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**The Draughtsman's Contacts**

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### Article

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THE  
**Cabinet Songster.**

**THE MERMAID.**

By Thomas Tucker.

I sing of a maiden of ancient renown, [town ;  
Not long since much talked of in country and  
She has—to surprise you I think it can't fail—  
A great monkey's head and a large fish's tail.  
As the tail's the *fag end* of a fish, said a wag,  
The tail of a fish must make her a *fish-fog* ;  
All billing and cooing with one I should hate,  
Who is fit for no *billing* except *Billing-gate*.  
Tol de rol, &c.

To see this strange maiden was every one's wish,  
Although she was *even* a very *odd* fish ;  
She's not much like Venus, most people agree,  
Yet, like Venus of old, she arose from the sea.  
To other *fair* maids this sea-faring divinity,  
With plenty of *fins*, has but little *affinity*,  
For she'd *wave* a wine *vaults* to *waltz* with a  
*wave*, [grave.  
Finding *gay* life where they'd find a *watery*  
Tol de rol, &c.

Of this very odd maiden they tell these odd tales,  
That ere she saw *Britain* she'd often seen  
*whales* ;  
And though *half seas over*, she ne'er had a wish  
For *drinking too much*, yet she drinks like a  
*fish*.