[*double rule*]

# A RIBALD

I2S the Devil’s Hypocrite, the endeavours to  
make himſelf appear worſe than he is. His  
evil Words and bad Manners ſtrive which  
ſhall moſt corrupt one another, and it is hard  
to ſay which has the Advantage. He vents  
his Lechery at the Mouth, as ſome Fiſhes are  
ſaid to engender. He is an unclean Beaſt that  
chews the Cud ; for after he has ſatisfied his  
Lust, he brings it up again into his Mouth  
to a ſecond Enjoyment, and plays an After-  
game of Letchery with his Tongue much worſe  
than that which the *Cunnilingi* uſed among the  
old *Romans.* He ſtrips Nature ſtark-naked, and  
clothes her in the moſt fantaſtic and ridiculous  
Faſhion a wild Imagination can invent. He  
is worſe and more naſty than a Dog ; for  
in his broad Deſcriptions of others obſcene  
Actions he does but lick up the Vomit of ano-

ther Man’s Surfeits. He tells Tales out of a  
vaulting School. A leud baudy Tale does  
more Hurt, and gives a worſe Example than  
the Thing of which it was told ; for the Act  
extends but to a few, and if it be concealed  
goes no further ; but the Report of it is un-  
limited, and may be conveyed to all People,  
and all Times to come. He expoſes that with  
his Tongue, which Nature gave Women Mo-  
deſty, and brute Beaſts Tails to cover. He  
miſtakes Ribaldry for Wit, though nothing is  
more unlike, and believes himſelf to be the  
finer Man the filthier he talks ; as if he were  
above Civility, as *Fanatics* are above Ordinan-  
ces, and held nothing more ſhameful than to be  
aſhamed of any Thing. He talks nothing but  
*Aretine*’s Pictures, as plain as the *Scotch* Dia-  
lect, which is eſteemed to be the moſt copious  
and elegant of the Kind. He improves and  
huſbands his Sins to the beſt Advantage,  
and makes one Vice find Employment for  
another ; for what he acts looſely in private,  
he talks as looſely of in public, and finds as  
much Pleaſure in the one as the other. He  
endeavours to make himſelf Satisfaction for  
the Pangs his Claps and Botches put him to with

vapouring and bragging how he came by  
them. He endeavours to purchaſe himſelf a  
Reputation by pretending to that which the  
beſt Men abominate, and the worſt value not,  
like one that clips and waſhes falſe Coin, and  
ventures his Neck for that which will yield  
him nothing.