

Account of George Romondo.

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dulates his powers to the braying of asses, the grunting of hogs, the barking of dogs, and the sounds emitted by almost every kind of animal. He also perfectly imitates the harsh noise produced by the sawing of wood, and other operations. These sounds he makes with the assistance of his hand placed against a wall or wainscot, whence he wishes to persuade those who are ignorant of his talents, that the noise proceeded.

The possession of this extraordinary faculty recommended him to the notice of a crafty Italian, who persuaded Raymondo to accompany him to England, where the patronage of a generous public was ever ready to reward talent of every description, and where he flattered him with the hope of speedily acquiring a fortune. He arrived in England in the beginning of 1800, and soon exhibited his powers in the metropolis and in other places. The Italian was at first a considerable gainer by his performances, poor Raymondo receiving only a small daily stipend for his exertions; but the music not perfectly according with the ears of those who have the most money to spend, the speculation failed, and the projector turned our hero adrift, to provide for himself.

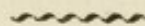
Being far from his native country and friends, and having no hope of a new engagement, he was at first under some embarrassment how to proceed. His ingenuity, however, soon furnished him with an expedient for supplying his necessities. He entered a public-house unnoticed, and with the tremendous roaring of a lion, threw the company into the utmost alarm. From this however they soon recovered, on discovering the grotesque figure of our hero, with whom they were soon so highly delighted, that a subscription was set on foot for his benefit, and the recollection of the treacherous Italian was soon effaced from his mind.

The success of this experiment determined him to

proceed in the same career, and he has since made a practice of visiting the public houses in obscure streets in the evening, where he contrives by the exhibition of his talents to obtain a tolerable subsistence. At Bartholomew Fair 1804, he condescended to take his station before one of the booths, where, with his usual good-humour, he invited the gay visitors to enter and see the extraordinary exhibition within.

Raymondo in his character and disposition is perfectly harmless and inoffensive. His placid disposition is displayed in his countenance, for he is seldom to be seen without a smile upon his face, particularly when he meets females; and he declares that "he is sure the ladies must see something in him that pleases them, otherwise he should not be blessed with their looks."

His principal ramble during the day is from the Haymarket to Duke's Place.



Account of SINGULAR TENURES by which many Estates in this Kingdom are held.

ALMOST all the landed property of this kingdom is, by the policy of our laws, supposed to be granted by, dependant upon, and *holden* of, some superior lord, by and in consideration of certain services to be rendered to the lord by the tenant or possessor of this property. The thing holden is therefore styled a *tenement*, the possessors thereof *tenants*, and the manner of their possession a *tenure*. Before the establishment of the feudal system, the possessions of the people were perfectly *allodial* (that is, wholly independent, and held of no superior at all) but by that constitution, large parcels of land were allotted by the conquering generals to the superior officers, and by them dealt out again in smaller parcels to the inferior officers and most deserving soldiers, who were all
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