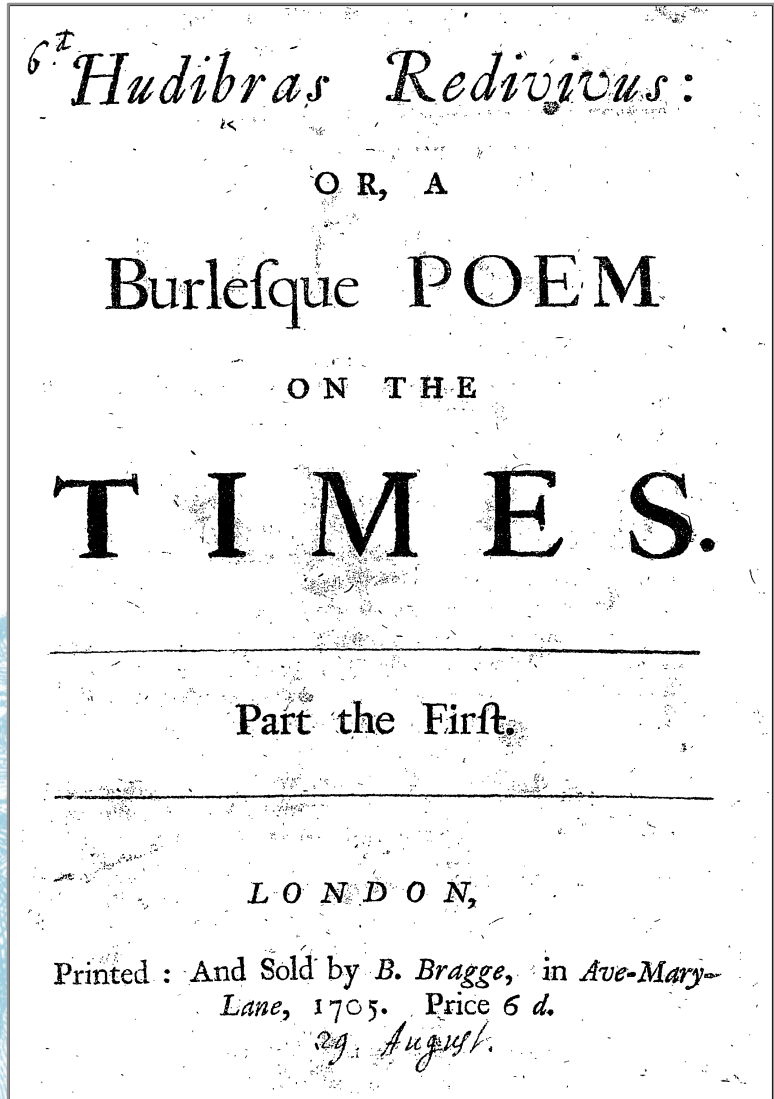




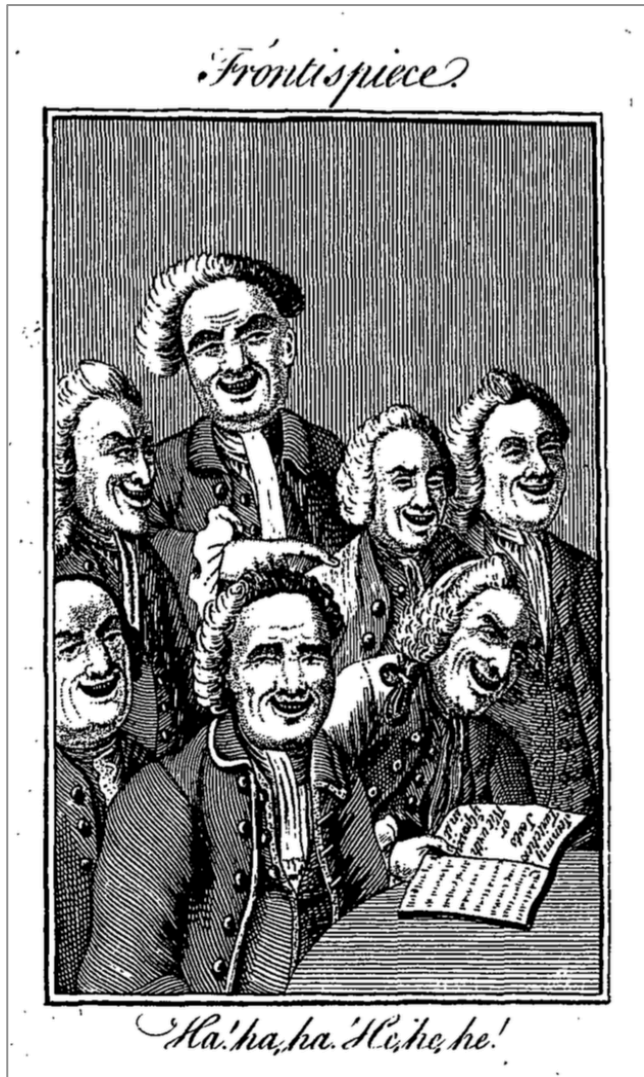
# Ned Ward's 'Jesting Manner'



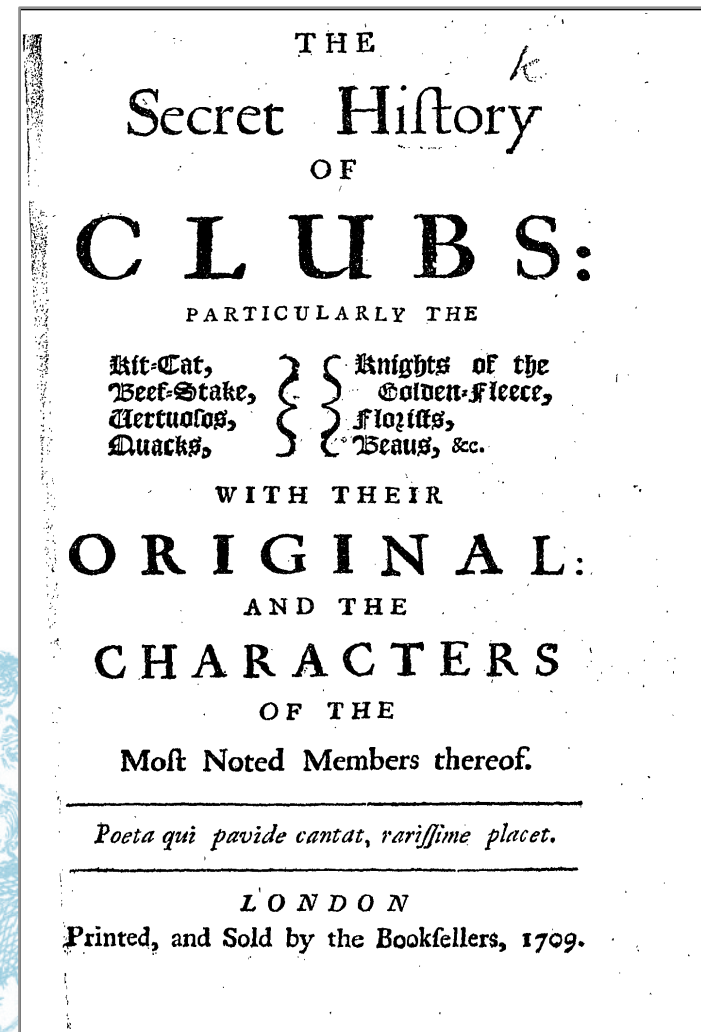
(1666-1731)



# Pubs and Clubs



Frontispiece from Daniel Gunston, *Jemmy Twitcher's Jest*, (London, 1770)



Ned Ward, *The Secret History of Clubs*, (London 1709)



# Intoxicating Humour

## *Ebrietatis Encomium:*

### OR, THE P R A I S E OF DRUNKENNESS.

WHEREIN

Is authentically, and most evidently proved, The *Necessity* of frequently getting Drunk; and, That the *Practice* of getting Drunk is most *Ancient, Primitive, and Catholic.*

CONFIRMED

By the *EXAMPLES* of *Heathens, Turks, Infidels, Primitive Christians, Saints, Popes, Bishops, Doctors, Philosophers, Poets, Free Masons, Gormogons,* and other tope-ing *Societies,* and Men of *Learning* in all Ages.

By *BONIFACE OINOPHILUS,*  
*de Monte Fiascone, A. B. C.*

*Wine maketh glad the Heart of Man.* DAVID.

The SECOND EDITION.

L O N D O N:

Printed for E. CURLL, at *Pope's Head,* in *Rose-Street,*  
*Covent-Garden.* MDCCXLIII. Price 2s. 6d.

## Chapters

- 'That One must be Merry'
- 'That Wine Excites Mirth'
- 'That Wine makes one Eloquent'
- 'That Wine Creates Wit'

'As Wine increases the Quantity of animal Spirits, by the Fumes it sends to the Brain, it is easy to comprehend, that it cannot but be of great Advantage to dull and heavy Wit... by warming the Thoughts, it renders them more acute, and inspires a greater plenty of witty Sallies'

# Intoxicating Humour

## *An Oration in Praise of D R U N K E N N E S S .*

*Design'd to be spoke at Oxford in the time of the A&•*

**T**HIS Dome, this *Lyceum* is only Consecrated to such whose smiling Aspect bespeaks them Friends to the good natur'd God of Wine, whose Sacred Rites I esteem, and whose eminent perfection, *Drunkenness*, I intend to make the Subject of my ensuing Discourse. Nor must the Philosophers or Divines here exert their Austerity, nor interpose with their Maxims of Decency and good Manners: I acknowledge my self of no Sect but that of *Epicurus*, whose Drunken Atoms Reel'd into Order, and fram'd a World so infinitely Beautiful. A World that produces ten Thousand Pleasures, but none so great or agreeable as those that proceed from the soft Enchantments of the *Vine*, a Plant that has greater Power over the Minds and Nature of Mankind, than the subtile Draughts of *Circe* or *Medea*, you smile and think me in the Condition, I would perswade my Audience to be in. But Gentlemen—— you are mistaken, I am Sober to my own Misfortune; and Soberly, I desire, I advise and exhort you all to be Drunk, Sobriety makes a Man revengeful, or fit to ruin the Com-

“tis highly reasonable, that a Custom establish'd and continu'd since the beginning of the World to this Day, ought to be preserv'd inviolable; that a Custom fram'd and cemented by Nature, supported by Reason, and practised with success, ought to be deliver'd down to Posterity and be maintain'd with Honour, and had in Veneration by all succeeding Ages'

Tom Brown, 'An Oration in Praise of Drunkenness' in *Works* (1707)