THE WORKS OF Mr. William Shakespear.

VOLUME THE NINTH.

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Volume the Ninth.

Containing,

Pericles, Prince of Tyre.
London Prodigal.
Thomas Lord Cromwell.
Sir John Oldcastle.
The Puritan.
A Yorkshire Tragedy.
Locrive.
PERICLES,
PRINCE
OF
TYRE.

Printed in the YEAR MDCCXXVIII.
Dramatis Personae.

Antiochus, a Tyrant of Greece.
Pericles, Prince of Tyre.
Hellicanus, two Lords of Tyre.
Escanes,
Symonides, King of Pentapolis.
Cleon, Governor of Tharsus.
Lysimachus, Governor of Metaline.
Cerimon, a Lord of Ephesus.
Thaliard, Servant to Antiochus.
Leonine, a Murderer, Servant to Dionysia.
Gower.
Lords, &c.
Knights tilting in honour of Thaisa.

Hesperides, Daughter of Antiochus.
Dionysia, Wife to Cleon.
Thaisa, Daughter to Symonides.
Marina, Daughter to Pericles and Thaisa.
Lychorida, Nurse to Marina.
Philoten, Daughter to Cleon.
Diana, a Goddess appearing to Pericles.

Sailors, Pirates, Fishermen and Messengers.
PERICLES,
Prince of Tyre.

ACT I. SCENE I.

Enter Gower.

O sing a Song that old was sung,
From Ashes antient Gowes is come;
Assuming Man's Infirmities,
To glad your Ear, and please your Eyes:
It hath been sung at Festivals,
On Ember Eves, and Holy-Days:

And Lords and Ladies in their Lives,
Have read it for Restoratives.
The purchase is to make Men glorious:
Et bonum quo antiquius, eo melius.
If you, born in these latter times,
When Wit's more ripe, accept my Rhymes;
And that to hear an old Man sing,
May to your Wishes Pleasure bring;
I Life would wish, and that I might
Waste it for you like Taper-light.

A 4. This
§ Pericles, Prince of Tyre.

This Antioch, then, Antiochus the Great,
Built up this City for his chiefeft Seat;
The fairest in all Syria.
I tell you what mine Authors say:
This King unto him took a Peer,
Who died, and left a Female Heir;
So bunksome, blithe, and full of Face,
As Heav'n had lent her all his Grace:
With whom the Father liking took,
And her to Incest did provoke.
Bad Child, worse Father, to entice his own
To evil, should be done by none:
But Custom, what they did begin,
Was with long use, counted no Sin.
The Beauty of this sinful Dame,
Made many Princes thither frame,
To seek her as a Bed-fellow,
In Marriage-pleasures, Playfellow:
Which to prevent, he made a Law,
To keep her still, and Men in awe;
That whose askt her for his Wife,
His Riddle told not, lost his Life.
So for her many a Wight did die,
As yon grim looks do testify.
What ensues to the judgment of your Eye,
I give my cause, who best can testify.

[Exit.

Enter Antiochus, Prince Pericles, and Followers.

Ant. Young Prince of Tyre, you have at large receiv'd
The danger of the task you undertake.

Per. I have, Antiochus, and with a Soul emboldned
With the glory of her Praife, think Death no hazard,
In this Enterprize.

Ant. Musick, bring in our Daughter, cloth'd like a Bride
For Embracements, even of Jove himself;
At whose conception, till Lucina reign'd,
Nature this Dowry gave, to glad her Presence,
The Senate House of Planets all did fit,
To knit in her their beft Perfections.

Enter
Pericles, Prince of Tyre.

Enter Hesperides.

Per. See where she comes, apparel'd like the Spring,
Graces her Subjects, and her Thoughts the King,
Of every Virtue gives Renown to Men,
Her Face the Book of Praisies, where is read
Nothing but curious Pleasures, as from thence
Sorrow were ever rack'd, and testy Wrath
Could never be her mild Companion.
You Gods that made me Man, and sway in love,
That have inflam'd desire within my Breast,
To taste the Fruit of you celestial Tree,
Or die in the adventure, be my helps,
As I am Son and Servant to your Will,
To compass such a boundless Happiness.

Ant. Prince Pericles.

Per. That would be Son to great Antiochus.

Ant. Before thee stands this fair Hesperides,
With golden Fruit, but dangerous to be touch'd;
For Death like Dragons here affright thee hard:
Her Face, like Heav'n, enticeth thee to view
Her countless Glory, which Desert must gain:
And which without Desert, because thine Eye
Presumes to reach, all the whole heap must die.
Yon sometimes famous Princes, like thy self,
Drawn by report, adventrous by desire,
Tell thee with speechless Tongues, and Semblance pale,
That without covering save you Field of Stars,
Here they stand Martyrs slain in Cupid's Wars:
And with dead Cheeks advise thee to desist,
For going on Death's Net, whom none resift.

Per. Antiochus I thank thee, who hast taught
My frail Mortality to know it self,
And by those fearful Objects to prepare
This Body, like to them, to what I must:
For Death remembred, should be like a Mirror,
Who tells us, Life's but Breath, to trust in Error:
I'll make my Will then, and as sick Men do,
Who know the World, see Heav'n, but feeling Woe.

A 5

Gripe
Pericles, *Prince of Tyre.*

Gripe not at earthly Joys, as erst they did:
So I bequeath a happy Peace to you
And all good Men, as every Prince should do,
My Riches to the Earth from whence they came:
But my unspotted fire of Love to you. [To Hesperides.
Thus ready for the way of Life or Death,
I wait the sharpest blow, Antiochus,
Scorning advice. Read the Conclusion then.

_Ant._ Which read, and not expounded, 'tis decreed,
As these before so thou thy self shalt bleed.

_Hesp._ Of all said yet, may thou prove prosperous;
Of all said yet, I wish thee happiness. [Ex. Hesperides.

_Per._ Like a bold Champion I assume the Lists,
Nor ask advice of any other Thought,
But Faithfulness, and Courage.

The Riddle.

_I am no Viper, yet I feed_
On Mother's flesh which did me breed;
I sought a Husband, in which Labour,
I found that kindness in a Father.
He's Father, Son, and Husband mild,
I Mother, Wife, and yet his Child.
How they may be, and yet in two,
As you will live, resolve it you.

Sharp Physick is the last! but O you Powers!
That gives Heav'n countless Eyes to view Mens Acts,
Why could they not their sights perpetually?
If this be true, which makes me pale to read it,
Fair Glass of Light, I lov'd you, and could still.
Were not this glorious Casket stor'd with Ill:
But I must tell you, now my Thoughts revolt;
For he's no Man, on whom Perfections wait,
That knowing Sin within, will touch the Gate.
You're a fair Viol, and your Sense the Strings,
Who finger'd to make Man his lawful Musick,
Would draw Heav'n down; and all the Gods to hearken;
But being plaid upon before your time,
Pericles, Prince of Tyre.

Hell only danceth at so harsh a Chime:
Good sooth, I care not for you.

Ant. Prince Pericles, touch not upon thy Life,
For that's an Article within our Law,
As dangerous as the rest: Your time's expir'd,
Either expound now, or receive your Sentence.

Per. Great King,
Few love to hear the Sins they love to act,
'Twould braid your self too near for me to tell it:
Who hath a Book of all that Monarchs do,
He's more secure to keep it shut, than shewn:
For Vice repeated, is like the wandring Wind,
Blows Dust in others Eyes, to spread it self;
And yet the end of all is bought thus dear,
The Breath is gone, and the sore Eyes see clear.
To stop the Air would hurt them, the blind Mole cafts
Copt Hills toward Heav'n, to tell the Earth is throng'd
By Man's Oppression, and the poor Worm doth die for't;
Kings are Earth's Gods: In Vice their Law's their Will.
And if Love stray, who dares say, Love doth ill?
It is enough you know it, and 'tis fit;
What being more known, grows worse to smother it.
All love the Womb that there being bred,
Then give my Tongue like leave to love my Head.

Ant. Heav'n that I had it; he has found the meaning.
But I will gloze with him. Young Prince of Tyre,
Tho by the Tenour of our strict Edict;
Your Exposition mis-interpreting,
We might proceed to cancel off your Days;
Yet hope, succeeding from so fair a Tree.
As your fair self, doth tune us otherwise:
Forty Days longer we do repose you,
If by which time our Secret be undone,
This Mercy shews, we'll joy in such a Son:
And until then your entertain shall be
As doth befit our Honour, and your Worth. [Exit.

Manet Pericles solus.

Per. How Courtefy would seem to cover Sin,
When what is done is like a Hypocrite,
The which is good in nothing but in sight,
If it be true that I interpret false,
Then were it certain you were not so bad,
As with foul Incest to abuse your Soul:
Where now you’re both a Father and a Son,
By your untimely clasplings with your Child,
(Which Pleasure fits an Husband, not a Father.)
And she an Eater of her Mother’s flesh,
By the defiling of her Parent’s Bed;
And both like Serpents are, who tho they feed
On sweetest Flowers, yet they Poison breed.
Antioch farewell, for Wisdom sees, those Men
Blush not in Actions blacker than the Night,
Will shew no Course to keep them from the Light:
One Sin, I know, another doth provoke,
Murder’s as near to Lust, as Flame to Smoke:
Poison and Treason are the Hands of Sin,
Ay, and the Targets to put off the Shame;
Then left my Life be cropt to keep you clear,
By flight I’ll shun the Danger which I fear.  

[Exit.]

Enter Antiochus.

Ant. He hath found the meaning,
For which we mean to have his Head:
He must not live to trumpet forth my Infamy,
Nor tell the World Antiochus doth sin
In such a loathed manner:
And therefore instantly this Prince must die,
And by his Fall my Honour must keep high.
Who attends us here?

Enter Thaliard.

Thal. Doth your Highness call?
Ant. Thaliard, you are of our Chamber,
And our Mind partakes her private Actions
To your Secrecy; and for your Faithfulness
We will advance you, Thaliard.
Behold, here’s Poison and here’s Gold,
Pericles, Prince of Tyre. 13

We hate the Prince of Tyre, and thou must kill him.
It fits thee not to ask the Reason why;
Because we bid it: Say, is it done?

Thal. My Lord, 'tis done.

Enter a Messenger.

Ant. Enough. Let your breath cool your self, telling your haste.
Mes. My Lord, Prince Pericles is fled.

Ant. As thou wilt live, fly after; and as an Arrow, shot from a well experient Archer, hits the mark his Eye doth level at: So do thou never return, unless thou say, Prince Pericles is dead.

Thal. My Lord, if I can get him within my Pistol's length, I'll make him sure enough: So farewell to your Highness.

Ant. Thaliard adieu; till Pericles be dead,
My Heart can lend no succour to my Head. [Exit.

Enter Pericles, Hellicanus, with other Lords.

Per. Let none disturb us:
Why should this change of Thoughts,
The sad Companion, dull-ey'd Melancholy,
By me so us'd, a Guest as not an Hour,
In the Day's glorious walk or peaceful Night,
The Tomb where Grief should sleep, can breed me quiet:
Here Pleasures court mine Eyes, and mine Eyes shun them,
And Danger which I feared, is at Antioch,
Whose Arm seems far too short to hit me here.
Yet neither Pleasure's Art can joy my Spirits,
Nor yet the others distance comfort me:
Then it is thus, that Passions of the Mind,
That have their first Conception by mis-dread,
Have after Nourishment and Life by Care;
And what was first by fear, what might be done,
Grows elder now, and cares it be not done.
And so 'tis with me. The great Antiochus,
'Gainst whom I am too little to contend,

Since
Pericles, Prince of Tyre.

Since he's so great, can make his Will his Act,
Will think me speaking, tho I swear to silence;
Nor boots it me to say I honour him,
If he suspect I may dishonour him.
And what may make him blush in being known,
He'll stop the course by which it might be known.
With hostile Forces he'll o'er-spread the Land,
And with the dint of War will look so huge,
Amazement shall drive Courage from the State:
Our Men be vanquish'd, ere they do resist,
And Subjects punish'd, that ne'er thought Offence.
Which care of them, not pity of myself,
Who once no more but as the tops of Trees,
Which fence the Roots they grow by, and defend them,
Make not my Body pine, and Soul to languish,
And punish that before that he would punish.

1 Lord. Joy and all Comfort in your sacred Breast.

2 Lord. And keep your mind till ye return to us Peaceful and comfortable.

Hell. Peace, peace, and give experience Tongue:
They do abuse the King that flatter him,
For Flattery is the Bellows blows up Sin,
The thing the which is flatter'd, but a Spark,
To which that Spark gives heart and stronger glowing;
Whereas Reproof obedient and in order,
Fits Kings as they are Men, for they may err:
When Signior Sooth here doth proclaim Peace,
He flatters you, makes War upon your Life.
Prince, pardon me, or strike me if you please,
I cannot be much lower than my Knees.

Per. All leave us else; but let your Cares o'er-look
What Shipping, and what Lading's in our Haven,
And then return to us: Hellicanus, thou hast
Mov'd us; what feelest thou in our Looks?

Hell. An angry Brow, dread Lord.

Per. If there be such a Dart in Princes Frowns,
How durft thy Tongue move Anger to our Face?

Hell. How dare the Planets look up unto Heav'n,
From whence they have their Nourishment?

Per. Thou know'st I have Power to take thy Life from thee.
Pericles, *Prince of Tyre.*

*Hell.* I have ground the Ax my self,
Do you but strike the blow.

*Per.* Rife, prithee rife, sit down, thou art no Flatterer,
I thank thee for it, and Heav’n forbid
That Kings should let their Ears hear their Faults hid.
Fit Counsellor, and Servant for a Prince,
Who by thy Wisdom makes a Prince thy Servant.
What wouldst thou have me do?

*Hell.* To bear with Patience such Griefs,
As you your self do lay upon your self.

*Per.* Thou speakest like a Physician, *Hellicanus,*
That ministe’s a Potion unto me,
That thou wouldst tremble to receive thy self.
Attend me then ; I went to *Antioch,*
Where, as thou know’st, (against the Face of Death): I
sought the Purchase of a glorious Beauty,
From whence an Issue I might propagate,
Are Arms to Princes, and bring Joys to Subjects.
Her Face was to mine Eye beyond all wonder,
The rest (hark in thine Ear) as black as Incest;
Which by my knowledge found, the sinful Father
Seem’d not to strike, but smooth : But thou know’st this;
’Tis time to fear, when Tyrants seem to kiss.
Which fear so grew in me, I hither fled,
Under the covering of a careful Night,
Who seem’d my good Protector: and being here,
Bethought me what was past, what might succeed;
I knew him tyrannous, and Tyrants fears
Decrease not, but grow faster than the Years.
And should he think, as no doubt he doth,
That I should open to the listening Air,
How many worthy Princes Blood were shed,
To keep his Bed of blackness un laid ope,
To stop that doubt, he’ll fill this Land with Arms;
And make pretence of wrong that I have done him,
When all for mine, if I may call offence,
Must feel War’s blow, who fears not Innocence;
Which love to all, for which thy self art one,
Who now reprovedst me for it.

*Hell.* Alas, Sir.
Pericles, Prince of Tyre.

Per. Drew Sleep out of my Eyes, Blood from my Cheeks, Musings into my mind, with a thousand doubts
How I might stop their Tempest ere it came,
And finding little comfort to relieve them,
I thought it Princely Charity to grieve for them.

Hell. Well, my Lord, since you have given me leave to speak,
Freely will I speak. Antiochus you fear,
And justly too, I think, you fear the Tyrant;
Who, either by publick War or private Treacon,
Will take away your Life.
Therefore, my Lord, go travel for a while,
Till that his Rage and Anger be forgot;
Or till the Destinies do cut the Thread of his Life:
Your Rule direct to any, if to me,
Day serves not Light more faithful, than I’ll be.

Per. I do not doubt thy Faith;
But should he wrong my Liberties in my absence?

Hell. We’ll mingle our Bloods together in the Earth,
From whence we had our Being and our Birth.

Per. Tyre, I now look from thee then, and to Tharsus
Intend my travel, where I’ll hear from thee;
And by whose Letters I’ll dispose my self:
The care I had and have of Subjects good,
On thee I lay, whose Wisdom’s strength can bear it.
I’ll take thy word for Faith, not ask thine Oath;
Who flinches not to break one, will sure crack both:
But in our Orbs we live so round and safe,
That time of both this Truth shall never convince,
Thou shewest a Subject’s shine, I a true Prince. [Exeunt.

Enter Thaliard solus.

Thal. So, this is Tyre, and this is the Court; here must I kill King Pericles, and if I do it not, I am sure to be hang’d at home: It is dangerous.

Well, I perceive he was a wise Fellow, and had good discretion, that being bid to ask what he would of the King, desir’d he might know none of his Secrets. Now do I see he had some reason for it: For if a King bid a Man
Pericles, *Prince of Tyre.*

Man be a Villain, he is bound by the Indenture of his Oath to be one.

Hush, here come the Lords of Tyre.

Enter Hellicanus, Escares, with other Lords of Tyre.

*Hell.* You shall not need, my Fellow-Peers of Tyre, Further to question me of your King’s departure. His seal’d Commission left in trust with me, Doth speak sufficiently, he’s gone to travel.

*Thal.* How, the King gone?

*Hell.* If further yet you will be satisfied, Why (as it were unlicens’d of your loves) He would depart; I’ll give some light unto you. Being at Antioch——

*Thal.* What from Antioch?

*Hell.* Royal Antiochus (on what cause I know not) Took some displeasure at him, at least he judg’d so: And doubting that he had erred or sinn’d, To shew his Sorrow, he would correct himself; So puts himself unto the Shipman’s toil, With whom each minute threatens Life or Death.

*Thal.* Well, I perceive I shall not be hang’d now, altho’ I would; but since he’s gone, the King’s Seas must please: he ’scap’d the Land, to perish at the Sea: I’ll present my self. Peace to the Lords of Tyre.

*Hell.* Lord Thaliard from Antiochus is welcome.

*Thal.* From him I come
With message unto Princely Pericles;
But since my landing I have understood
Your Lord hath betook himself to unknown Travels,
My message must return from whence it came.

*Hell.* We have no reason to desire it,
Commended to our Master, not to us;
Yet ere you shall depart, this we desire,
As Friends to Antioch, we may feast in Tyre. [Exeunt.
Enter Cleon the Governor of Tharsus, with Dionysia, and others.

Cle. My Dionysia, shall we rest us here, and by relating Tales of others Grieves, See if 'twill teach us to forget our own?

Dio. That were to blow at Fire in hope to quench it, For who digs Hills because they do aspire, Throws down one Mountain to cast up a higher: O my distressed Lord, even such our Grieves are, Here they're but felt, and seen with Mischiefs Eyes, But like to Groves, being topt, they higher rise.

Cle. O Dionysia, Who wanteth Food, and will not say he wants it, Or can conceal his Hunger, till he famish? Our Tongues and Sorrows do sound deep: Our Woes into the Air, our Eyes to weep, Till Tongues fetch Breath that may proclaim Them louder, that if Heav'n flumber, while Their Creatures want, they may awake Their helpers to comfort them.

I'll then discourse our Woes felt several Years, And wanting Breath to speak, help me with Tears.

Dio. I'll do my best, Sir.

Cle. This Tharsus, o'er which I've the Government, A City, on whom Plenty held full Hand, For Riches strew'd her self even in the Streets, Whose Towers bore heads so high, they kiss the Clouds, And Strangers ne'er beheld, but wonder'd at; Whose Men and Dames so jetted and adorn'd, Like one another's Glass to trim them by; Their Tables were stor'd full, to glad the sight, And not so much to feed on, as delight; All Poverty was scorn'd, and Pride so great, The Name of Help grew odious to repeat.

Dio. Oh 'tis true.

Cle. But see what Heav'n can do by this our Change: These Months, who but of late, Earth, Sea, and Air, Were all too little to content and please, Altho they gave their Creatures in abundance;
As Houses are desil'd for want of use,
They are now starv'd for want of Exercise;
Those Palats, who, not yet to fayers younger,
Must have Inventions to delight the Taste,
Would now be glad of Bread, and beg for it;
These Mothers who to nozule up their Babes,
Thought nought too curious, are ready now,
To eat those little Darlings whom they lov'd:
So sharp are hunger's Teeth, that Man and Wife
Draw Lots who first shall die to lengthen Life.
Here stands a Lord, and there a Lady weeping,
Here many sink, yet those who see them fall,
Have scarce Strength left to give them Burial.
Is not this true?

 Dios. Our Cheeks and hollow Eyes do witness it.

 Cle. O let those Cities that of Plenty's Cup,
And her Prosperities so largely taft,
With their superfluous Riots hear these Tears;
The Misery of Tharsus may be theirs.

Enter a Lord.

 Lord. Where's the Lord Governor?

 Cle. Here, speak out thy Sorrows, which thou bring'st in haste, for Comfort is too far for us to expect.

 Lord. We have descried, upon our neighbouring Shore,
A portly sail of Ships make kitherward.

 Cle. I thought as much.

One Sorrow never comes but brings an Heir,
That may succeed as his Inheritor:
And so in ours: Some neighbouring Nation,
Taking Advantage of our Misery,
Hath Hugh'd the hollow Vessels with their Pow'r,
To beat us down, the which are down already;
And make a Conquest of unhappy me,
Whereas no Glory is got to overcome.

 Lord. That's the least Fear;
For by the semblance of their Flags displaid,
They bring us Peace, and come to us as Favourers,
Not as Foes.
20 Pericles, Prince of Tyre.

Cle. Thou speak'st like Hymns untutor'd to repeat, Who makes the fairest Shew, means most Deceit. But bring they what they will, and what they can, What need we fear, the Ground's the lowest, And we are half way there: Go tell their General we attend him here, To know for what he comes, and whence he comes, And what he craves.

Lord. I go, my Lord.

Cle. Welcome his Peace, if he on Peace consist; If Wars, we are unable to resift.

Enter Pericles with Attendants.

Per. Lord Governor, for so we hear you are, Let not our Ships and number of our Men Be like a Beacon fir'd, to amaze your Eyes: We've heard your Miseries as far as Tyre, And seen the Desolation of your Streets: Nor come we to add Sorrow to your Tears, But to release them of their heavy load; And these our Ships, you happily may think As like the Trojan Horse, was stuf't within, With bloody Veins expecting Overthrow, Are stor'd with Corn to make your needy Bread, And give them Life, whom Hunger starv'd half dead. Omenes, The Gods of Greece protect you, And we'll pray for you.

Per. Arise, I pray you arise; We do not look for Reverence, but for Love, And harbourage for our self, our Ships, and Men.

Cle. The which when any shall not gratify, Or pay you with Unthankfulness in Thought, Be it our Wives, our Children, or our selves, The Curse of Heav'n and Men succeed their Evils: Till when, the which, I hope, shall ne'er be seen, Your Grace is welcome to our Town and us.

Per. Which welcome we'll accept, feast here a while Until our Stars that frown, lend us a Smile. [Exeunt.

ACT
ACT II. SCENE I.

Enter Gower.

Gow. HERE have you seen a mighty King,
    His Child, I wis, to Incest bring:
A better Prince and benign Lord,
That will prove awful both in Deed and Word.
Be quiet then, as Men should be,
Till he hath past Necessity:
I'll shew you those in Troubles Reign,
Losing a Mite, a Mountain gain:
The Good in Conversation,
To whom I give my Benizon,
Is still at Tharsus, where each Man
Thinks all is writ he spoked can:
And to remember what he does,
Build his Statue to make him glorious:
But Tidings to the contrary,
Are brought t'your Eyes, what need speak I.

Dumb Show.

Enter at one Door Pericles talking with Cleon, all the Train
with them. Enter at another Door, a Gentleman with a
Letter to Pericles; Pericles shews the Letter to Cleon, Pe-
ricles gives the Messenger a Reward, and knights him.

[Exit Pericles at one Door, and Cleon at another.

Good Hellican that stayed at home,
Not to eat Honey like a Drone,
From others Labours; for tho he strive
To killen bad keep good alive:
And to fulfil his Prince's Desire,
Saw'd one of all that haps in Tyre:
How Thaliard came full bent with Sin,
And had intent to murder him;
And that in Tharsus was not best,
Longer for him to make his Rest:
Pericles, Prince of Tyre.

He doing so, put forth to Seas,
Where when Men bin there's seldom Ease;
For now the Wind begins to blow,
Thunder above, and Deeps below,
Make such unquiet, that the Ship
Should house him safe, is wrackt and split;
And he, good Prince, having all lost,
By Waves, from Coast to Coast is toss'd:
All Perishen of Man, of Pelf.
No ought escapen'd but himself;
Till Fortune tir'd with doing bad,
Threw him ashore to give him glad:
And here he comes; what shall be next,
Pardon old Gower, thus long's the Text.

Enter Pericles wet.

Per. Yet cease your Ire, you angry Stars of Heav'n,
Wind, Rain, and Thunder; remember earthly Man
Is but a Substance that must yield to you:
And I, as fits my Nature, do obey you.
Alas, the Sea hath cast me on the Rocks,
Wash't me from Shore to Shore, and left my Breath
Nothing to think on, but ensuing Death;
Let it suffice the greatness of your Powers,
To have bereft a Prince of all his Fortunes,
And having thrown him from your watry Grave,
Here to have Death in Peace, is all he'll crave.

Enter three Fishermen.

1 Fish. What, to pelch?
2 Fish. Ha, come and bring away the Nets.
1 Fish. What, Patch-Breech, I say.
3 Fish. What say you, Master?
1 Fish. Look how thou stirreft now.

Come away, I'll fetch thee with a Wannion.
2 Fish. Faith, Master, I am thinking of the poor Men
That were cast away before us, even now.

1 Fish.
Pericles, Prince of Tyre.

1 Fish. Alas, poor Souls, it griev'd my Heart to hear
what pitiful Cries they made to us, to help them,
When, well-a-day, we could scarcely help our selves.

3 Fish. Nay, said not I as much,
When I saw the Porpus how he bo un'd and tumbled
They say, they are half Fish, half Flesh;
A Plague on them, they never come but I look to be
washed.

Master, I marvel how the Fishes live in the Sea?

1 Fish. Why, as Men do at Land,
The great ones eat up the little ones:
I can compare our rich Misers, to nothing so fitly
As to a Whale; he plays and tumbles,
Driving the poor Fry before him,
And at last devours them all at a Mouthful.
Such Whales have I heard on a' th' Land,
Who never leave gaping, till they swallow'd
The whole Parish, Church, Steeple, Bells and all.

Per. A pretty Moral.

3 Fish. But, Master, if I had been the Sexton,
I would have been that Day in the Belfrey.

2 Fish. Why, Man?

3 Fish. Because he should have swallow'd me too:
And when I had been in his Belly,
I would have kept such a jangling of the Bells,
That he should never have left,
Till he cast Bells, Steeple, Church and Parish up again.
But if the good King Symonides were of my Mind.

Per. Symonides?

3 Fish. We would purge the Land of these Drones,
That rob the Bee of her Honey.

Per. How from the fenny Subject of the Sea
These Fishers tell the Insfirmities of Men,
And from their watry Empire recollect,
All that may Men approve, or Men detect.
Peace be at your Labour, honest Fishermen.

2 Fish. Honest, good Fellow, what's that, if it be a
Day fits you,
Search out of the Kalender, and no Body look after it?

Per. Y' may see the Sea hath cast me upon your Coast.
Pericles, Prince of Tyre.

2 Fish. What a drunken Knave was the Sea,
To cast thee in our way.

Per. A Man whom both the Waters and the Wind,
In that vast Tennis-Court, hath made the Ball
For them to play upon, intreats you pity him:
He asks of you, that never us’d to beg.

1 Fish. No, Friend, cannot you beg?

Here’s them in our Country of Greece,
Get more with Begging, then we can do with Working.

2 Fish. Canst thou catch any Fishes then?

Per. I never practis’d it.

2 Fish. Nay, then thou wilt starve sure; for here’s nothing to be got now-a-days, unless thou canst fish for’t.

Per. What I have been, I have forgot to know;
But what I am, Want teaches me to think on;
A Man throng’d up with Cold, my Veins are chill,
And have no more of Life, than may suffice
To give my Tongue that heat to ask your help;
Which if you shall refuse, when I am dead,
For that I am a Man, pray see me buried.

1 Fish. Die ko-tha, now Gods forbid; I have a Gown here, come put it on, keep thee warm; now afore me a handsome Fellow: Come, thou shalt go home, and we’ll have Flesh for all Day, Fish for fasting Days and more; or Puddings and Flap-jacks, and thou shalt be welcome.

Per. I thank you, Sir.

2 Fish. Hark you, my Friend, you said you could not beg.

Per. I did but crave.

2 Fish. But crave? then I’ll turn craver too,
And so I shall scape whipping.

Per. Why, are all your Beggars whipt then?

2 Fish. Oh not all, my Friend, not all; for if all your Beggars were whipt, I would wish no better Office, than to be Beadle. But, Master, I’ll go draw the Net.

Per. How well this honest Mirth becomes their Labour?

1 Fish. Hark you, Sir, do you know where ye are?

Per. Not well.

1 Fish. I tell you this is called Pentapolis,
And our King, the good Symonides.
Pericles, *Prince of Tyre.*

Per. The good King Symonides do you call him?

1 Fish. Ay, Sir, and he deserves to be call'd,
For his peaceable Reign and good Government.

Per. He is a happy King, since he gains from
His Subjects, the name of Good, by his Government.
How far is his Court distant from this Shore?

1 Fish. Marry, Sir, half a day's Journey; and I'll tell
you, he hath a fair Daughter, and to morrow is her Birth-
day, and there are Princes and Knights come from all
parts of the World, to just and Turney for her Love.

Per. Were my Fortunes equal to my Desires,
I could wish to make one there.

2 Fish. Oh Sir, things must be as they may; and what a
Man cannot get, he may lawfully deal for his Wife's Soul.

Enter the two Fishermen drawing up a Net.

2 Fish. Help, Master, help, here's a Fish hangs in the Net,
like a poor Man's Right in the Law, 'twill hardly come out.
Habits on't, 'tis come at last, and 'tis turned to a rusty Armor.

Per. An Armor, Friends! I pray you let me see it.
Thanks, Fortune, yet that after all Crosses,
Thou giv'st me somewhat to repair my felt;
And tho it was mine own, part of mine Heritage,
Which my dear Father did bequeath to me,
With this strict Charge, even as he left his Life:
Keep it, my Pericles, it hath been a Shield
'Twixt me and Death; and pointed to this Brayle;
For that it sav'd me; keep it in like necessity;
The which the Gods protect thee, Fame may defend thee.
It kept where I kept, I so dearly lov'd it,
Till the rough Seas, that spares not any Man,
Took it in rage, tho calm'd had given't again:
I thank thee for't, my Shipwrack now's no ill,
Since I have here my Father's Gift in's Will.

1 Fish. What mean you, Sir?

Per. To beg of you, kind Friends, this Coat of Worth,
For it was sometime Target to a King;
I know it by this Mark; he lov'd me dearly,
And for his sake, I wish the having of it;

Vol. IX.  B  And
Pericles, Prince of Tyre.

And that you'd guide me to your Sovereign's Court,
Where with it I may appear a Gentleman;
And if that ever my low Fortune's better,
I'll pay your Bounties; till then rest your Debtor.

1 Fisb. Why, wilt thou turne by for the Lady?
Per. I'll shew the Virtue I have born in Arms.

1 Fisb. Why, take it, and the Gods give thee good on't.
2 Fisb. But hark you, my Friend, 'twas we that made up
this Garment thro' the rough Seams of the Waters; there
are certain Condolements, certain Vails; I hope, Sir, if
you thrive, you'll remember from whence you had them.
Per. Believe it I will;
By your furtherance I am cloth'd in Steel,
And spight of all the rapture of the Sea,
This Jewel holds his building on my Arm;
Unto thy value I will mount my self
Upon a Courser, whose delightful steps
Shall make the Gazer joy to see him tread:
Only, my Friend, I yet am unprovided of a pair of Bases.
2 Fisb. We'll sure provide, thou shalt have
My best Gown to make thee a pair;
And I'll bring thee to the Court my self.
Per. Then Honour be but a Goal to my Will,
This Day I'll rise, or else add ill to ill. [Exeunt.

Enter Symonides with Attendants, and Thaisa.

King. Are the Knights ready to begin the Triumph?
1 Lord. They are, my Liege, and stay your coming,
To present themselves.
King. Return them, we are ready; and our Daughter
An Honour of whose Birth, these Triumphs are, [here,
Sits here like Beauty's Child, whom Nature gat,
For Men to see, and seeing wonder at.
Thais. It pleaseth you, my royal Father, to express
My Commendations great, whose Merit's less.
King. It's fit it should be so; for Princes are
A Model which Heav'n makes of it self:
As Jewels lose their Glory, if neglected,
So Princes their Renouns, if not respected.
Pericles, Prince of Tyre.

"Tis now your Honour, Daughter, to entertain
The Labour of each Knight, in his Device.

Thaï. Which, to preserve mine Honour, I'll perform:

[The first Knight passes by.

King. Who is the first that doth prefer himself?

Thaï. A Knight of Sparta, my renowned Father,
And the Device he bears upon his Shield,
is a black Æthiop reaching at the Sun;
The word, Lux tua vita mihi.

King. He loves you well, that holds his Life of you.

[The second Knight.

Who is the second, that presents himself?

Thaï. A Prince of Macedon, my Royal Father,
And the Device he bears upon his Shield,
is an arm'd Knight, that's conquer'd by a Lady;
The Motto thus in Spanish, Pue Por dolcera chi por forza.

[The third Knight.

King. And what's the third?

Thaï. The third of Antioch, and his Device
A wreath of Chivalry; the word, Me Pompei proventi apex.

[The fourth Knight.

King. What is the fourth?

Thaï. A burning torch that's turned upside down,
The word, Quïme alit, me extinguit.

King. Which shews that Beauty hath his Power and
Which can as well enflame, as it can kill. (Will,

[The fifth Knight.

Thaï. The fifth, an Hand environed with Clouds,
Holding out Gold, that's by the Touch-Stone try'd :
The Motto thus, Sic spectanda fides.

[The sixth Knight.

King. And what's the sixth and last, the which the
Knight himself with such a graceful Courtesy deliver'd?

Thaï. He seems to be a Stranger, but his Present is
A wither'd Branch, that's only green at top:
The Motto, In hac spi vo.

King. A pretty Moral:
From the dejected State wherein he is,
He hopes by you his Fortunes yet may flourish.
Pericles, *Prince of Tyre.*

1 *Lord.* He had need mean better than his outward shew
Can any way speak in his just commend:
For, by his rusty outside, he appears
To have practis'd more the whipstock than the lance;

2 *Lord.* He well may be a stranger, for he comes
To an honour'd triumph strangely furnish'd.

3 *Lord.* And on set purpose let his armor rust
Until this day, to scour it in the dust.

*King.* Opinion's but a fool, that makes us scan
The outward habit by the inward man.
But stay, the knights are coming.
We will withdraw into the gallery.     [Exeunt.

[Great shouts, and all cry, The mean knight.

Enter the king and knights from tilting.

*King.* Knights, to say you're welcome, were superfluities.
To place upon the volume of your deeds,
As in a title page, your worth in arms,
Were more than you expect, or more than's fit,
Since every worth in shew commends it self.
Prepare for mirth, for mirth comes at a feast;
You are princes, and my guests.

*Thais.* But you, my knight and guest,
To whom this wreath of victory I give,
And crown you king of this day's happiness.

*Per.* 'Tis more by fortune, lady, than by merit.

*King.* Call it by what you will, the day is yours.
And here, I hope, is none that envies it.
In framing an artist, art hath thus decreed,
To make some good, but others to exceed,
And you her labour'd scholar: come, queen o' th' feast,
For, daughter, so you are, here take your place:
Martial the rest, as they deserve thy grace.

*Knights.* We are honour'd much by good Symonides.

*King.* Your presence glads our days, honour we love,
For who hates honour, hates the gods above.

*Marsh.* Sir, yonder is your place.

*Per.* Some other is more fit.

1 *Knight.* Contend not, sir, for we are gentlemen.
Pericles, Prince of Tyre.

That neither in our Hearts, nor outward Eyes,
Envy the Great, nor do the Low despise.
Per. You are right, courteous Knights.
King. Sit, sit, sit.
By Jove, I wonder, that is King of Thoughts,
These Cates releift me, he not thought upon.
Thaï. By Juno, that is the Queen of Marriage,
All Viands that I eat do seem unsavoury,
Wishing him my Meat; sure he's a gallant Gentleman.
King. He's but a Country Gentleman; has done no more:
Than other Knights have done, has broken a Staff,
Or so; let it pass.
Thaï. To me he seems a Diamond to Glass.
Per. Yon King's to me, like to my Father's Picture,
Which tells me in that Glory once he was,
And Princes sat like Stars about his Throne,
And he the Sun, for them to reverence;
None that beheld him, but like lesser Lights,
Did veil their Crowns to his Supremacy;
Where now his Son, like a Glow-worm in the Night,
The which hath Fire in Darkness, none in Light;
Whereby I see that Time's the King of Men,
For he's their Parents, and he is their Grave,
And gives them what he will, not what they crave.
King. What, are you merry, Knights?
Knights. Who can be other in this Royal Presence?
King. Here, with a Cup that's stirr'd unto the brim,
As you do love, fill to your Mistresses' Lips,
We drink this Health to you.
Knights. We thank your Grace.
King. Yet pause a while.
Yon Knight doth sit too melancholy,
As if the Entertainment in our Court
Had not a shew might countervail his Worth.
Note it not you, Thaïsa?
Thaï. What is't to me, my Father?
King. O, attend, my Daughter;
Princes, in this, should live like Gods above,
Who freely give to every one that come to honour them:
And Princes not doing so, are like to Gnats,
Pericles, Prince of Tyre.

Which make a sound, but kill'd are wonder'd at:
Therefore to make his entrance now more sweet,
Here say we drink this standing Bowl of Wine to him.

That. Alas, my Father, it befits not me,
Unto a stranger Knight to be so bold,
He may my Proffer take for an Offence,
Since Men take Women's Gifts for Impudence.

King. How! do as I bid you, or you'll move me else.

That. Now, by the Gods, he could not please me better.

King. And furthermore tell him,
We desire to know of him,
Of whence he is, his Name and Parentage.

That. The King my Father, Sir, has drunk to you.

Per. I thank him.

That. Withing it so much Blood unto your Life.

Per. I thank both him and you, and pledge him freely.

That. And further he desires to know of you,
Of whence you are, your Name and Parentage.

Per. A Gentleman of Tyre, my Name Pericles,
My Education been in Arts and Arms,
Who looking for Adventures in the World,
Was by the rough Seas rest of Ships and Men,
And after Shipwreck, driv'n upon this Shore.

That. He thanks your Grace; names himself Pericles,
A Gentleman of Tyre, who only by misfortune of the Seas,
Berest of Ships and Men, cast on the Shore.

King. Now by the Gods, I pity his Misfortune,

And will awake him from his Melancholy.

Come, Gentlemen, we sit too long on Trifles,
And waste the time, which looks for other Revels.

Ev'n in your Armors, as you are address'd,
Will very well become a Soldier's Dance:
I will not have excuse, with saying that
Loud Musick is too harsh for Ladies Heads,
Since they love Men in Arms, as well as Beds. [They dance.

So, this was well ask'd, 'twas well perform'd,

Come, Sir, here's a Lady that wants breathing too,

And I have heard, you Knights of Tyre

Are
Pericles, *Prince of Tyre.*

Are excellent in making Ladies trip,
And that their Measures are as excellent.

Per. In those that practise them, they are, my Lord.

King. O that's as much as you would be deny'd
Of your fair Courtesy, unclasp, unclasp. [They dance.
Thanks Gentlemen, to all; all have done well,
But you the best. Pages and Lights, to conduct
These Knights unto their several Lodgings,
Yours, Sir, we have giv'n order to be next our own.

Per. I am at your Grace's pleasure.

King. Princes, it is too late to talk of Love,
And that's the Mark I know you level at:
Therefore each one betake him to his Rest,
To Morrow, all for speeding do their best.

Enter Hellicanus and Escanes.

Hell. No, Escanes, know this of me,
*Antiochus* from Incest liv'd not free:
For which, the most high Gods not minding
Longer to with-hold the Vengeance that
They had in store, due to his heinous
Capital Offence; even in the Height and Pride
Of all his Glory, when he was seat'd in
A Chariot of an inestimable Value, and his Daughter
With him; a Fire from Heav'n came and shrivell'd
Up those Bodies, even to loathing; for they so stunk,
That all those Eyes ador'd them, ere their Fall,
Scorn now their Hand should give them burial.

Esc. It was very strange.

Hell. And yet but Justice;
For tho' this King were great,
His Greatness was no guard to bar Heaven's shaft,
But Sin had his Reward.

Esc. 'Tis very true.

Enter two or three Lords.

1 Lord. See not a Man in private Conference,
Or Counsel, hath respect with him but he.

B 4. 8: Lord.
Lord. It shall no longer grieve without reproach.

3 Lord. And curb be he that will not second it.

1 Lord. Follow me then: Lord Hellican, a word.

Hell. With me? and welcome, happy Day, my Lords.

1 Lord. Know that our Grieves are risen to the top,
And now at length they overflow their Banks.

Hell. Your Grieves, for what? wrong not your Prince
you love.

1 Lord. Wrong not your self then, noble Hellican,
But if the Prince do live, let us salute him,
Or know what Ground's made happy by his Breath:
If in the world he live, we'll seek him out;
If in the Grave he rest, we'll find him there,
And be resolv'd, he lives to govern us:
Or dead, gives cause to mourn his Funeral,
And leave us to our free Election.

2 Lord. Whose death indeed, the strongest in our censure,
And knowing this Kingdom is without a Head,
Like goodly Buildings left without a Roof,
Soon fall to Ruin: Your noble self,
That best knows how to rule, and how to reign,
We thus submit unto our Sovereign.

Omn. Live, noble Hellican.

Hell. Try Honour's Cause; forbear your Suffrages:
If that you love Prince Pericles, forbear:
(Take I your wish, I leap into the Seas,
Where's hourly trouble, for a Minute's case.)
A Twelve-month longer, let me entreat you
To forbear the absence of your King:
If in which time expir'd, he not return,
I shall with aged Patience bear your Yoke.
But if I cannot win you to this Love,
Go search like Nobles, like noble Subjects,
And in your search, spend your adventurous Worth,
Whom if you find, and win unto return,
You shall like Diamonds fit about his Crown.

1 Lord. To Wisdom, he's a Fool that would not yield,
And since Lord Hellican enjoineth us,
We with our Travels will endeavour.

Hell.
Pericles, Prince of Tyre.

Hell. Then you love us, we you, and we'll clasp Hands,
When Peers thus knit, a Kingdom ever stands. [Exeunt.

Enter the King reading of a Letter at one Door,
and the Knights meet him.

1 Knight. Good morrow to the good Symonides,
King. Knights, from my Daughter this I let you know,
That for this twelve Month, she'll not undertake
A married Life: Her Reason to her self is only known,
Which yet from her by no means can I get.

2 Knight. May we not get access to her, my Lord?
King. Faith, by no means, the hath so strictly
Ty'd her to her Chamber, that 'tis impossible:
One twelve Moons more she'll wear Diana's Livery:
This by the Eye of Cynthia hath she vow'd,
And on her Virgin Honour will not break.

3 Knight. I oth to bid farewell, we take our leaves. [Ex.
King. So, they are well dispatch'd.

Now to my Daughter's Letter; she tells me here,
She'll wed the Stranger Knight,
Or never more to view nor Day nor Light.
'Tis well, Mistress, your Choice agrees with mine,
I like that well; nay, how absolute she's in't,
Not minding whether I dislike or no.
Well, I do commend her choice, and will no longer
Have it be delay'd; Soft, here he comes,
I must dissemble it.

Enter Pericles.

Per. All Fortune to the good Symonides.
King. To you as much: Sir, I am beholden to you.
For your sweet Musick this last Night,
I do protest, my Ears were never fed
With such delightful pleasing Harmony.
Per. It is your Grace's Pleasure to commend,
Not my Deserts.

King. Sir, you are Musick's Master.
Per. The worst of all her Scholars, my good Lord.
King. Let me ask you one thing.
What do you think of my Daughter, Sir?
Per. A most virtuous Princess.
King. And she's fair too, is she not?
Per. As a fair Day in Summer: Wondrous Fair.
King. Sir, my Daughter thinks very well of you,
I so well, that you must be her Master,
And she will be your Scholar; therefore look to it.
Per. I am unworthy to be her School-master.
King. She thinks not so, peruse this Writing else.
Per. What's here, a Letter,
That she loves the Knight of Tyre?
'Tis the King's Subtily to have my Life:
Oh seek not to intrap me, gracious Lord,
A Stranger and distress'd Gentleman,
That never aim'd so high to love your Daughter,
But bent all Offices to honour her.
King. Thou hast bewitch'd my Daughter,
And thou art a Villain.
Per. By the Gods I have not;
Never did Thought of mine levy Offence;
Nor never did my Actions yet commence
A Deed might gain her Love, or your Displeasure:
King. Traitor, thou lyest.
Per. Traitor!
King, Ay, Traitor.
Per. Even in his Throat, unless it be a King,
That calls me Traitor, I return the Lyce.
King. Now by the Gods I do applaud his Courage.
Per. My Actions are as noble as my Thoughts,
That never relish'd of a base Descent.
I came unto the Court for Honour's Cause,
And not to be a Rebel to her State;
And he that otherwise accounts of me,
This Sword shall prove, he's Honour's Enemy.
King. No? here comes my Daughter, she can witness it,

Enter Thaïs.
Per. Then as you are as Virtuous as Fair,
Resolve your angry Father, if my Tongue
Pericles, Prince of Tyre: 35

Did e'er solicit, or my hand subscribe
To any syllable that made love to you?
That, why, sir, if you had, who takes offence
At that, would make me glad.

King. Yea, mistress, are you so peremptory?
I am glad of it with all my heart. [Aside]
I'll tame you, I'll bring you in subjection.
Will you, not having my consent,
Befall your love and your affections
Upon a stranger? — who, for ought I know, [Aside]
May be, nor can I think the contrary,
As great in blood as I my self.——
Therefore hear you, mistress, either frame
Your will to mine; and you, sir, hear you;
Either be rul'd by me, or I'll make you——
Man and wife; nay, come, your hands
And lips must seal it too: and being join'd,
I'll thus your hopes destroy, and for further grief,
God give you joy; what, are you both pleas'd?

Thaï. Yes, if you love me, sir.

Per. Ev'n as my life, or blood that fosters it!

King. What, are you both agreed?

Amb. Yes, if it please your majesty.

King. It pleaseth me so well, that I will see you wed
And then with what haste you can, get you to bed.

Enter Gower.

Now sleep flasked hath the rout,
No din but snores about the house,
Made louder by the o'er-feo beast,
Of this most pompous marriage feast:
The cat with Eyne of burning coal,
Now couches from the mouse's hole:
And crickets sing at the oven's mouth;
Are the blither for their drought:
Hymen hath brought the bride to bed,
Where, by the toss of maidenhead,
A babe is moulded, by attend,
And time that is so briefly spent,

With
Enter Pericles and Symonides at one Door with Attendants; a Messenger meets them, kneels, and gives Pericles a Letter. Pericles shews it Symonides, the Lords kneel to him; then enter Thaisia with Child, with Lychorida a Nurse, the King shews her the Letter; she rejoices: She and Pericles take leave of her Father, and depart.

By many a dear and painful Search.
Of Pericles, the careful Search.
By the four opposing Coignes
Whose the world together joines.
Is made with all due diligence,
That Horse and Sail, and high Expence,
Can fleed the guest; at last from Tyre,
Fame answering the most strange enquire,
To the Court of King Symonides,
Are Letters brought, the tenor these:
Antiochus and his Daughter's dead,
The Men of Tyrus, on the Head
Of Hellicanus would set on
The Crown of Tyre, but he will none:
The Mutiny he there hastens t'oppress,
Says to them, if King Pericles
Come not home in twice six Moons,
He, obedient to their dooms,
Will take the Crown: The sum of this
Brought hither to Pentapolis,
Irons shed the Regions round,
And every one with claps can sound,
Our Heir apparent is a King:
Who dreamt? who thought of such a thing?
Brief, he must hence depart to Tyre,
His Queen with Child, makes her desire,
Which who shall cross, along to go,
Omit we all their dole and woe:
Lychorida her nurse she takes,
And so to Sea; then Vessel shakes.
On Neptune's Billow, half the Flood.
Hath their Keel cut; but Fortune now'd.
Varies again, the grisly North
Disgorges such a Tempest forth;
That as a Duck for Life that dives;
So up and down the poor Ship drives:
The Lady shrieks, and well-a-near,
Doth fall in travel with her fear:
And what ensues in this self Storm,
Shall for it self it self perform:
I will relate, Action may
Conveniently the rest convey;
Which might not? what by me is told,
In your Imagination hold:
This Stage, the Ship, upon whose Deck
The Sea-tooth Pericles appears to speak.

Enter Pericles on Shipboard.

Per. Thou God of this great Vast, rebuke these Surges,
Which wash both Heav'n and Hell; and thou that haft:
Upon the Winds command, bind them in Brass,
Having call'd them from the Deep; O still
Thy deafning dreadful Thunders; daily quench
Thy nimble sulphurous Flashes: O how, Lychorida,
How does my Queen? then storm venomously,
Wilt thou spit all thy self? the Seaman's whistle:
Is a whisper in the Ears of Death,
Unheard Lychorida? Lucia, oh —
Divinest Patronets, and my Wife, gentle:
To those that cry by Night, convey thy Deity
Aboard our dancing Boat, make swift the Pangs
Of my Queen's Travels. Now, Lychorida.

Enter Lychorida.

Lyc. Here is a thing too young for such a place,
Who if it had conceit, would die, as I am like to do;
Take in your Arms this piece of your dead Queen.
Per. How? how, Lychorida?

Lyc.
Pericles, *Prince of Tyre.*

Lyc. Patience, good Sir, do not assist the Storm; Here's all that is left living of our Queen; A little Daughter, for the sake of it, Be manly, and take comfort.

Per. Oh you Gods! Why do you make us love your goodly Gifts, And snatch them straight away? We here below recall not what we give, And we therein may use Honour with you.

Lyc. Patience, good Sir, even for this charge. Per. Now mild may be thy Life, For a more blustering Birth had never Babe: Quiet and gentle thy Conditions; For thou art the rudest welcome to this World, That ever was Prince's Child; happy that follows, Thou hast as chiding a Nativity, As Fire, Air, Water, Earth, and Heav'n can make To harp thee from the Womb: Ev'n at the first, thy loss is more than can Thy Portage quit, with all thou canst find here: Now the good Gods throw their best Eyes upon it.

*Enter two Sailors.*

1 Sail. What Courage, Sir? God save you.

Per. Courage enough, I do not fear the Flaw, It hath done to me the worst; Yet for the love Of this poor Infant, this fresh new Sea-farer, I would it be quiet.

1 Sail. Slack the Bollins there; thou wilt not, wilt thou blow and split thy self?

2 Sail. But Sea-room, and the brine and cloudy Billow kifs the Moon, I care not.

1 Sail. Sir, your Queen must over-board, The Sea works high, the Wind is loud, And will not lie till the Ship be clear'd of the dead.

Per. That's your Superstition. [observ'd,

1 Sail. Pardon us, Sir, with us at Sea it still hath been And we are strong in Eastern, therefore briefly yield her. Per. As you think met, for she must o'er-board straight, Most wretched Queen.

Lyc,
Pericles, Prince of Tyre.

Lyce. Here she lies, Sir.

Per. A terrible Child-bed hast thou had, my Dear;
No Light, no Fire, the unfriendly Elements
Forgot thee utterly, nor have I time
To bring thee hallow'd to thy Grave, but straight
Must cast thee scarcely coffin'd, in oar,
Where for a Monument upon thy Bones,
The Air remaining Lamps, the belching Whale,
And humming Water must o'erwhelm thy Corps
Lying with simple Shells: Oh, Lychorida,
Bid Nestor bring me Spices, Ink and Paper,
My Casket and my Jewels, and bid Nicander
Bring me the Satin Coffin: Lay the Babe
Upon the Pillow; hire thee, whiles I say
A Prievtly Farewel to her: Suddenly, Woman.

2 Sail. Sir, we have a Chest beneath the Hatches,
Caulk'd and bitum'd ready.

Per. I thank thee: Mariner, say, what Coast is this?

2 Sail. We are near Tharsus.

Per. Thither, gentle Mariner,
Alter thy Course for Tyre: When canst thou reach it?

2 Sail. By break of Day, if the Wind cease.

Per. O make for Tharsus,
There will I visit Cleom, for the Babe
Cannot hold out to Tyrus: There I'll leave it
At careful Nursing: Go thy ways, good Mariner.
I'll bring the Body presently.

[Exeunt.

Enter Lord Cerymon with a Servant.

Cer. Philemon, oh!

Enter Philemon.

Phil. Dost my Lord call?

Cer. Get Fire and Meat for these poor Men,
It hath been a turbulent and stormy Night.

Scri. I have been in many; but such a Night as this,
Till now, I ne'er endur'd.
Pericles, Prince of Tyre.

Cer. Your Master will be dead ere you return. There's nothing can be ministred to Nature, That can recover him: Give this to th'Pothecary, And tell me how it works.

Enter two Gentlemen.

1 Gent. Good Morrow.

2 Gent. Good Morrow to your Lordship.

Cer. Gentlemen, why do you stir so early?

1 Gent. Sir, our Lodging standing bleak upon the Sea, Shook as if the Earth did quake:
The very Principles did seem to rend and all to topple, Pure surprize and fear made me to leave the House.

2 Gent. This is the Cause we trouble you so early,
'Tis not our Husbandry.

Cer. O you say well.

1 Gent. But I much marvel that your Lordship Having rich Attire about you, should at these early Hours Shake off the golden Slumber of Repose; 'tis most strange, Nature should be so conversant with Pain,
Being thereto not compelled.

Cer. I hold it ever Virtue and Cunning Were Endowments greater, than Nobleness and Riches; Careless Heirs may the two latter darken and expend; But Immortality attends the former,
Making a Man a God:
'Tis known, I ever have studied Physick,
Thro' which secret Art, by turning o'er Authority, I have, together with my Practice, made familiar To me and to my aid, the best Infusions that dwell In Vegetives, in Metals, Stones; and can speak of the Disturbances that Nature works, and of her Cures; Which doth give me a more content
In course of true Delight
Than to be thirsty after tottering Honour,
Or tie my Pleasure up in silken Bags,
'To please the Fool and Death.

2 Gent. Your Honour hath thro' Ephesus Pour'd forth your Charity, and hundreds call themselves
Your
Pericles, Prince of Tyre.

Your Creatures; who by you have been restor'd,
And not your Knowledge, your personal Pain,
But even your Purse still open, hath built Lord Cerymon
Such strong Renown, as never shall decay.

Enter two or three with a Chest.

Ser. So, lift there.
Cer. What's that?
Ser. Sir, even now did the Sea toss up upon our Shore
This Chest: 'tis of some wrack.
Cer. Set it down, let us look upon it,
2 Gent. 'Tis like a Coffin, Sir.
Cer. Whate'er it be, 'tis wondrous heavy;
Wrench it open straight:
If the Sea's Stomach be o'er-charg'd with Gold,
'Tis a good constraint of Fortune it belches upon us.
2 Gent. 'Tis so, my Lord.
Cer. How close 'tis caulk'd and bottom'd, did the Sea
cast it up?
Ser. I never saw so huge a Billow, Sir, as tost it upon
Shore.
Cer. Wrench it open: it smells most sweetly in my
Sence.
2 Gent. A delicate Odour.
Cer. As ever hit my Nostril; so, up with it.
Oh you most potent Gods! what's here, a Course?
1 Gent. Most strange.
Cer. Shrowded in Cloth of State, balm'd and entreas:
With full Bags of Spices, a Passport to Apollo.
Perfect me in the Characters.

Here I give to understand,
If o'er this Coffin drive a-land;
I King Pericles have left
This Queen, worth all our mundane cost:
Who finds her, give her Burlying,
She was the Daughter of a King.
Besides this Treasure for a Fee,
The Gods requite his Charity.

If
Pericles, Prince of Tyre.

If thou livest Pericles, thou hast a Heart
That even cracks for wo; this chanc’d to Night:
  2 Gent. Most likely, Sir.
  Cer. Nay, certainly to Night.
For look how fresh she looks!
They were too rough, that threw her in the Sea.
Make a Fire within, fetch hither all my Boxes in my Closet,
Death may usurp on Nature many Hours,
And yet the Fire of Life kindle again the o’er-prest Spirits.
I heard of an Egyptian that had nine Hours been dead,
Who was by good appliance recovered.

Enter one with Napkins and Fire.

Well said, well said, the Fire and Cloths,
The rough and woful Musick that we have,
Cause it to sound I beseech you:
The Vial once more; how thou stirrest, thou Block!
The Musick there, I pray you give her Air;
Gentlemen, this Queen will live,
Nature awakes a warm Breath out of her;
She hath not been entranc’d above five Hours.
See how she’s gins to blow into Life’s Flower again.
  1 Gent. The Heav’n’s, thro’ you, increase our Wonder,
And sets up your Fame for ever.
  Cer. She is alive, behold her Eye-lids,
Castes to those heav’nly Jewels which Pericles hath lost,
Begin to part their Fringes of bright Gold,
The Diamonds of a most praised Water do appear,
To make the World twice rich, live, and make us weep
To hear your Fate, fair Creature, rare as you seem to be.

[She moves.]

Thai. O dear Diana, where am I? where’s my Lord?
What World is this?
  2 Gent. Is not this strange?
  1 Gent. Most rare.
  Cer. Hush, my gentle Neighbours, lend me your Hands,
To the next Chamber bear her, get Linnen;
Pericles, Prince of Tyre.

Now this matter must be look'd to, for the Relapse
Is moral: Come, come, and, Æsculapius, guide us.

[Exeunt, carrying her away.

ACT III. SCENE I.

Enter Pericles at Tharsus, with Cleon and Dionysia.

Per. Most honour'd Cleon, I must needs be gone,
My twelve Months are expir'd, and Tyre
stands
In a peace; you and your Lady take from my Heart
All Thankfulness. The Gods make up the rest upon you.
Cle. Your shakes of Fortune, tho' they hate you
Mortally, yet glance full wond'ringly on us.
Dion. O your sweet Queen!
That the strict Fates had pleas'd you'd brought her hither,
To have blest mine Eyes with her.
Per. We cannot but obey the Pow'rs above us;
Could I rage and roar as doth the Sea she lies in,
Yet the end must be as 'tis: My gentle Babe, Marina;
Whom, for she was born at Sea, I have nam'd so,
Here, I charge your Charity withal; leaving her
The Infant of your Care, beseeching you to give her
Princely training, that she may be manner'd as she is
born.
Cle. Fear not my Lady, but think your Grace,
That fed my Country with your Corn, for which
The Peoples Prayers daily fall upon you, must in your
Child
Be thought on; if neglect should therein make me vile,
The common Body that's by you reliev'd,
Would force me to my Duty; but if to that
My Nature need a Spur, the Gods revenge it
Upon me and mine, to the end of Generation.

Per.
Pericles, *Prince of Tyre.*

*Per.* I believe you, your Honour and your Goodness, Teach me to't without your Vows; 'till she be married, Madam, by bright *Diana,* whom we honour, All unsister'd shall this Heir of mine remain, Tho I shew will in't; So I take my leave: Good Madam, make me blessed, in your Care In bringing up my Child.

*Dion.* I've one my self, who shall not be more dear To my respect than yours, my Lord.

*Per.* Madam, my Thanks and Prayers.

*Cle.* We'll bring your Grace to the Edge of the Shore, then give you up to the masked *Neptune,* and the gentlest Winds of Heav'n.

*Per.* I will embrace your Offer. Come, dearest Madam: O, no Tears, *Lychorida,* no Tears; look to your little Mistress, on whose Grace you may depend hereafter: Come, my Lord.  

[Exeunt.

*Enter* Cerymon and Thaia.

*Cer.* Madam, this Letter, and some certain Jewels, Lay with you in your Coffer, Which are at your Command: Know you the Character?

*Thai.* It is my Lord's; that I was ship'd at Sea, I well remember, ev'n on my eaning-time; But whether there delivered, by the holy Gods, I cannot rightly say; but since King *Pericles,* My wedded Lord, I ne'er shall see again, A vestal Livery will I take me to, And never more have Joy.

*Cer.* Madam, if this you purpose as ye speak, *Diana's* Temple is not distant far, Where you may abide till your date expire; Moreover if you please, a Niece of mine Shall there attend you.

*Thai.* My recompence is thanks, that's all, Yet my good Will is great, tho' the Gift small.

[Exeunt.
Pericles, Prince of Tyre.

Enter Gower.

Gow. Imagine Pericles arriv'd at Tyre,
Welcome'd and settled to his own desire;
His woful Queen we leave at Ephesus,
Unto Diana, there's a Votarist.
Now to Marina bend your Mind,
Whom our fast growing Scene must find
At Tharsus, and by Cleon train'd
In Muses' Letters, who hath gain'd
Of Education all the Grace,
Which makes high both the Art and Place
Of general Wonder: But alack,
That Monster Envy, oft the Wrack
Of earned Praise, Marina's Life
Seeks to take off by Treason's Knife,
And in this kind, our Cleon hath
One Daughter and a full grown Wench,
Even ripe for Marriage, 'tis said:
This Maid Right Philoten: And it is said
For certain in our Story, she
Would ever with Marina be,
Be't when they weav'd the fleaded Silk,
With Fingers long, small, white as Milk,
Or when she would with sharp Needle wound
The Cambrick, which she made more sound,
By hurting it, or when to the Lute
She sung and made the Night Bed mute.
That still records within one, or when
She would with rich and constant Pen,
Veil to her Mistress Dion still,
This Philoten contends in skill
With absolute Marina: So
The Dove of Paphos might with the Crow
By Feathers white, Marina gets.
All Praises, which are paid as Debts,
And not as given; this so darks
In Philoten all gracefull Marks,
That Cleon's Wife with Envy rare,
A present Murderer do's prepare

For.
Pericles, Prince of Tyre.

For Good Marina, that her Daughter
Might stand peerless by this slaughter,
The sooner her vile Thoughts to flee,
Lychorida our Nurse is dead,
And cursed Dionysia hath
The pregnant Instrument of Wrath
Prest for this blow, the unborn Event
I do commend to your Content.
Only I carried winged Time
Post, on the lame Feet of my Rhyme,
Which never could I so convey,
Unless your Thoughts went on my Way.
Dionysia doth appear,
With Leonine a Murderer.

[Exit.

Enter Dionysia, and Leonine.

Dion. Thy Oath remember, thou haft sworn to do it,
Tis but a blow, which never shall be known.
Thou canst not do a thing in the World so soon,
To yield thee so much Profit; let not Conscience
Which is but cold, enflaming thy love Bosom,
Enflame too nicely; nor let Pity, which
Even Women have cast off, melt thee,
But be a Soldier to thy Purpose.

Leon. I will do't, but yet she is a goodly Creature.

Dion. The fitter then the Gods should have her.
Here she comes weeping for her only Mistress' Death:
Thou art resolv'd?

Leon. I am resolv'd.

Enter Marina with a Basket of Flowers;

Mar. No: I will rob gay Tellus of her Weed,
To strew thy Grave with Flowers: The yellows, blues,
The purple Violets and Marigolds,
Shall as a Carpet hang upon thy Grave,
While Summer Days doth last. Ay me, poor Maid,
Born in a Tempest, when my Mother dy'd:

This
Pericles, Prince of Tyre. 47

This World to me is like a lasting Storm,
Hurrying me from my Friends.

Dion. How now, Marina? why de'ye weep alone?
How chance my Daughter is not with you?
Do not consume your Blood with sorrowing,
You have a Nurse of me. Lord! your Favour's
Chang'd, with this unprofitable Woe:
Come give me your Flowers, ere the Sea mar it,
Walk with Leonine, the Air is quick there,
And it pierces and sharpens the Stomach:
Come, Leonine, take her by the Arm, walk with her.

Mar. No I pray you,
I'll not bereave you of your Servant.

Dion. Come, come;
I love the King your Father, and your self,
With more then foreign Heart; we every Day
Expect him here, when he shall come and find
Our Paragon, to all Reports thus blasted,
He will repent the Breadth of his great Voyage,
Blame both my Lord and me, that we have taken
No care to your best Courses. Go I pray you,
Walk and be cheerful once again; reserve
That excellent Complexion, which did steal
The Eyes of Young and Old. Care not for me,
I can go home alone.

Mar. Well, I will go,
But yet I have no desire to it.

Dion. Come, come, I know tis good for you;
Walk half an Hour, Leonine, at the least.
Remember what I have said.

Leon. I warrant you, Madam.

Dion. I'll leave you, my sweet Lady, for a while;
Pray walk softly, do not heat your Blood:
What, I must have a care of you.

[Exit.

Mar. My Thanks, sweet Madam. Is the Wind West-

terly that blows?

Leon. South-West.

Mar. When I was born, the Wind was North.

Leon. Was't so?

Mar. My Father, as Nurse faith, did never fear,
But cried, good Seamen to the Sailors, gallant
48 Pericles, Prince of Tyre.

His Kingly Hands,
Hailing the Ropes, and clasping to the Mast,
Endur'd a Sea that almost burst the Deck.

Leon. When was this?

Mar. When I was born,
Never was Waves nor Wind more violent,
And from the Ladder-Tackle, washes off
A Canvas Climber: Ha, faith one, wilt out?
And with a dropping Industry they skip
From Stern to Stern:
The Boat-swain whistles, and the Master calls
And trebles their Confusion.

Leon. Come say your Prayers.

Mar. What mean you?

Leon. If you require a little space for Prayer,
I grant it; pray, but be not tedious,
For the Gods are quick of Ear,
And I am sworn to do my Work with haste.

Mar. Why will you kill me?

Leon. To satisfy my Lady.

Mar. Why would she have me kill'd now? as I can
Remember by my Troth, I never did hurt her
In all my Life, I never spake bad word,
Nor did ill turn to any living Creature;
Believe me now, I never kill'd a Mouse,
Nor hurt a Fly. I trod upon a Worm once
Against my will, but I wept for it. How have I
offended,
Wherein my Death might yield her any profit,
Or my Life imply her any danger?

Leon. My Commission
Is not to reason of the Deed, but do it.

Mar. You will not do't for all the World, I hope:
You are well-favour'd, and your Looks fore-shew
You have a very gentle Heart. I saw you lately,
When you caught Hurt in parting two that fought:
Good sooth, it shewed well in you, do so now,
Your Lady seeks my Life, come you between,
And save poor Me the weaker.

Leon. I am sworn, and will dispatch.
Enter Pirates.

1 Pirat. Hold, Villain.
2 Pirat. A Prize! a Prize!
3 Pirat. Half part, Mates, half part. Come, let her have her aboard suddenly. [Exeunt]

Enter Leonine.

Leon. These roguing Thieves serve the great Pirate Valdes.
And they have seized Marina: let her go,
There's no hope she will return: I'll swear she's dead,
And thrown into the Sea; but I'll see further:
Perhaps they will but please themselves upon her,
Not carry her aboard; if she remain,
Whom they have ravish'd, must by me be slain. [Exit]

Enter Pander, Boult and Bawd.

Pand. Boult.
Boult. Sir.

Pand. Search the Market narrowly, Metallint is full
of Gallants, we lost too much Money this Mart, by buy- ing too Wenchless.

Bawd. We were never so much out of Creatures; we have but poor three, and they can do no more than they can do, and they with continual Action, are even as good as rotten.

Pand. Therefore let's have fresh ones what e'er we pay for them; if there be not a Conscience to be us'd in every Trade, we shall never prosper.

Bawd. Thou say'st true, 'tis not our bringing up of poor Bastards, as I think, I brought some eleven.

Boult. I too eleven, and brought them down again,
But shall I search the Market?

Bawd. What else, Man? The Stuff we have, a strong Wind will blow it to pieces, they are so pitifully sodden.

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Pand. Thou sayst true, there's two unwholsome in Conscience, the poor Transilvanian is dead that lay with the little Baggage.

Boult. Ay, she quickly poup'd him, she made him Roast-Meat for Worms; but I'll go search the Market.

[Exit.

Pand. Three or four thousand Chickens were as pretty a Proportion to live quietly, and so give over.

Bawd. Why to give over, I pray you? Is it a shame to get when we are old?

Pand. Oh our Credit comes not in like the Commodity, nor the Commodity wages not with the Danger: Therefore, if in our Youths we could pick up some pretty Estate, 'twere not amiss to keep our Door hatch'd. Besides, the sooner Terms we stand upon with the Gods, will be strong with us for giving o'er.

Bawd. Come, other sorts offend as well as we.

Pand. As well as we, ay, and better too, we offend worse, neither is our Profession any Trade, it's no Calling: But here comes Boult.

Enter Boult with Pirates, and Marina.

Boult. Come your ways, my Masters, you say she's a Virgin?

Pirat. O Sir, we doubt it not.

Boult. Master, I have gone thro' for this Piece you see, if you like her, so; if not, I have lost my Earnest.

Bawd. Boult, has she any Qualities?

Boult. She has a good Face, speaks well, and hath excellent good Clothes: There's no farther necessity of Qualities can make her be refused.

Bawd. What's her Price, Boult?

Boult. I cannot be bated one doit of a thousand Pieces.

Pand. Follow me, my Masters, you shall have your Money presently: Wife, take her in, instruct her what she has to do, that she may not be raw in her Entertainment.

Bawd. Boult, take you the Marks of her, the Colour of her Hair, Complexion, Height, Age, with warrant of her Virginity; and cry, He that will give most shall have
Pericles, Prince of Tyre.

have her first. Such a Maiden-head were no cheap thing; if Men were as they have been: Get this done as I command you.

Boult. Performance shall follow. [Exit.

Mar. Alack, that Leonine was so flack, so slow:
He should have struck, not spoke;
Or that these Pirates, not enough barbarous,
Had o'er-board thrown me, for to seek my Mother.

Bawd. Why weep you, pretty one?

Mar. That I am pretty.

Bawd. Come, the Gods have done their Part in you;
Mar. I accuse them not.

Bawd. You are light into my hands, where you are like to live.

Mar. The more's my Fault to 'cape his hands,
Where I was like to die.

Bawd. Ay, and you shall live in Pleasure.

Mar. No.

Bawd. Yes indeed shall you, and taste Gentlemen
of all Fashions. You shall fare well; you shall have
the difference of all Complexions. What, d'ye stop
your Ears?

Mar. Are you a Woman?

Bawd. What would you have me to be, if I be not
a Woman?

Mar. An honest Woman, or not a Woman.

Bawd. Marry whip thee, Gosling: I think I shall have
something to do with you. Come, y'are a young foolish
Sapling, and must be bowed as I would have ye.

Mar. The Gods defend me.

Bawd. If it please the Gods defend you by Men,
then Men must comfort you, Men must feed you, Men
must stir you up: Boult's return'd.

Enter Boult.

Now, Sir, haft thou cry'd her thro' the Market?

Boult. I have cry'd her almost to the number of her
Hairs. I have drawn her Picture with my Voice.
Pericles, Prince of Tyre.

Bawd. And prithee tell me, how dost thou find the inclination of the People, especially of the younger sort?

Boults. Faith they listened to me, as they would have hearken'd to their Father's Testament. There was a Spaniard's Mouth so watered, that he went to Bed to her very Description.

Bawd. We shall have him here to Morrow with his best Ruff on.

Boults. To Night, to Night. But, Mistress, do you know the French Knight that cowers i' th' Hams?

Bawd. Who? Monsieur Verollus?

Boults. Ay, he offered to cut a Caper at the Proclamation, but he made a Groan at it, and swore he would see her to Morrow.

Bawd. Well, well, as for him, he brought his Disease hither, here he doth but repair it. I know he will come in our Shadow, to scatter his Crowns in the Sun.

Boults. Well, if we had of every Nation a Traveller, we should lodge them with this Sign.

Bawd. Pray you, come hither a while, you have Fortunes coming upon you, mark me, you must seem to do that fearfully, which you commit willingly; despise Profit, where you have most Gain: to weep that you live as you do, makes Pity in your Lovers seldom, but that Pity begets you a good Opinion, and that Opinion a meer Profit.

Mar. I understand you not.

Boults. O take her home, Mistress, take her home; these Blushes of hers must be quenched with some present Practice.

Bawd. Thou sayest true 'faith, so they must, for your Bride goes to that with Shame, which is her way to go with warrant.

Boults. Faith some do, and some do not; but Mistress, if I have bargain'd for the Joint.

Bawd. Thou may'st cut a Morsel off the Spit.

Boults. I may so.

Bawd. Who should deny it? [well. Come young one, I like the manner of your Garments.

Boults. Ay, by my Faith, they shall not be changed yet.
Pericles, Prince of Tyre.

Bawd. Bawd, spend thou that in the Town, report what
a Sojourner we have; you'll lose nothing by Custom.
When Nature fram'd this Piece, she meant thee a good
Turn, therefore say what a Paragon she is, and thou
haft the Harvest out of thine own Report.

Bawd. I warrant you, Mistress, Thunder shall not so
awake the Beds of Eels, as my giving out of her Beauty
stirs up the leudly inclin'd. I'll bring home some to
Night.

Bawd. Come your ways, follow me.

Mar. If Fires be hot, Knives sharp, or Waters deep,
Unty'd I still my Virgin-knot will keep.

Diana, aid my Purpose.

Bawd. What have we to do with Diana? pray you
go with us.

[Exeunt.

Enter Cleon and Dionysia.

Dion. Why are you foolish, can it be undone?

Cle. O Dionysia, such a piece of Slaughter,
The Sun and Moon ne'er look'd upon.

Dion. I think you'll turn a Child again.

Cle. Were I chief Lord of all this spacious World,
I'd give it to undo the deed. O Lady, much less in
Blood than Virtue, yet a Princess to equal any single
Crown of the Earth, in the justice of compare: O Villain,
Leonine, whom thou haft poisoned too; if thou
had'st drunk to him, it had been a kindness becoming
well thy Face. What can't thou say, when noble Per-
icles shall demand his Child?

Dion. That she is Dead. Nurses are not the Fates to
foster it, nor ever to preserve; she dy'd at Night, I'll say
so, who can cross it, unless you play the Innocent, and
for an honest Attribute, cry out, she dy'd by foul Play?

Cle. O go to; well, well, of all the Faults beneath
the Heav'ns, the Gods do like this worst.

Dion. Be one of those that thinks the pretty Wrens
of Tharsius will fly hence, and open this to Pericles; I
do shame to think of what a noble Strain you are, and
of how coward a Spirit.

C 5   Cle.
Pericles, Prince of Tyre.

Cle. To such proceeding, who ever but his Approbation added, tho not his whole Consent, he did not flow from honourable Courses.

Dion. Be it so then, yet none doth know but you how she came dead, nor none can know, Leonine being gone. She did disdain my Child, and stood between her and her Fortunes: None would look on her, but cast their Gazes on Marina's Face, whilst ours was blurred at, and held a Mawkin, not worth the time of day. It pierc'd me thro', and tho' you call my Course unnatural, you not your Child well loving, yet I find it greeets me as an enterprize of Kindness perform'd to your sole Daughter.

Cle. Heav'n's forgive it.

Dion. And as for Pericles, what should he say? We wept after her Hearse, and yet we mourn;
Her Monument almost finished, and her Epitaph
In glittering golden Characters, express
A general Praise to her, and Care in us,
At whose Expence 'tis done.

Cle. Thou art like the Harpy,
Which to betray, doft with thy Angel's Face,
Seize with thine Eagle's Talons.

Dion. You are like one, that superstitiously
Doth swear to th'Gods, that Winter kills the Flies;
But yet I know, you'll do as I advise. [Exeunt.

A C T I V: S C E N E I.

Enter Gower.

Thus Time we waste, and longest Leagues make short,
Sail Seas in Cockles, have and wish but for't,
Making to take our Imagination,
From Bourn to Bourn, Region to Region.
By you being pard'n'd, we commit no Crime,
To use one Language, in each several Clime,
Where our Scenes seem to live. I do beseech you
To learn of me, who stands in gaps to teach you

The
Pericles, *Prince of Tyre.*

The Stages of our Story. Pericles
Is now again thwarting the wayward Seas;
(Attended on by many a Lord and Knight)
To see his Daughter, all his Life’s Delight:
Old Helcíanus goes along behind,
Is left to govern it: You bear in Mind
Old Escanes, whom Helcíanus late
Advanc’d in time to great and high Estate.
Well sailing Ships, and bounteous Winds have brought
This King to Tharsus, think this Pilot thought,
So with his Steerage, shall your Thoughts gone
To fetch his Daughter home, who first is gone;
Like Motes and Shadows see them move a while,
Your Ears unto your Eyes I’ll reconcile.

Enter Pericles at one Door with all his Train, Cleon and
Dionysia at the other: Cleon shews Pericles the Tomb,
whereat Pericles makes Lamentation, puts on Sack-
cloth, and in a mighty Passion departs.

Gower. See how Belief may suffer by foul show,
This borrow’d Passion stands for true old Woe:
And Pericles in Sorrow all devour’d,
With Sighs (hot thro’, and biggest Tears o’er-shower’d,
Leaves Tharsus, and again embarks, he swears
Never to wash his Face, nor cut his Hairs,
He put on Sackcloth, and to Sea, he bears
A Tempest which his mortal Vessel bears,
And yet he rides it out. Now take we our way
To the Epitaph for Marina, writ by Dionysia.

The fairest, sweetest, and best lies here,
Who wither’d in her Spring of Year:
She was of Tyrus the King’s Daughter,
On whom foul Death hath made this Slaughter:
Marina was she call’d, and at her Birth,
That is, being proud, swallow’d some part of th’Earth:
Therefore the Earth fearing to be o’erflow’d,
Hath Thetis’ Birth-child on the Heav’n’s bestow’d

C 4 Where:
Pericles, Prince of Tyre.

Wherefore she does and swears she'll never stint,
Make raging Batter upon Shores of Flint.

No Vizor does become black Villany,
So well as soft and tender Flattery.
Let Pericles believe his Daughter's dead,
And hear his Courses to be ordered
By Lady Fortune, while our fear must play
His Daughter woe and heavy well a-day,
In her unholy Service: Patience then,
And think you now are all in Metaline.  [Exit.

Enter two Gentlemen.

1 Gent. Did you ever hear the like?
2 Gent. No, nor never shall do in such a place as this, she being once gone.
1 Gent. But to have Divinity preach'd there, did you ever dream of such a thing?
2 Gent. No, no; come, I am for no more Bawdy-houses, shall we go hear the Vealstals sing?
1 Gent. I'll do any thing now that is virtuous, but I am out of the road of rutting for ever.  [Exeunt.

Enter the three Bawds.

Pand. Well, I had rather than twice the worth of her she had ne'er come here.

Bawd. Fie, fie upon her, she is able to freeze the God Priapus, and undo a whole Generation, we must either get her ravish'd, or be rid of her; when she should do for Clients her fitment, and do me the kindness of our Profession, she has me her Quirks, her Reasons, her Master-reasons, her Prayers, her Knees, that she would make a Puritan of the Devil, if he should cheapen a Kiss of her.

Bawlt. Faith I must ravish her, or she'll disunish us of all our Cavaliers, and make all our Swearers Priests.

Pand. Now the Pox upon her Green-sickness for me.
Pericles, Prince of Tyre.

Bawd. Faith there's no way to be rid of it, but by the way to the Pox. Here comes the Lord Lysimachus disguis'd.

Boult. We should have both Lord and Lown, if the peevish Baggage would but give way to Custrimers.

Enter Lysimachus.

Lys. How now, how a dozen of Virginities?
Bawd. Now the Gods bless your Honour.
Boult. I am glad to see your Honour in good Health.
Lys. You may so, 'tis the better for you, that your Refforters stand upon sound Legs; how now? wholesome Impunity have you, that a Man may deal withal, and defy the Surgeon?
Bawd. We have one here, Sir, if she would—— But there never came her like in Metaline.
Lys. If she'd do the Deeds of Darkness, thou woul'dst say.
Bawd. Your Honour knows what 'tis to say well enough.
Lys. Well, call forth, call forth.
Boult. For Flesh and Blood, Sir, white and red, you shall see a Rose, and she were a Rose indeed, if she had but——

Lys. What prithee?
Boult. O Sir, I can be modest.
Lys. That dignifies the Renown of a Bawd, no less than it gives a good Report to a number to be chaste.

Enter Marina.

Bawd. Here comes that which grows to the stalk, Never pluck'd yet I can assure you. Is she not a fair Creature?
Lys. Faith she would serve after a long Voyage at Sea. Well, there's for you, leave us.
Bawd. I beseech your Honour give me leave a Word, And I'll have done presently.
Lys. I beseech you do.
Bawd. First, I would have you note, this is an honourable Man.

C 5 Mar.
Pericles, Prince of Tyre.

Mar. I desire to find him so, that I may worthily note him.

Bawd. Next, he's the Governor of this Country, and a Man whom I am bound to.

Mar. If he govern the Country, you are bound to him indeed, but how honourable he is in that, I know not.

Bawd. Pray you, without any more virginal fencing, will you use him kindly? He will line your Apron with Gold.

Mar. What he will do graciously, I will thankfully receive.

Lyf. Have you done?

Bawd. My Lord, she's not pac'd yet, you must take some pains to work her to your manage; come, we will leave his Honour and her together. [Exit Bawd.

Lyf. Now, pretty one, how long have you been at this Trade?

Mar. What Trade, Sir?

Lyf. Why, I cannot name't but I shall offend.

Mar. I cannot be offended with my Trade. Please you to name it.

Lyf. How long have you been of this Profession?

Mar. E'er since I can remember.

Lyf. Did you go to't so young: were you a Gamester at five or at seven?

Mar. Earlier too, Sir, if now I be one.

Lyf. Why the House you dwell in, proclaims you to be a Creature of Sale.

Mar. Do you know this House to be a place of such resort, and will come into it? I hear say you are of honourable Parts, and the Governor of this Place.

Lyf. Why? hath your Principal made known unto you who I am?

Mar. Who is my Principal?

Lyf. Why your Herb-woman, she that sets Seeds and Roots of Shame and Iniquity. O you have heard something of my Power, and so stand aloof for more serious Wooing; but I protest to thee, pretty one, my Authority shall not see thee, or else look friendly upon thee; come bring me to some private Place, come, come.
Pericles, Prince of Tyre.

Mar. If you were born to Honour, shew it now;
If put upon you, make the Judgment good
That thought you worthy of it.

Lys. How's this? how's this? some more, be sage—

Mar. For me that am a Maid, tho' most ungentle
Fortune have plac'd me in this Sty,
Where since I came, Diseases have been told
Dearer than Physick; O that the Gods
Would set me free from this unhallow'd Place,
Tho' they did change me to the meanest Bird
That flies i'th' purer Air.

Lys. I did not think
Thou could'st have spoke so well, I ne'er dream'd thou could'st;

Had I brought hither a corrupted Mind,
Thy Speech had alter'd it; hold, here's Gold for thee,
Persevere in that clear way thou goest,
And the Gods strengthen thee.

Mar. The good Gods preserve you.

Lys. For my part, I came with no ill intent, for to me
The very Doors and Windows favour vilely.
Fare thee well.
Thou art a piece of Virtue, and I doubt not
But thy training hath been noble;
Hold, here's more Gold for thee.
A Curse upon him, die he like a Thief,
That robs thee of thy Goodness; if thou dost hear from
It shall be for thy good.

Boul. I beseech your Honour, one Piece for me.

Lys. Avant thou damn'd Door-keeper,
Your House, but for this Virgin that doth prop it,
Would sink and overwhelm you. Away. [Exit.

Boul. How's this? We must take another Course
with you; if your peevish Chastity, which is not worth
a Breakfast in the cheapest Country under the Cope, shall
undo a whole Household, let me be gelded like a Spaniel;
come your ways.

Mar. Whither would you have me?

Boul. I must have your Maidenhead taken off, or the
common Hangman shall execute it; come your way,
we'll.
Pericles, Prince of Tyre.

we'll have no more Gentlemen driv'n away: come your ways, I say.

Enter Bawd.

Bawd. How now, what's the matter?
Bault. Worse and worse, Mistres, she hath here spo-
en holy words to the Lord Lysimachus.
Bawd. O abominable.
Bault. She makes our Profession as if it were to stink be-
fore the Face of the Gods.
Bawd. Marry hang her up for ever.
Bault. The Nobleman would have dealt with her like a Nobleman, and she sent him away as cold as a Snow-
ball; saying his Prayers too.
Bawd. Bault take her away, use her at thy Pleasure, crack
the Glafs of her Virginity, and make the rest malleable.
Bault. And if she were a thornier Piece of Ground
than she is, she shall be ploughed.
Bawd. She conjures, away with her, would she had
never come within my Doors, marry hang you, she's
born to undo us, will you not go the way of Women-
kind? Marry come up my Dish of Chastity, with Rose-
mary and Bays. [Exit.
Bault. Come, Mistres, come your ways with me.
Mar. Whither would you have me?
Bault. To take from you the Jewel you hold so dear.
Mar. Prithee tell me one thing first.
Bault. Come now, your one thing?
Mar. What can't thou wish thine Enemy to be?
Bault. Why I could wish him to be my Master, or
rather my Mistres.
Mar. Neither of these are yet so bad as thou art,
Since they do better thee in their Command;
Thou hold'ft a place, for which the pained'ft Fiend
In Hell would not in Reputation change: [comes
Thou art the damn'd Door-keeper to every Cusherel that
Enquiring for his Tib. To the cholerick scent of every
Thy Ear is liable, thy Food is such
Rogue
As hath been belch'd on by infectious Lungs.

Bault.
Boul. What would you have me do? go to the Wars, would you, where a Man may serve seven Years for the loss of a Leg, and have not Money enough in the end to buy him a wooden one?

Mar. Do any thing but this thou dost, Empty old Receptacles, or Common-houses of Filth; Serve by Indenture to the common Hangman; Any of these ways are yet better than this: For what thou professest, a Baboon, could he speak, Would own a Name too dear: Oh, that the Gods would safely deliver me from this Place; Here, here's Gold for thee, if that thy Master would gain by Proclaim that I can sing, weave, sow, and dance. [me, With other Virtues, which I'll keep from boast, And I will undertake all these to teach. [Iars. I doubt not but this populous City will yield many Scho-
Boul. But can you teach all this you speak of?
Mar. Prove that I cannot, take me home again, And prostitute me to the bafile Groom
That doth frequent your House.
Boul. Well, I will see what I can do for thee: If I can place thee, I will.

Mar. But amongst honest Women.
Boul. Faith my Acquaintance lies little among them; but since my Master and Mistress have bought you, there's no going but by their consent; Therefore I will make them acquainted with your Purpose, and I doubt not but I shall find them tractable enough. Come, I'll do for thee what I can, come your ways. [Exeunt.

Enter Gower.

Marina thus the Brothel scapes, and chances
Into an honest House our Story says:
She sings like one immortal, and she dances
As Goddess-like to her admired Lays:
Deep Clerks she dumbs, and with her Needle composes
Nature's own Shape of Bud, Bird, Branch or Berry,
That even her Art sisters the natural Roses,
Her Inclo, Silk Twine, with the rubied Cherry,

That
Pericles, Prince of Tyre.

That Pupils lacks she none of noble Race,
Who pour their Bounty on her, and her Gain
She gives the cursed Bawd. Leave we her place,
And to her Father turn our Thoughts again;
Where we left him at Sea, tumbled and tost,
And driv'n before the Wind, he is arriv'd
Here where his Daughter dwells, and on this Coast
Suppose him now at Anchor: The City driv'd
God Neptune's annual Feast to keep, from whence
Lysimachus our Tyrian Ship espies,
His Banners sable trim'd with rich Expence.
And to him in his Barge with servour byes,
In your supposing, once more put your sight
Our heavy Pericles, think this his Bark.
Where what is done in Action, more of might
Shall be discover'd, please you fit and hark.

Enter Hellicanus, to him two Sailors.

1 Sail. Where is the Lord Hellicanus? he can resolve you. O here he is. Sir, there is a Barge put off from Metaline, and in it is Lysimachus the Governour, who craves to come aboard; what is your Will?

Hell. That he have his—call up some Gentlemen.

2 Sail. Ho, Gentlemen, my Lord calls.

Enter two or three Gentlemen.

Hell. Gentlemen, there is some of worth would come aboard, I pray ye greet them fairly.

Enter Lysimachus.

1 Sail. Sir, this is the Man that can, in ought you would, resolve you.

Lys. Hail, reverend Sir, the Gods preserve you.

Hell. And you to out-live the Age I am, and die as I would do.

Lys. You wish me well;

Being on shore, honouring of Neptune's Triumphs,

Seeing
Pericles, Prince of Tyre: 63

Seeing this goodly Vessel ride before us,
I made to it, to know of whence you are.

Hell. First, what is your Place?

Lyf. I am the Governor of this Place you lie before.

Hell. Sir, our Vessel's of Tyre, in it the King,
A Man, who for this three Months hath not spoken
To any one, nor taken Sustenance,
But to prolong his Grief.

Lyf. Upon what ground is his Distemperance?

Hell. It would be too tedious to repeat, but the main
Grief springs from the loss of a beloved Daughter, and
a Wife.

Lyf. May we not see him?

Hell. You may, but bootless is your sight, he will not
speak to any.

Lyf. Let me obtain my Wish.

Hell. Behold him; this was a goodly Person, till the
Disaster that one mortal Wight drove him to this.

Lyf. Sir King, all hail, the Gods preserve you; hail,
Royal Sir.

Hell. It is in vain, he will not speak to you.

Lord. Sir, we have a Maid in Metaline, I durst wager
would win some Words from him.

Lyf. 'Tis well bethought: she, questionless with her
sweet Harmony, and other chosen Attraction, would
 allure and make a Battery thro' his defended Parts, which
now are mid-way stopp'd; she is all happy, as the fairest
of all, and her fellow Maids, now upon the levy shelter
that abuts against the Island-side.

Hell. Sure all effectless, yet nothing we'll omit that
bears Recovery's Name. But since your Kindness we
have stretch'd thus far, let us beseech you, that for our
Gold we may have Provision, wherein we are not defi-
Ciuous for want, but weary for the Staleness.

Lyf. O, Sir, a Courtesy, which if we should deny,
the most just God for every Grash would send a Cater-
piller, and so instruct our Province; yet once more let me
entreat to know at large the Cause of your King's Sorrow.

Hell. Sir, Sir, I will recount it to you; but see, I am
prevented.
Enter Marina.

Lyf. O here's the Lady that I sent for.
welcom. Fair One: Is't not a goodly present?
Hel. She's a gallant Lady.
Lyf. She's such a one, that were I well assured,
Came of a gentle Kind, and noble Stock,
I'd wish no better Choice, and think me rarely wed.
Fair, and all Goodness that consists in Beauty,
Expect even here, where is a kingly Patient.
If that thy prosperous and artificial Fate
Can draw him but to answer thee in ought,
Thy Sacred Physick shall receive such Pay,
As thy Desires can wish.

Mar. Sir, I will use my uttermost Skill in his Recovery, provided that none but I and my Companion Maid, be suffered to come near him.

Lyf. Come, let us leave her, and the Gods make her prosperous.

[The Song.

Lyf. Mark'd he your Musick?
Mar. No, nor look'd on us.
Lyf. See, she will speak to him.
Mar. Hail, Sir, my Lord, lend ear.
Per. Hum, ha.

Mar. I am a Maid, my Lord, that never before invited Eyes, but have been gazed on like a Comet: She speaks, my Lord, that, may be, hath endured a Grief might equal yours, if both were justly weighed. The wayward Fortune did malign my State, my Derivation was from Ancestors who stood equivalent with mighty Kings; but time hath rooted out my Parentage, and to the World and awkward Casualties bound me in Servitude: I will desist, but there is something glows upon my Check, and whispers in my Ear, Go not till he speak.

Per. My Fortunes, Parentage, good Parentage to equal mine: was it not thus! what say you?

Mar. I said, my Lord, if you did know my Parentage, you would not do me Violence.

Per.
Pericles, *Prince of Tyre.* 65

**Per.** I do think so, pray you turn your Eyes upon me, y'are like something that, what Country-women hear of these Shews?

**Mar.** No, nor of any Shews, yet I was mortally brought forth, and am no other than I appear.

**Per.** I am great with woe, and shall deliver weeping: My dearest Wife was like this Maid, and such a one my Daughter might have been: My Queen's Square-brows, her Stature to an Inch, as wand-like strait, as Silver-voic'd, her Eyes as Jewel-like, and cast as richly, in pace another Juno. Who starves the Ears she feeds, and makes them hungry the more she gives them Speech; where do you live?

**Mar.** Where I am but a Stranger; from the Deck you may discern the place.

**Per.** Where were you bred? And how atchiev'd you these Endowments which you make more rich to owe?

**Mar.** If I should tell my History, it would seem like Lyes disdain'd in the reporting.

**Per.** Pray thee speak; Falsehood cannot come from thee, for thou lookest modest as Justice, and thou seem'st a Pallas for the crowned Truth to dwell in. I will believe thee, and make my Senses credit thy Relation, to Points that seem impossible, for thou look'st like one I lov'd indeed; what were thy Friends? Didst thou not stay when I did push thee back; which was when I perceiving thee that thou cam'st from good Descent.

**Mar.** So indeed I did.

**Per.** Report thy Parentage, I think thou saidst thou hadst been toft from Wrong to Injury, and that thou thought'st thy Griefs might equal mine, if both were open.

**Mar.** Some such thing I said, and said no more but what my Thoughts did warrant me was likely.

**Per.** Tell thy Story, if thine considered prove the thousandth Part of my Endurance, thou art a Man, and I have suffered like a Girl; yet thou dost look like Patience, gazing on King's Graves, and smiling Extremity out of act. What were thy Friends? how lost thou thy Name, my most kind Virgin? recount, I do beseech thee, come sit by me.

**Mar.**
Mar. My Name is Marina.
Per. Oh I am mock'd, and thou by some incensed
God sent hither to make the World to laugh at me.

Mar. Patience, good Sir, or here I'll cease
Per. Nay, I'll be patient, thou little know'st how
thou dost startle me to call thy self Marina.

Mar. The Name was given me by one that had some
Power, my Father and a King.
Per. How, a King's Daughter, and call'd Marina?
Mar. You said you would believe me, but not to be
a trouble of your Peace, I will end here.
Per. But are you Flesh and Blood?
Have you a working Pulse, and are no Fairy?
Motion? well, speak on, where were you born?
And wherefore call'd Marina?

Mar. Call'd Marina, for I was born at Sea.
Per. At Sea? who was thy Mother?
Mar. My Mother was the Daughter of a King, who
died the Minute I was born, as my good Nurse Lyche-
rida hath oft delivered weeping.
Per. O stop there a little, this is the rarest Dream
That e'er dull Sleep did mock sad Fools withal:
This cannot be my Daughter, buried! well, where
were you bred? I'll here you more to the bottom of
your Story, and never interrupt you.

Mar. You scorn, believe me 'twere best I did give
o'er.
Per. I will believe you by the Syllable of what you
shall deliver; yet give me leave, how, came you in
these Parts? where were you bred?

Mar. The King, my Father, did in Tharsus leave me,
Till cruel Cleon, with his wicked Wife,
Did seek to murder me: And having woed a Villain
To attempt it, who having drawn to do't,
A Crew of Pirates came and rescu'd me,
Brought me to Metaline.
But, good Sir, whither will you have me? why do you
weep? It may be you think me an Impostor; no, good
faith, I am the Daughter to King Pericles, if good
King Pericles be.

Per.
Pericles, Prince of Tyre.

Per. Ho, Hellicanus?
Hell. Calls my Lord?
Per. Thou art a grave and noble Counsellor, Most wise in general, tell me, if thou canst, what this Maid is, Or what is like to be, that thus hath made me weep?
Hell. I know not, but here's the Regent, Sir, of Metaline, speaks nobly of her.
Lyf. She never would tell her Parentage. Being demanded that, she would sit still and weep.
Per. Oh Hellicanus, strike me, honoured Sir, give me a gash, put me to present Pain, left this great Sea of Joys rushing upon me, o'er-bear the Shores of my Mortality, and drown me with their sweetness: O come hither. Thou that beget't him that did thee beget, Thou that was born at Sea, buried at Tharsus, And found at Sea again: O Hellicanus, Down on thy Knees, thank the holy Gods, as loud As Thunder threatens us; this is Marina.
What was thy Mother's Name? tell me but that, For Truth can never be confirm'd enough.
Tho Doubts did ever sleep.

Mar. First, Sir, I pray, what is your Title?
Per. I am Pericles of Tyre; but tell me now my Drown'd Queen's Name, as in the rest you said, Thou haft been God-like perfect, the Heir of Kingdoms, And another like to Pericles thy Father.
Mar. Is it not more to be your Daughter, than to say, my Mother's Name is Thaïsa? Thaïsa was my Mother, who did end the Minute I began.
Per. Now Blessing on thee, rise, thou art my Child. Give me fresh Garments, mine own Hellicanus; she is not dead at Tharsus, as she should have been by savage Cleon, she shall tell thee all, when thou shalt kneel and justify in Knowledge, she is thy very Princess. Who is this?
Hell. Sir, 'tis the Governor of Metaline, who hearing of your Melancholy, did come to see you.
Per. I embrace you; give me my Robes; I am wild in my beholding. Oh Heav'n bless my Girl. But
68 Pericles, Prince of Tyre.

But hark! what Musick's this, Hellicanus? my Marina,
Tell him o'er Point by Point, for yet he seems to doat,
How sure you are my Daughter; but where's this Musick?

Hell. My Lord, I hear none.

Per. None? The Musick of the Sphere, lift, my Marina.

Lys. It is not good to cross him, give him way.

Per. Rarest Sounds, do ye not hear?

Lys. Musick, my Lord, I hear.

Per. Most heav'ly Musick,

It nips me unto lightning, and thick Slumber
Hangs upon mine Eyes; let me rest.

Lys. A Pillow for his Head, so leave him all.

Well my Companion Friends, if this but answer to my
just belief, I'll well remember you.

ACT V. SCENE I.

Diana appearing to Pericles asleep.

Dia. My Temple stands in Ephesus, hie thee thither,
And do upon mine Altar sacrifice.

There, when my Maiden Priests are met together,
Before all the People reveal
How thou at Sea didst lose thy Wife
To mourn thy Crosses with thy Daughters call,
And give them Repitition to the like:
Or perform my bidding, or thou livest in woe:

Do't, and happy by my silver Bow;
Awake, and tell thy Dream.

Per. Celestial Diana, Goddes Argentine,
I will obey thee. Hellicanus.

Enter Lysimachus.

Per. My Purpose was for Tharsus, there to strike
The inhospitable Cloon, but I am for other Service first,
Toward Ephesus turn our blown Sails,
Pericles, Prince of Tyre. 69

Scorns I'll tell why. Shall we refresh us, Sir, upon your Shore, and give you Gold for such Provision as our Intents will need?

LYS. Sir, with all my Heart, and when you come ashore, I have another flight.

PER. You shall prevail, were it to woe my Daughter, for it seems you have been noble towards her.

LYS. Sir, lend me your Arm.

PER. Come, my Marina.

[Exit.]

Enter Gower.

Now our Sands are almost run,
More a little, and then done.
This my last Boon give me,
For such kindness must relieve me:
That you aptly will suppose,
What Pageantry, what Feats, what Shows,
What Minstrelsy, what pretty din,
The Regent made in Metalin,
To greet the King; so he thriv'd,
That he is promis'd to be wiv'd
To fair Marina, but in no wise,
Till he had done his Sacrifice.
As Dian bad; whereto being bound,
The interim pray you all confound.
In feather'd briefness Sails are fill'd,
And wishes fall out as they're will'd.
At Ephesus the Temple see,
Our King, and all his Company,
That he can hither come so soon,
Is by your Fancy's thankful doom.

[Exit.]

Enter Pericles, Lysimachus, Helicanus, Marina, Thaisa, Cerymon, and others.

PER. Hail Dian, to perform thy just Command,
I here confess my self the King of Tyre,
Who frighted from my Country, did wed
At Pentapolis, the fair Thaisa,
Pericles, Prince of Tyre.

At Sea in Child-bed died she, but brought forth
A Maid-child called Marina; who, O Goddess,
Wears yet thy Silver Livery. She at Tharsus
Was nurs’d with Cleon, who at fourteen Years
He sought to murder, but her better Stars
Brought her to Metaline, gainst whose Shore riding,
Her Fortunes brought the Maid aboard to us,
Where by her own most clear remembrance, she
Made known her self my Daughter.

Thai. Voice and Favour! You are, you are, O Royal
Pericles. [She faints away,
Per. What means the Woman? she dies! help, Gen-
tlemen.

Cer. If you have told Diana’s Altar true,
This is your Wife.

Per. Reverend Apparer, no, I threw her over-board
with these very Arms.

Cer. Upon this Coast, I warrant you.

Per. ’Tis most certain.

Cer. Look to the Lady; O she’s but over-joy’d.
Early in blustering morn, this Lady was thrown upon
this Shore: I open’d the Coffin, found these rich Jewels,
recover’d her, and plac’d her here in Diana’s Temple.

Per. May we see them?

Cer. Great Sir, they shall be brought you to my House,
whither I invite you; look, Thaïfa is recovered.

Thai. O let me look; if he be none of mine,
My Sanity will to my Sense bend no licentious Ear,
But curb in sight of seeing:
O my Lord, are you not Pericles?
Like him you speak, like him you are:
Did you not name a Tempest, a Birth, and Death?

Per. The Voice of dead Thaïfa.

Thai. That Thaïfa am I, suppos’d dead and drownd’d.

Per. Immortal Diana!

Thai. Now I know you better,
When we with Tears parted Pentapolis,
The King, my Father, gave you such a Ring.

Per. This, this, no more, you Gods;
Your present Kindness makes my past Miseries Sport.

Yo
You shall do well, that on the touching of her Lips,
I may melt, and no more be seen;
O come, be buried a second time within these Arms.

Mar. My Heart leaps to be gone into my Mother's
Bosom.

Per. Look who kneels here, Flesh of thy Flesh, Thaïsa,
Thy Burden at the Sea, and call'd Marina,
For she was yielded there,
Thaï. Blest, and mine own.
Hell. Hail, Madam, and my Queen.
Thaï. I know you not.

Per. You have heard me say when I did fly from Tyre,
I left behind an antient Substitute;
Can you remember what I call'd the Man?
I have nam'd him oft.
Thaï. 'Twas Hellicanus then.

Per. Still Confirmation,
Embrace him dear Thaïsa, this is he;
Now do I long to hear how you were found;
How possibly preserved; and who to thank,
Besides the Gods, for this great Miraclè.

Thaï. Lord Corymon, my Lord, this Man, thro' whom
The Gods have shewn their Power, that can from first
To last resolve you.

Per. Reverend Sir,
The Gods can have no mortal Officer
More like a God than you,
Will you deliver how this dead Queen re-lives?

Cor. I will, my Lord; beseech you first go with me
Unto my House, where shall be shewn you all
Was found with her;
How she came plac'd here in the Temple,
No needful thing omitted.

Per. Pure Dian! bless thee for thy Vision,
I will offer Night Oblations to thee.

Thaïsa, this Prince, the fair betroth'd of your Daughter,
Shall marry at Pentapolis,
And now this Ornament that makes me look dismal,
Will I clip to form,
Pericles, Prince of Tyre.

And what this fourteen Years no Razor touch'd,
To grace thy Marriage-day, I'll beautify.

Thou, Lord Cerymon hath Letters of good Credit,
Sir, my Father's dead.

Per. Heav'ns make a Star of him; yet here, my Queen,
We'll celebrate their Nuptials, and our selves
Will in that Kingdom spend our following Days;
Our Son and Daughter shall in Tyrus reign.

Lord Cerymon, we do our longing stay,
To hear the rest untold, Sir, lead's the way. [Ex. omne.

Enter Gower.

In Antiochus and his Daughter, you have heard
Of monstrous Lust, the due and just Reward:
In Pericles, his Queen and Daughter, seen,
Altho' assail'd with Fortunes fierce and keen,
Virtue preferr'd from fell Destruction's blast,
Led on by Heav'n, and crown'd with Joy at last.

In Hellicanus may you well descrie,
A Figure of Truth, of Faith, of Loyalty:
In reverend Cerymon there well appears,
The worth that learned Charity aye wears.

For wicked Cleon and his Wife, when Fame
Had spread their cursed Deed, and honour'd Name
Of Pericles, to rage the City turn,
That him and his, they in his Palace burn.
The Gods for Murder seemed so content,
To punish, altho' not done, but meant.

So on your Patiences ever more attending,
New Joy wait on you; here our Play hath ending.
THE LONDON PRODIGAL.
A COMEDY.

Printed in the YEAR MDCCXXVIII.
Dramatis Personae.

Mr. Flowerdale, a Merchant, trading at Venice.
Matthew Flowerdale, his Prodigal Son.
Mr. Flowerdale, Brother to the Merchant.
Sir Lancelot Spurcock, of Lewsone in Kent.
Sir Arthur Greenhood, a Commander, in Love with Luce.
Oliver, a Cornish Clothier.
Weathercock, a Parasite to Sir Lancelot Spurcock.
Tom Civet, in Love with Frances.
Daffidil, Servants to Sir Lancelot Spurcock.
Artichoak.
Dick and Ralph, two Cheating Gamesters.
Ruffin, a Pander to Mistress Apricock, a Bawd.

Frances, Daughters to Sir Lancelot Spurcock.
Luce,
Delia,

Sheriff and Officers:
A Citizen and his Wife.
Drawers.

SCENE London, and the Parts adjacent.
THE
London Prodigal.

ACT I. SCENE I.

Enter Flowerdale the Merchant, and his Brother.

F A T H E R.
R O T H E R, from Venice, being thus disguis'd,
I come to prove the Humours of my Son:
How hath he borne himself since my departure,
I leaving you his Patron and his Guide?

Unc. I'faith, Brother, so as you will grieve to hear,
And I almost ashamed to report it.

Fath. Why how is't Brother? What, doth he spend
Beyond the allowance I left him?

Unc. How! beyond that? and far more: why, your Exhibition is nothing; he hath spent that, and since hath borrow'd, protested with Oaths, alledged Kindred to wring.
wring Mony from me, by the Love I bore his Father, by the Fortunes might fall upon himself, to furnish his Wants: That done, I have had since his Bond; his Friend and Friends Bond; altho I know that he spends is yours, yet it grieves me to see the unbridled Wildness that reigns over him.

Fath. Brother, what is the manner of his Life? how is the Name of his Offences? if they do not relish altogether of Damnation, his Youth may privilege his Wantonness: I my self ran an unbridled Course till thirty, nay, almost till forty; well, you see how I am; For Vice once looked into with the Eyes of Discretion, and well ballanced with the weights of Reason, the Course past seems so abominable, that the Landlord of himself, which is the Heart of his Body, will rather intermomb himself in the Earth, or seek a new Tenant to remain in him, which once settled, how much better are they that in their Youth have known all-these Vices, and left ‘em, than those that knew little, and in their Age run into ‘em? Believe me, Brother, they that die most virtuous, have in their Youth liv’d most vicious; and none knows the Danger of the Fire more than he that falls into it: But say, how is the Course of his Life? let’s hear his Particulars.

Unc. Why I’ll tell you, Brother, he is a continual Swearer, and a breaker of his Oaths, which is bad.

Fath. I grant indeed to swear is bad, but not in keeping those Oaths is better; for who will set by a bad thing? Nay, by my Faith, I hold this rather a Virtue than a Vice. Well, I pray proceed.

Unc. He is a mighty Brawler, and comes commonly by the worst.

Fath. By my Faith this is none of the worst neither, for if he brawl and be beaten for it, it will in time make him shun it: For what brings a Man or Child more to Virtue than Correction? What reigns over him else?

Unc. He is a great Drinker, and one that will forget himself.

Fath. O best of all; Vice should be forgotten: let him drink on, so he drink not Churches. Nay, and this
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this be the worst, I hold it rather Happiness in him, than any Iniquity. Hath he any more Attendants?

Unc. Brother, he is one that will borrow of any Man.

Fath. Why you see so doth the Sea, it borrows of all the small Currents in the World to increase himself.

Unc. Ay, but the Sea pays it again, and so will never your Son.

Fath. No more would the Sea neither, if it were as dry as my Son.

Unc. Then, Brother, I see you rather like these Vices in your Son, than any way condemn them.

Fath. Nay mistake me not, Brother; for tho I flur them over now, as things slight and nothing, his Crimes being in the Bud, it would gall my Heart they should ever reign in him.

Flow. Ho? who's within ho?

[Flowerdale knocks within]

Unc. That's your Son, he is come to borrow more Money.

Fath. For God's sake give it out I am dead, See how he'll take it.

Say I have brought you News from his Father.
I have here drawn a formal Will, as it were from my Which I'll deliver him. [self]

Unc. Go to, Brother, no more: I will.

Flow. Uncle, where are you, Uncle? [Within.

Unc. Let my Cousin in there.

Fath. I am a Sailor come from Venice, and my Name is Christopher.

Enter Flowerdale.

Flow. By the Lord, in truth, Uncle.

Unc. In truth would a serv'd, Cousin, without the Lord.

Flow. By your leave, Uncle, the Lord is the Lord of Truth. A couple of Rascals at the Gate, set upon me for my Purse.

Unc. You never come, but you bring a brawl in your Mouth.

D 3 Flow
The London Prodigal.

Flow. By my Truth, Uncle, you must needs lend me ten Pound.

Unc. Give my Cousin some small Beer here.

Flow. Nay look you, you turn it to a Jest now; by this Light, I should ride to Croydon Fair, to meet Sir Lancelot Spurcock; I should have his Daughter Luce, and for scurvy ten Pound, a Man shall lose nine hundred threescore and odd Pounds, and a daily Friend beside: by this Hand, Uncle, 'tis true.

Unc. Why, any thing is true for ought I know.

Flow. To see now; why you shall have my Bond, Uncle, Tom Whire's, James Brock's, or Nick Hall's; as good Rapier and Dagger Men, as any be in England; let's be damn'd if we do not pay you; the worst of us all will not damn our selves for ten Pound. A pox of ten Pound.

Unc. Cousin, this is not the first time I have believ'd you.

Flow. Why trust me now, you know not what may fall; if one thing were but true, I would not greatly care, I should not need ten Pound; but when a Man cannot be believ'd, there's it.

Unc. Why what is it, Cousin?

Flow. Marry this, Uncle, can you tell me if the Kattern Hue be come home or no?

Unc. Ay marry is't.

Flow. By Gad I thank you for that News.

What, is't in the Pool can you tell?

Unc. It is, what of that?

Flow. What? why then I have six Pieces of Velvet sent me, I'll give you a Piece, Uncle: For thus said the Letter, a Piece of Ah-colour, a three pil'd black, a colour'd Deroy, a Crimson, a sad Green, and a Purple: Yes i'faith.

Unc. From whom should you receive this?

Flow. From who? why from my Father; with Com mendations to you, Uncle, and thus he writes; I know, faith he, thou hast much troubled thy kind Uncle, whom, God willing, at my return I will see amply satisfie'd; am ply, I remember, was the very word; so God help me.

Unc.
Unc. Have you the Letter here?

Flow. Yes, I have the Letter here, here is the Letter: No, yes, no, let me see, what Breeches wore I on Saturday: Let me see, a Tuesday, my Calamanka; a Wednesday, my Peach-colour Satin, a Thursday my Vellure, a Friday my Calamanka again, a Saturday, let me see, a Saturday, for in those Breeches I wore a Saturday is the Letter: O my riding Breeches, Uncle, those that you thought had been Velvet, in those very Breeches is the Letter.

Unc. When should it be dated?

Flow. Marry, Didissimo tertiis Septembris, no, no, tri-dissimo tertio Octobris, ay Octobris, so it is.

Unc. Dicitisimo tertiis Octobris: And here receive I a Letter that your Father died in June: How say you, Kester?

Fath. Yes truly Sir, your Father is dead; these Hands of mine holf to wind him.

Flow. Dead?

Fath. Ay, Sir, dead.

Flow. 'Sblood, how should my Father come dead?

Fath. I, faith Sir, according to the old Proverb, The Child was born, and cried, became Man, After fell sick, and died.

Unc. Nay, Cousin, do not take it so heavily.

Flow. Nay, I cannot weep you extempory; marry, some two or three Days hence I shall weep without any fintance. But I hope he died in good Memory.

Fath. Very well, Sir, and set down every thing in good order; and the Katherine and Hue you talk'd of, I came over in; and I saw all the Bills of Lading, and the Velvet you talk'd of, there is no such aboard.

Flow. By Gad, I assure you, then there's Knavery abroad.

Fath. I'll be sworn of that; there's Knavery abroad, altho there was never a Piece of Velvet in Venice.

Flow. I hope he died in good Estate.

Fath. To the report of the World he did, and made his Will, of which I am an unworthy Bearer.

Flow. His Will, have you his Will?
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Fath. Yes, Sir, and in the presence of your Uncle I was willed to deliver it.

Unc. I hope, Cousin, now God hath blessed you with Wealth, you will not be unmindful of me.

Flow. I'll do reason, Uncle; yet 'tis faith I take the denial of this ten Pound very hardly.

Unc. Nay, I deny'd you not.

Flow. By Gad you deny'd me directly.

Unc. I'll be judg'd by this good Fellow.

Fath. Not directly, Sir.

Flow. Why, he said he would lend me none, and that had wont to be a direct denial, if the old Phrase hold: Well Uncle, come we'll fall to the Legacies, in the Name of God, Amen.

Item, I bequeath to my Brother Flowerdale, three hundred Pounds, to pay such trivial Debts as I owe in London.

Item, To my Son Mat. Flowerdale, I bequeath two Bail of false Dice, videlicet, high Men and low Men, Fullomés, Stop Cater Traies, and other Bones of Function.

Flow. 'Sblood, what doth he mean by this?

Unc. Proceed, Cousin.

Flow. These Precepts I leave him, Let him borrow of his Oath, for of his Word no body will trust him. Let him by no means marry an honest Woman, for the other will keep herself. Let him steal as much as he can, that a guilty Conscience may bring him to his destinate Repentance: I think he means Hanging. And this were his last Will and Testament, the Devil stood laughing at his Bed's feet while he made it. 'Sblood, what doth he think to fop off his Posterity with Paradoxes?

Fath. This he made, Sir, with his own Hands.

Flow. Ay, well, nay come, good Uncle, let me have this ten Pound: imagine you have lost it, or robb'd of it, or misreckon'd your self so much; any way to make it come easily off, good Uncle.

Unc. Not a penny.

Fath. I'faith lend it him, Sir, I my self have an Estate in the City worth twenty Pound, all that I'll ingage for him; he faith it concerns him in a Marriage.

Flow.
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FLOW. Ay marry doth it; this is a fellow of some sense, this: Come, good Uncle.

UNC. Will you give your word for it, Kester?

Fath. I will, Sir, willingly.

UNC. Well, cousin, come to me an hour hence, you shall have it ready.

FLOW. Shall I not fail?

UNC. You shall not, come or send.

FLOW. Nay I'll come my self.

Fath. By my troth, would I were your Worship's man.

FLOW. What? would't thou serve?

Fath. Very willingly, Sir.

FLOW. Why I'll tell thee what thou shalt do; thou say'st thou hast twenty pound, go into Birchin-lane, put thy self into clothes, thou shalt ride with me to Croydon Fair.

Fath. I thank you, Sir, I will attend you.

FLOW. Well, uncle, you will not fail me an hour hence.

UNC. I will not, cousin.

FLOW. What's thy name? Kester?

Fath. Ay, Sir.

FLOW. Well, provide thy self: uncle farewell till anon.

[Exit Flowerdale,

UNC. Brother, how do you like your son?

Fath. I'faith Brother, like a mad unbridled colt,
Or as a hawk, that never stoop'd to lure:
The one must be tamed with an iron bir, The other must be watch'd; or still she is wild.
Such is my son, a while let him be so;
For counsel still is folly's deadly foe.
I'll serve his youth, for youth must have his course;
For being restrain'd it makes him ten times worse.
His pride, his riot, all that may be nam'd, Time may recall, and all his madness tam'd. [Exeunt.

Enter Sir Lancelot, Mr. Weathercock, Daffidil, Artichock, Luce and Frank.

LANCE. Sirrah, Artichock, get you home before;
And as you prov'd your self a Calf in buying,
Drive home your fellow-calves that you have bought.
Art. Yes, forsooth, shall not my Fellow Daffidil go along with me?

Lanc. No, Sir, no, I must have one to wait on me.

Art. Daffidil, farewell, good Fellow Daffidil.

You may see, Mistress, I am set up by the halves,
Instead of waiting on you, I am sent to drive home Calves.

Lanc. I'faith, Frank, I must turn away this Daffidil,
He's grown a very foolish saucy Fellow.

Fran. Indeed-law, Father, he was so since I had him:
Before he was wise enough for a foolish Serving-man.

Wearth. But what say you to me, Sir Lancelot?

Lanc. O, about my Daughters, well, I will go forward:
Here's two of them, God save them; but the third,
O she's a Stranger in her course of Life,
She hath refused you, Master Weathercock.

Wearth. Ay by the Rood, Sir Lancelot, that she hath;
but had she try'd me, she should have found a Man of
me indeed.

Lanc. Nay, be not angry; Sir, at her denial, she hath
refus'd seven of the worshipfulst, and worthiest House-
keepers this day in Kent: indeed she will not marry,
I suppose.

Wearth. The more Fool she.

Lanc. What, is it Folly to love Chastity?

Wearth. No, mistake me not, Sir Lancelot,
But 'tis an old Proverb, and you know it well,
That Women dying Maids, lead Apes in Hell.

Lanc. That's a foolish Proverb and a false.

Wearth. By the Mafs, I think it be, and therefore let it
But who shall marry with Mistress Frances?

Fran. By my troth they are talking of marrying me,
Sister.

Luce. Peace, let them talk:
Fools may have leave to prattle as they walk.

Daff. Sentences still, sweet Mistress,

You have a Wit, and it were your Alabaster.

Luce. I'faith and thy Tongue trips trench more.

Lanc. No, of my Knighthood, not a Suitor yet;
Alas, God help her, silly Girl, a Fool, a very Fool;
But there's the other black Brows, a shrewd Girl, 
She
Tho London Prodigal.

She hath Wit at Will, and Suitors two or three,
Sir Arthur Greenhood one, a gallant Knight,
A valiant Soldier, but his Power but poor.
Then there's young Oliver, the Devonshire Lad,
A wary Fellow, marry, full of Wit,
And rich by the Rood; but there's a third all Air,
Light as a Feather, changing as the Wind:
Young Flowerdale.

Weath. O he, Sir, he's a desperate Dick indeed:
Bar him your House.

Lanc. Fie, not so, he's of good Parentage.

Weath. By my say and so he is, and a proper Man.

Lanc. Ay, proper enough, had he good Qualities.

Weath. Ay marry, there's the point, Sir Lancelot:
For there's an old saying,
Be he rich, or be he poor,
Be he high, or be he low,
Be he born in Barn or Hall,
'Tis Manners makes the Man and all.

Lanc. You are in the right, Master Weathercock.

Enter Monsieur Civet.

Civ. Soul, I think I am crossed sure, or witch'd with
an Owl; I have haunted them, Inn after Inn, Booth
after Booth, yet cannot find them; ha, yonder they
are, that's she, I hope to God 'tis she; nay I know 'tis
she now, for she treads her Shoe a little awry.

Lanc. Where is this Inn? We are past it, Daffidil.

Daf. The good Sign is here, Sir, but the black Gate is
before.

Civ. Save you, Sir, I pray may I borrow a piece of a
word with you?

Daf. No pieces, Sir.

Civ. Why then the whole.

I pray, Sir, what may yonder Gentlewomen be?

Daf. They may be Ladies, Sir, if the Deftinies and
Mortality work.

Civ. What's her Name, Sir?

Daf. Mistress Frances Spurcock, Sir Lancelot Spurcock's
Daughter.

Civ.
The London Prodigal.

Civ. Is she a Maid, Sir?
Daf. You may ask Pluto, and Dame Proserpine that; I would be loth to be ridled, Sir.
Civ. Is she married I mean, Sir?
Daf. The Fates know not yet what Shoe-maker shall make her Wedding Shoes.
Civ. I pray where Inn you, Sir? I would be very glad to bestow the Wine of that Gentlewoman.
Daf. At the George, Sir.
Civ. God save you, Sir.
Daf. I pray your Name, Sir?
Civ. My Name is Master Civet, Sir.
Daf. A sweet Name, God be with you, good Master Civet.

Lanc. A, have we spy’d you about St. George?
For all your Dragon, you had best fell’s good Wine.
That needs no Ivy-bush: well, we’ll not sit by it,
As you do on your Horse, this Room shall serve:
Drawer, let me have Sack for us old Men;
For these Girls and Knaves small Wines are best.
A Pint of Sack, no more.

Draw. A Quart of Sack in the three Tuns.
Lanc. A Pint, draw but a Pint. Daffidil,
Call for Wine to make your selves drink.
Fran. And a Cup of small Beer, and a Cake, good Daffidil.

Enter young Flowerdale.

Lanc. Nay, Royster, by your leave we will away:
Flow. Come, give’s some Mustick, we’ll go Dance;
Be gone, Sir Lancelot, what, and Fair day too?
Lanc. ’Twere fouly done, to dance within the Fair.
Flow. Nay if you say so, fairest of all Fairs, then I’ll not dance; a Fox upon my Taylor, he hath spoil’d me a Peach-colour Satin Suit, cut upon Cloth of Silver; but if ever the Rascal serve me such another Trick, I’ll give him leave, ’faith, to put me in the Calender of Fools, and you, and you, Sir Lancelot; and Master
Master Weathercock, my Goldsmith too on t’other side, I bespoke thee, Luce, a Carkenet of Gold, and thought thou shouldst a-had it for a Fairing, and the Rogue puts me in Rerages for Orient Pearl: but thou shalt have it by Sunday Night, Wench.

Enter the Drawer.

Drawer. Sir, here is one that hath sent you a Bottle of Rhenish Wine, brewed with Rose-Water.

Flow. To me?

Drawer. No, Sir, to the Knight; and desires his more Acquaintance.

Lan. To me? what’s he that proves so kind?

Daf. I have a trick to know his Name, Sir; he hath a Month’s Mind here to Mistress Frances, his Name is Master Civet.

Lan. Call him in, Daffidil.

Flow. O. I know him, Sir, he is a Fool, but reasonably rich; his Father was one of these Leafe-mongers, these Corn-mongers, these Money-mongers, but he never had the Wit to be a Whore-monger.

Enter Master Civet.

Lan. I promise you, Sir, you are at too much charge.

Civ. The charge is small charge, Sir, I thank God my Father left me wherewithal; if it please you, Sir, I have a great mind to this Gentlewoman here, in the way of Marriage.

Lan. I thank you, Sir: please you to come to Lewsome, to my poor House, you shall be kindly welcome: I knew your Father, he was a wary Husband. To pay here, Drawer?

Drawer. All is paid, Sir; this Gentleman hath paid all.

Lan. I’faith you do us wrong, But we shall live to make amends ere long: Master Flowerdfe, is that your Man?

Flow. Yes, faith, a good old Knave.

Lan. Nay then I think you will turn wife.
Now you take such a Servant:
Come, you'll ride with us to Lewsome, let's away;
'Tis scarce two Hours to the end of Day. [Exeunt.

Enter Sir Arthur Greenhood, Oliver, Lieutenant, and Soldiers.

Arth. Lieutenant, lead your Soldiers to the Ships,
There let them have their Coats, at their arrival
They shall have pay; farewell, look to your Charge.
Sol. Ay, we are now sent away, and cannot so much as speak with our Friends.
Oli. No Man what ere you used a zutch a Fashion, thick you cannot take your leave of your vreens.
Arth. Fellow, no more. Lieutenant, lead them off.
Sol. Well, if I have not my Pay and my Clothes,
I'll venture a running away, tho I hang for't.
Arth. Away, Sirrah, charm your Tongue. [Exeunt Soldi.

Oli. Bin you a Presser, Sir?
Arth. I am a Commander, Sir, under the King.
Oli. Sfoot, Man, and you be ne'er zutch a Commandur,
Shud a-spoke with my Vreens before I chid a-gone, so shud.
Arth. Content your self, Man, my Authority will stretch to press fo good a Man as you.
Oli. Press me? I devy; press Scoundrels, and thy Melrils: Press me, chee scorns thee i'faith: For seeth thet, here's a worshipful Knight knows, cham not to be press'd by thee.

Enter Sir Lancelot, Weathercock, young Flowerdale, old Flowerdale, Luce and Frank.

Lanc. Sir Arthur, welcome to Lewsome, welcome by my Troth. What's the matter Mani, why are you vex'd?
Oli. Why, Man, he would press me.
Lanc. O fie, Sir Arthur, press him?
He is a Man of reckoning.
Weath. Ay, that he is, Sir Arthur, he hath the Noble,
The golden Ruddocks he.
The London Prodigal.

Arth. The fitter for the Wars:

And were he not in favour
With your Worships, he should see
That I have power to press so good as he.

Oli. Chill stand to the Trial, so chill.

Flow. Ay marry shall he, press Cloth and Karsy;
White-Pot and drowsen Broth; tut, tut, he cannot.

Oli. Well, Sir, tho you see vlouten Cloth and Karsy,
chee a zeen zutch a Karsy-coat wear out the Town fick
a zilken Jacket, as thick a one you wear.

Flow. Well fed vllitan vllattan.

Oli. A and well fed Cocknell, and Boone-Bell too: What
doef think chum ayeard of thy Zilken Coat, no fer were
thee.

Lanc. Nay, come no more, be all Lovers and Friends.

Weath. Ay, 'tis best so, good Master Oliver.

Flow. Is your Name Master Oliver, I pray you.

Oli. What tit and be tit, and grieve you.

Flow. No, but I'd gladly know if a Man might not
have a foolish Plot out of Master Oliver to work upon.

Oli. Work thy Plots upon me, stand aside; work thy
foolish Plots upon me, chill so use thee, thou wert never
so used since thy Dam bound thy Head: work upon me!

Flow. Let him come, let him come.

Oli. Zyrrha, Zyrrha, if it were not for shame, chee
would a given thee zutch a whister poop under the Ear,
chee would have made thee a vanged another at my Feet:
Stand aside, let me loose, cham all of a vlaming Fire-
brand; stand aside.

Flow. Well, I forbear you for your Friend's sake.

Oli. A vig for all my vreens, doth thou tell me of my
vreens?

Lanc. No more, good Master Oliver, no more, Sir Ar-
thur. And Maiden, here in the sight of all your Suitors,
every Man of worth, I'll tell you whom I fainest would
prefer to the hard Bargain of your Marriage-bed; shall I
be plain among you, Gentlemen?


Lanc. Then, Sir, first to you, I do confess you a
most gallant Knight, a worthy Soldier, and honest Man:

But
But Honesty maintains a French hood, goes very seldom
in a Chain of Gold, keeps a small Train of Servants;
hath few Friends: And for this wild Oats here, young
Flowerdale, I will not judge; God can work Miracles,
but he were better make a hundred new, than thee a
thrifty and an honest one.

Weath. Believe me he hath hit you there, he hath
touched you to the quick, that he hath.

Flow. Woodcock a-my-side, why Master Weather-
cock, you know I am honest, howsoever trifles.

Wes. Now by my troth I know no otherwise,
O, your old Mother was a Dame indeed:
Heav'n hath her Soul, and my Wife's too, I trust.
And your good Father, honest Gentleman,
He is gone a Journey, as I hear, far hence.

Flow. Ay, God be praised, he is far enough,
He is gone a Pilgrimage to Paradise,
And left me to cut a Caper against Care:

Luce. Look on me that am as light as Air.

Luce. I'faith I like not Shadows, Bubbles, Broth,
I hate a light Love, as I hate Death.

Lanc. Girl, hold thee there;
Look on this Devonshire Lad;
Fat, fair, and lovely, both in Purse and Person.

Oli. Well, Sir, cham as the Lord hath made me, you
know me well ivin, cha have three score pack of Karlay,
and Blacken Hall, and chief Credit beside, and my Fortu-
tunes may be so good as another's, so it may.

Luce. 'Tis you I love, whatsoever others say.

Arth. Thanks, fairest.

Flow. What, would'st thou have me quarrel with him?

Fath. Do but say he shall hear from you.

Lanc. Yet, Gentlemen, howsoever I prefer this De-
vonshire Suitor, I'll enforce no love, my Daughter shall
have her liberty to chuse whom she likes best.

In your Love suit proceed:
Not all of you, but only one must speed.

Weath. You have said well: Indeed right well.
Enter Artichoak.

Art. Mistreß, here's one would speak with you: my fellow Daffidil hath him in the Cellar already; he knows him, he met him at Croydon Fair.

Lanc. O, I remember, a little Man.

Art. Ay, a very little Man.

Lanc. And yet a proper Man.

Art. A very proper, very little Man.

Lanc. His Name is Monsieur Civet.

Art. The same, Sir.

Lanc. Come, Gentlemen, if other Suitors come, My foolish Daughter will be fitted too:

But Delia my Saint, no man dare move.

[Exeunt all but young Flowerdale, Oliver, and old Flowerdale.

Flow. Hark you, Sir, a word.

Oli. What ha an you to say to me now?

Flow. Ye shall hear from me, and that very shortly.

Oli. Is that all, vare thee well, chee vere thee not a

[Exit Oliver.

Flow. What if he should come now? I am fairly drest.

Fath. I do not mean that you shall meet with him,

But presently we'll go and draw a Will;

Where we'll set down Land that we never saw,

And we will have it of so large a Sum,

Sir Lancelot shall intreat you to take his Daughter:

This being formed, give it Master Weathercock,

And make Sir Lancelot's Daughter Heir of all;

And make him swear never to shew the Will

To any one, until that you be dead.

This done, the foolish changling Weathercock

Will strait discourse unto Sir Lancelot,

The Form and Tenor of your Testament.

Nor stand to pause of it, be rul'd by me:

What will ensue, that you shall quickly see.

Flow. Come let's about it; if that a Will, sweet Kit,

Can get the Wench, I shall renown thy Wit. [Exeunt.
The London Prodigal.

Enter Daffidil and Luce.

Daf. Mistres, still froward?
Luce. Away my foolish Knave, let my Hand go.
Daf. There's your Hand, but this shall go with me:
My Heart is thine, this is my true Love's Fee.
Luce. I'll have your Coat stript o'er your Ear for this, You sassy Rascal.

Enter Lancelot and Weathercock.

Lanc. How now Maid, what is the News with you?
Luce. Your Man is something sassy. [Exit Luce.
Lanc. Go to, Sirrah, I'll talk with you anon.
Daf. Sir, I am a Man to be talked withal;
I am no Horse, I trow:
I know my strength, then no more than so.
Weather. Ay, by the Matsins, good Sir Lancelot, I saw
him the other Day hold up the Bucklers, like an Hercules.
I'faith, God-a-mercy, Lad, I like thee well.
Lanc. Ay, ay, like him well, go Sirrah, fetch me a
Cup of Wine,
That ere I part with Master Weathercock,
We may drink down our farewell in French Wine.
Weather. I thank you, Sir, I thank you friendly Knight,
I'll come and visit you, by the Mouse-foot I will;
In the mean time, take heed of cutting Flowerdale,
He is a desperate Dick, I warrant you.
Lanc. He is, he is: Fill, Daffidil, fill me some Wine.
Ha, what wears he on his Arm?
My Daughter Luce's Bracelet, ay, 'tis the same.
Ha to you, Master Weathercock.
Weather. I thank you, Sir: Here, Daffidil, an honest
Fellow, and a tall, thou art. Well, I'll take my leave,
good Night, and I hope to have you and all your Daugh-
ters at my poor House, in good sooth I must.
Lanc. Thanks, Master Weathercock, I shall be bold to
trouble you, be sure.
The London Prodigal.

Weath. And welcome, heartily farewell. [Exit Weath.

Lanc. Sirrah, I saw my Daughter’s Wrong, and with her Bracelet on your Arm; off with it; and with it my Livery too. Have I care to see my Daughter match’d with Men of Worship, and are you grown so bold? Go, Sirrah, from my House, or I’ll whip you hence.

Daf. I’ll not be whip’d, Sir, there’s your Livery: This is a Servingman’s reward, what care I, I have means to trust to, I scorn Service, I. [Ex. Daf.

Lanc. Ay, a lusty Knave, but I must let him go. Our Servants must be taught what they should know.

Enter Sir Arthur and Luce.

Luce. Sir, as I am a Maid, I do affect you above any Suitor that I have, altho that Soldiers scarce know how to love.

Arth. I am a Soldier, and a Gentleman, Know what belongs to War, what to a Lady: What Man offends me, that my Sword shall right: What Woman loves me, I am her faithful Knight.

Luce. I neither doubt your Valour nor your Love, But there be some that bear a Soldier’s Form, That swear by him they never think upon, Go swaggering up and down from House to House, Crying, God pays: And——

Arth. I’ll faith, Lady, I’ll desery you such a Man. Of them there be many which you have spoke of, That bear the name and shape of Soldiers, Yet, God knows, very seldom saw the War: That haunt your Taverns and your Ordinarys, Your Ale-houses sometimes, for all a-like, To uphold the brutish humour of their Minds, Being mark’d down for the Bondmen of Despair: Their mirth begins in Wine, but ends in Blood, Their Drink is clear, but their Conceits are mud.

Luce. Yet these are great Gentlemen Soldiers.

Arth. No, they are wretched Slaves, Whose desperate Lives do bring them timeles Graves.

Luce.
The London Prodigal.

Luce. Both for your self, and for your form of Life,
If I may chuse, I'll be a Soldier's Wife.

Enter Sir Lancelot and Oliver.

Oli. And tut trust to it, so then.
Lanc. Assure your self,
You shall be married with all speed we may:
One Day shall serve for Frances and for Luce.
Oli. Why che wood vain know the time for providing
Wedding Raiments.
Lanc. Why no more but this, first get your Assurance
made touching my Daughter's Jointure, that dispatch'd,
we will in two Days make Provision.
Oli. Why Man, chill have the Writings made by to
morrow.
Lanc. To morrow be it then, let's meet at the King's
Head in Fish-street.
Oli. No, 'by Man, let's meet at the Rose at Temple
Bar, that will be nearer your Counsellor and mine.
Lanc. At the Rose be it then, the hour nine,
He that comes last forfeits a Pint of Wine.
Oli. A Pint is no payment,
Let it be a whole Quart, or nothing.

Enter Artichoak.

Art. Master, here is a Man would speak with Master
Oliver; he comes from young Master Flowerdale.
Oli. Why chill speak with him, chill speak with him.
Lanc. Nay, Son Oliver, I'll surely see
What young Flowerdale hath sent to you.
I pray God it be no Quarrel.
Oli. Why Man, if he quarrel with me, chill give him
his Hands full.

Enter old Flowerdale.

Fath. God save you, good Sir Lancelot.
Lanc. Welcome, honest Friend.
Fath.
**The London Prodigal.**

**Fath.** To you and yours, my Master wisheth Health,

But unto you, Sir, this, and this he sends:

There is the length, Sir, of his Rapier,

And in that Paper shall you know his Mind.

**Oli.** Here, chill meet him my Friend, chill meet him.

**Lanc.** Meet him, you shall not meet the Russian, fy.

**Oli.** And I do not meet him, chill give you leave to call me Cut. Where is't, Sirrah? where is't? where is't?

**Fath.** The Letter shews both Time and Place,

And if you be a Man, then keep your word.

**Lanc.** Sir, he shall not keep his word, he shall not meet.

**Fath.** Why let him chuse, 'e'll be the better known

For a base Rascal, and reputed so.

**Oli.** Zirrah, zirrah; and 'twere not an old Fellow,

and sent after an Errant, chid give thee something, but chud be no Money: But hold thee, for I see thou art somewhat testorn, hold thee, there's vorty Shillings,

bring thy Master a veeld, chill give thee vorty more,

look thou bring him, chill mall him tell him, chill mar

his dancing Trefles, chill use him he was ne'er so used

since his Dam bound his Head, chill make him for capering any more chy vor thee.

**Fath.** You seem a Man, stout and resolute,

And I will fo report, whate'er befal.

**Lanc.** And fall out ill, assure thy Master this,

I'll make him fly the Land, or use him worse.

**Fath.** My Master, Sir, deserves not this of you,

And that you'll shortly find.

**Lanc.** Thy Master is an Unthrift, you a Knave,

And I'll attack you first, next clap him up:

Or have him bound unto his good Behaviour.

**Oli.** I wood you were a Sprite if you do him any harm for this: And you do, chill mere fee you, nor any of yours, while chill have Eyes open: What do you think, chill be abaffelled up and down the Town for a Meffel, and a Scoundrel, no chy bor you: Zirrah chill come, say no more, chill come, tell him.

**Fath.** Well, Sir, my Master deserves not this of you,

And that you'll shortly find.

**Oli.** No matter, he's an Unthrift, I defy him.

**Lanc.**
Lanc. Now, gentle Son, let me know the Place.
Oli. No chye vor you.
Lanc. Let me see the Note.
Oli. Nay, chill watch you for zuch a Trick.
But if chee meet him, zo, if not, zo: chill make him
know me, or chill know why I shall not, chill vare the worse.
Lanc. What will you then neglect my Daughter's Love?
Venture your State and hers for a loose Brawl?
Oli. Why Man, chill not kill him, marry chill veze
him too and again ; and zo God be with you vather.
What, Man, we shall meet to-morrow. [Exit.
Lanc. Who would have thought he had been so desperate:
Come forth my honest Servant Artichoak.

Enter Artichoak.

Arti. Now, what's the matter? some brawl toward,
I warrant you.
Lanc. Go get me thy Sword bright flower'd, thy
Buckler mended. O for that Knave, that Villain Daffidil
would have done good Service. But to thee.
Arti. Ay, this is the tricks of all you Gentlemen, when
you stand in need of a good Fellow. O for that Daffidil,
O where is he? but if you be angry, and it be but for the
wagging of a Straw, then out a-doors with the Knave, turn
the Coat over his Ears. This is the humour of you all.
Lanc. O for that Knave, that lusty Daffidil.
Arti. Why there 'tis now: Our Years Wages and our
Vails will scarce pay for broken Swords and Bucklers
that we use in our Quarrels. But I'll not fight if Daffi-
dil be a t'other side, that's flat.
Lanc. 'Tis no such matter, Man: get Weapons ready,
and be at London ere the break of day; watch near the
Lodging of the Devonshire Youth, but be unseen; and
as he goes out, as he will go out, and that very early
without doubt.
Arti. What, would you have me draw upon him,
And he goes in the Street?
Lanc. Not for a World, Man, into the Fields. For to
the Field he goes, there to meet the desperate Flowerdale:
Take
The London Prodigal.

Take thou the part of Oliver my Son, for he shall be my Son, and marry Luce: Doft understand me, Knave?

Arti. Ay, Sir, I do understand you, but my young Mistress might be better provided in matching with my Fellow Daffidil.

Lanc. No more; Daffidil is a Knave:
That Daffidil is a most notorious Knave. [Exit Arti.

Enter Weathercock.

Maiter Weathercock, you come in a happy time; the desperate Flowerdale hath writ a Challenge; and who think you must answer it, but the Devonshire Man, my Son Oliver?

Weather. Marry, I am sorry for it, good Sir Lancelot;
But if you will be rul’d by me, we’ll stay the fury.

Lanc. As how, I pray?
Weather. Marry I’ll tell you, by promising young Flow-
erdale the red-lip’d Luce.

Lanc. I’ll rather follow her unto her Grave.

Weather. Ay, Sir Lancelot, I would have thought so too,
but you and I have been deceiv’d in him; come read
this Will or Deed, or what you call it, I know not;
Come, come, your Spectacles I pray.

Lanc. Nay, I thank God, I see very well.

Weather. Marry, God bless your Eyes, mine have been
dim almost this thirty Years.

Lanc. Ha, what is this? what is this?

Weather. Nay there is true Love indeed, he gave it to me,
but this very Morn, and bad me keep it unseen from any
one: good Youth, to see how Men may be deceiv’d.

Lanc. Passion of me, what a Wretch am I to hate this
loving Youth? he hath made me, together with my Luce
he loves so dear, Executors of all his Wealth.

Weather. All, all, good Man, he hath given you all.

Lanc. Three Ships now in the Straits, and home-
ward-bound;
Two Lordships of two hundred Pound a-Year;
The one in Wales, the other Gloucester-shire:
Debts and Accounts are thirty thousand Pound;
The London Prodigal.

Plate, Money, Jewels, sixteen thousand more: Two Housen furnish'd well in Coleman-street; Beside whatsoever his Uncle leaves to him, Being of great Demeans and Wealth at Peckham.

Weath. How like you this, good Knight? How like you this?

Lanc. I have done him wrong, but now I'll make amends, The Devonshire Man shall whistle for a Wife. He marry Luce! Luce shall be Flowerdale's.

Weath. Why that is friendly said, let's ride to London and prevent their match, by promising your Daughter to the lovely Lad.

Lanc. We'll ride to London, or it shall not need, We'll cross to Dedford-strand, and take a Boat. Where be these Knaves? what Artichoak? what Fop?

Enter Artichoak.

Art. Here be the very Knaves, but not the merry Knaves.

Lanc. Here take my Cloke, I'll have a walk to Dedford.

Art. Sir, we have been fearing of our Swords and Bucklers for your Defence.

Lanc. Defence me no Defence, let your Swords rust, I'll have no fighting: Ay, let Blows alone, bid Delia see all things be in readiness against the Wedding, we'll have two at once, and that will save Charges, Master Weathercock.

Art. Well, we will do it, Sir.

[Exeunt.

Enter Civet, Frank, and Delia.

Civ. By my troth this is good luck, I thank God for this. In good sooth I have even my Heart's desire: Sister Delia, now I may boldly call you so, for your Father hath Frank and freely given me his Daughter Frank.

Frank. Ay, by my troth, Tom, thou haft my good will too, for I thank God I long'd for a Husband, and would I might never sit, for one his name was Tom.

Del. Why, Sister, now you have your wish.

Civ.
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Civ. You say very true, Sister Delia, and I prithee call me nothing but Tom; and I'll call thee Sweet-heart, and Frank. Will it not do well, Sister Delia?

Del. It will do very well with both of you.

Frank. But Tom, must I go as I do now when I am married?

Civ. No, Frank, I'll have thee go like a Citizen,
In a garded Gown, and a French Hood.

Frank. By my troth that will be excellent indeed.

Del. Brother, maintain your Wife to your Estate,
Apparel you your self like to your Father:
And let her go like to your antient Mother.
He sparing got his Wealth, left it to you;
Brother take heed of Pride, some bids Thrift adieu.

Civ. So as my Father and my Mother went, that's a Jest indeed; why she went in a fring'd Gown, a Single Ruff,
and a white Cap; and my Father in a Mocado Coat, a pair of red Satin Sleeves, and a Canvas Back.

Del. And yet his Wealth was all as much as yours.

Civ. My Estate, my Estate, I thank God, is forty Pound a-year in good Leaves and Tenements; besides twenty Mark a-year at Cuckolds-Haven, and that comes to us all by Inheritance.

Del. That may indeed, 'tis very sily plied.
I know not how it comes, but so it falls out,
That those whose Fathers have died wondrous rich,
And took no Pleasure but to gather Wealth,
Thinking of little that they leave behind.
For them, they hope will be of their like mind:
But falls out contrary, forty Years Sparing
Is scarce three seven Years Spending, never caring
What will ensue, when all their Coin is gone,
And all too late, then Thrift is thought upon;
Oft have I heard, that Pride and Riot kist,
And then Repentance cries, for had I wift?

Civ. You say well, Sister Delia, you say well; but I mean to live within my Bounds; for look you, I have set down my rest thus far, but to maintain my Wife in her French Hood, and her Coach, keep a couple of Geldings,
and a brace of Gray-hounds, and this is all I'll do.

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Del. And you’ll do this with forty Pounds a-Year?
Civ. Ay, and a better Penny, Sister.
Frank. Sister, you forget that at Cuckolds-Haven.
Civ. By my troth, well remembred, Frank,
I’ll give thee that to buy thee Pins.
Del. Keep you the rest for Points: alas the Day!
Fools shall have Wealth, tho all the World say nay.
Come, Brother, will you in? Dinner stays for us.
Civ. Ay, good Sister, with all my Heart.
Frank. Ay, by my troth, Tom, for I have a good
Stomach.
Civ. And I the like, sweet Frank; no Sister,
Do not think I’ll go beyond my Bounds.
Del. God grant you may not. [Exeunt.

Enter young Flowerdale, and his Father, with Foils
in their Hands.

Flow. Sirrah, Kit, tarry you there, I have spied Sir
Lancelot and old Weathercock coming this way, they are
hard at hand, I will by no means be spoken withal.
Fath. I’ll warrant you, go get you in.

Enter Lancelot and Weathercock.

Lanc. Now, my honest Friend, thou dost belong to
Master Flowerdale?
Fath. I do, Sir.
Lanc. Is he within, my good Fellow?
Fath. No, Sir, he is not within.
Lanc. I prithee, if he be within, let me speak with
him.
Fath. Sir, to tell you true, my Master is within, but
indeed would not be spoke withal; there be some terms
that stand upon his Reputation, therefore he will not
admit any Conference till he hath shook them off.
Lanc. I prithee tell him his very good Friend Sir Lan-
celot Spurcock intreats to speak with him.
Fath. By my troth, Sir, if you come to take up the
matter
matter between my Master and the Devonshire Man, you do but beguile your hopes, and lose your labour.

Lanc. Honest Friend, I have not any such thing to I come to speak with him about other Matters. (him,

Fath. For my Master, Sir, hath set down his Resolution, either to redeem his Honour, or leave his Life behind him.

Lanc. My Friend, I do not know any Quarrel touching thy Master, or any other Person; my Business is of a different Nature to him, and I prithee so tell him.

Fath. For howsoever the Devonshire Man is, My Master's Mind is bloody; that's a round O.
And therefore, Sir, Intreaties are but vain.

Lanc. I have no such thing to him, I tell thee once again.

Fath. I will then so signify to him. [Exit Father.

Lanc. Ay, Sirrah, I see this matter is hotly carried. But I'll labour to dissuade him from it.

Enter young Flowerdale and his Father.

Good-morrow, Master Flowerdale.

Flow. Good-morrow, good Sir Lancelot.

Good-morrow, Master Weathercock;
By my troth, Gentlemen, I have been reading over
Nick Machiavel; I find him
Good to be known, not to be followed;
A pestilent human Fellow: I have made
Certain Annotations of him such as they be.
And how is't, Sir Lancelot? ha, how is't?
A mad World, Men cannot live quiet in it.

Lanc. Master Flowerdale, I do understand there is some Jar between the Devonshire Man and you.

Fath. They, Sir? they are good Friends as can be.

Flow. Who? Master Oliver and I? as good Friends as can be.

Lanc. It is a kind of safety in you to deny it, and a generous silence, which too few are indued withal: But, Sir, such a thing I hear, and I could wish it otherwise.

Flow. No such thing, Sir Lancelot, at my reputation, as I am an honest Man.
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Lanc. Now I do believe you then, if you do Engage your Reputation there is none.

Flow. Nay I do not engage my Reputation there is not. You shall not bind me to any condition of hardness: But if there be any thing between us, then there is, If there be not, then there is not. Be, or 'be not, all is one.

Lanc. I do perceive by this, that there is something between you, and I am very sorry for it.

Flow. You may be deceiv'd, Sir Lancelot; the Italian Hath a pretty saying: Questo? I have forgot it too, 'Tis out of my Head, but in my Translation (him, If't hold thus, thou hast a Friend, keep him; if a Foe, trip

Lanc. Come, I do see by this there is somewhat be- tween you,

And before God I could wish it otherwise.

Flow. Well, what is between us, can hardly be alter'd: Sir Lancelot, I am to ride forth to morrow, That way which I must ride, no man must deny Me the Sun, I would not by any particular Man Be denied common and general Passage. If any one Saith, Flowerdale, thou passe'st not this way; My answer is, I must either on or return: But return is not my word, I must on:

If I cannot then make my way, Nature Hath done the last for me, and there's the Fine.

Lanc. Mr. Flowerdale, every man hath one Tongue, And two Ears; Nature in her Building, Is a most curious Work-matter.

Flow. That is as much as to say, a Man should hear Than he should speak.

Lanc. You say true, and indeed I have heard more, Than at this time I will speak.

Flow. You say well.

Lanc. Slanders are more common than Troths, Ma- ster Flowerdale, but Proof is the Rule for both.

Flow. You say true, what do you call him Hath it there in his third Canton?

Lanc. I have heard you have been wild: I have believ'd Flow. 'Twas fit, 'twas necessary.
The London Prodigal.

Lanc. But I have seen somewhat of late in you, That hath confirm'd in me an Opinion of Goodness toward you.

Flow. I'faith, Sir, I am sure I never did you harm: Some good I have done, either to you or yours, I am sure you know not, neither is it my will you should.

Lanc. Ay, your Will, Sir.

Flow. Ay, my Will, Sir; s'foot do you know ought of Begod, and you do, Sir, I am abus'd. (my Will?

Lanc. Go, Mr. Flowerdale, what I know, I know; And know you thus much out of my Knowledge, That I truly love you. For my Daughter, She's yours. And if you like a Marriage better Than a Brawl, all quirks of Reputation set aside, go with me presently: And where you should fight a bloody Battle, you shall be married to a lovely Lady.

Flow. Nay but, Sir Lancelot?

Lanc. If you will not embrace my Offer, yet assure your self thus much, I will have order to hinder your Encounter.

Flow. Nay but hear me, Sir Lancelot.

Lanc. Nay, stand not you upon imputative Honour, 'Tis merely unsound, unprofitable, and idle Inferences; your Business is to wed my Daughter, therefore give me your present word to do it; I'll go and provide the Maid, therefore give me your present Resolution, either now or never.

Flow. Will you so put me to it? (never.

Lanc. Ay, afore God, either take me now, or take me Else what I thought should be our match, shall be our So fare you well for ever. (parting

Flow. Stay; fall out, what may fall, my Love Is above all: I will come.

Lanc. I expe&ct you, and so fare you well.

[Exit Sir Lancelot.

Fath. Now, Sir, how shall we do for wedding Apparel?

Flow. By the Mafs that's true; now help Kit, The Marriage ended, we'll make amends for all.

Fath. Well, no more, prepare you for your Bride, We will not want for Clothes, whatsoe'er betide.

E 3 Flow.
Flow. And thou shalt see, when once I have my Dower,
In Mirth we'll spend full many a merry Hour:
As for this Wench, I not regard a Pin,
It is her Gold must bring my Pleasures in. [Exit.

Fath. Is't possible, he hath his second living,
Forsaking God, himself to the Devil giving;
But that I knew his Mother firm and chaste,
My Heart would say, my Head she had disgrac'd:
Else would I swear, he never was my Son,
But her fair Mind so foul a Deed did Than.

Enter young Flowerdale's Uncle.

Unc. How now, Brother, how do you find your Son?
Fath. O Brother, heedless as a Libertine,
Ev'n grown a Master in the School of Vice,
One that doth nothing, but invent Deceit;
For all the Day he humours up and down,
How he the next Day might deceive his Friend:
He thinks of nothing but the present time:
For one Groat ready down, he'll pay a Shilling;
But then the Lender must needs stay for it.
When I was young, I had the scope of Youth,
Both wild and wanton, careless and desperate:
But such mad Strains as he's possess'd withal,
I thought it wonder for to dream upon.

Unc. I told you so, but you would not believe it.
Fath. Well, I have found it, but one thing comforts me;
Brother, to morrow he's to be married
To beauteous Luce, Sir Lancelot Spurcock's Daughter.

Unc. Is't possible?
Fath. 'Tis true, and thus I mean to curb him;
This Day, Brother, I will you shall arrest him;
If any thing will tame him, it must be that,
For he is rank in Mischief, chain'd to a Life,
That will increase his Shame, and kill his Wife.

Unc. What, arrest him on his Wedding-day?
That were unchristian, and an unhuman part:
How many Couple ev'n for that very Day,
Have purchas'd seven Years Sorrow afterward?
The London Prodigal.

Forbear it then to Day, do it to Morrow,
And this Day mingle not his Joy with Sorrow.

Fath. Brother, I'll have it done this very Day,
And in the View of all, as he comes from Church.
Do but observe the Course that he will take,
Upon my life he will forswear the Debt:
And for we'll have the Sum shall not be slight,
Say that he owes you near three thousand Pound:
Good Brother, let it be done immediately.

Unc. Well, seeing you will have it so,
Brother I'll do't, and straight provide the Sheriff.

Fath. So Brother, by this means shall we perceive
What Sir Lancelot in this Pinch will do:
And how his Wife doth stand affected to him,
Her Love will then be tried to the uttermost:
And all the rest of them. Brother, what I will do,
Shall harm him much, and much avail him too.

[Exeunt.

Enter Oliver.

Oli. Cham a shured thick be the Place, that the Scoundrel
Appointed to meet me, if a come, zo : if a come not, zo.
And che war a wise, he would make a Cowstrel an us,
Ched vese him, and che vang him in hand, che would
Hoyt him, and give it him too and again, zo chud e
Who a been there, Sir Arthur? chill stay aside.

Enter Sir Arthur.

Arth. I have dog'd the Devonshire Man into the Field,
For fear of any harm that should befall him:
I had an incling of that yesternight,
That Flowerdale and he should meet this Morning.
Tho of my Soul, Oliver fears him not,
Yet for I'd see fair play on either side,
Made me to come, to see their Valours try'd——
Good Morrow to Master Oliver.

Oli. God and good Morrow.

Arth. What, Master Oliver, are you angry?

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Oli. What an it be, tyt an grieven you?

Arth. Not me at all, Sir, but I imagine,
By your being here thus arm'd,
You stay for some that you should fight withal.

Oli. Why and he do, che would not desire you to take
his part.

Arth. No, by my troth, I think you need it not
For he you look for, I think means not to come.

Oli. No, and che war ashure of that, chase ayeese him
in another Place.

Enter Daffidil.

Daff. O, Sir Arthur, Master Oliver, ay me!
Your Love, and yours, and mine, sweet Mistrees Luce,
This Morning is married to young Flowerdale.

Arth. Married to Flowerdale! 'tis impossible.

Oli. Married, Man? che hope thou doft but jest;
To make an a volowten merriment of it.

Daff. O 'tis too true, here comes his Uncle.

Enter young Flowerdale's Uncle, with Sheriff and Officers.

Unc. Good morrow, Sir Arthur, good morrow, Ma-
ster Oliver.

Oli. God and good morn, Mr. Flowerdale: I pray tel-
len us, is your fcoundrel Kinsman married?

Arth. Mr. Oliver, call him what you will, but he is
married to Sir Lancelot's Daughter here.

Unc. Sir Arthur, unto her?

Oli. Ay, ha the old Vellow zerved me thick a trick?
Why Man, he was a promise, chill chud a had her:
Is a zitch a vox, chill look to his Water, che vor him.

Unc. The Mufick plays; they are coming from the
Church.

Sheriff, do your Office: Fellows, stand stoutly to it.

Enter all to the Wedding.

Oli. God give you Joy, as the old zaid Proverb is, and
some Zorrow among. You met us well, did you not?

Lanc.
The London Prodigal.

Lanc. Nay, be not angry, Sir, the fault is in me,
I have done all the wrong, kept him from coming to the
Field to you, as I might, Sir, for I am a Justice, and
sworn to keep the Peace.

Weath. Ay marry is he, Sir, a very Justice, and sworn
to keep the Peace, you must not disturb the Weddings.

Lanc. Nay, never frown nor storm, Sir, if you do,
I'll have an Order taken for you.

Oli. Well, well, chill be quiet.

Weath. Mr. Flowerdale, Sir Lancelot, look you, who
here is? Mr. Flowerdale.

Lanc. Mr. Flowerdale, welcome with all my Heart.

Flow. Uncle, this is the ?faith : Master Under-Sheriff
Arrest me? At whose Suit? Draw, Kit.

Unc. At my Suit, Sir.

Lanc. Why, what's the Matter, Mr. Flowerdale?

Unc. This is the matter, Sir, this Unthrift here
Hath cozen'd you, and hath had of me
In several Sums three thousand Pound.

Flow. Why, Uncle, Uncle.

Unc. Cousin, Cousin, you have unced me,
And if you be not staid, you'll prove
A Cozener unto all that know you.

Lanc. Why, Sir, suppose he be to you in debt
Ten thousand Pound, his State to me appears,
To be at least three thousand by the Year.

Unc. O, Sir, I was too late inform'd of that Plot.
How that he went about to cozen you;
And form'd a Will, and sent it to your good
Friend there, Master Weathercock, in which was
Nothing true, but brags and lies.

Lanc. Ha, hath he not such Lordships,
Lands, and Ships?

Unc. Not worth a Groat, not worth a Half-penny he.

Lanc. I pray tell us true, be plain, young Flowerdale.

Flow. My Uncle here's mad,
And dispos'd to do me wrong.
But here's my Man, an honest Fellow
By the Lord, and of good Credit, knows all is true.
The London Prodigal.

Fath. Not I, Sir, I am too old to lye; I rather know you forg’d a Will, where every Line you writ,
You studied where to quote your Lands might lie.

Weath. And I pray thee where be thy honest Friends?
Fath. I’faith no where, Sir, for he hath none at all.

Weath. Benedicty, we are o’er-reach’d, I believe.
Lanc. I am cozen’d, and my hopefull’st Child undone,
Flow. You are not cozen’d, nor is she undone,
They flander me, by this Light, they flander me:
Look you, my Uncle here’s an Usurer, and would undo me,
But I’ll stand in Law, do you but bail me, you shall do no more:
You Brother Civet, and Master Weathercock, do but bail me, and let me have my Marriage Mony,
Paid me, and we’ll ride down,
And there your own Eyes shall see
How my poor Tenants there will welcome me.
You shall but bail me, you shall do no more,
And you, greedy Gnat, their Bail will serve.

Unc. Ay, Sir, I’ll ask no better Bail.
Lanc. No, Sir, you shall not take my Bail, nor his,
Nor my Son Civet’s, I’ll not be cheated, I.
Sheriff, take your Prisoner, I’ll not deal with him:
Let’s Uncle make false Dice with his false Bones,
I will not have to do with him: mock’d, gull’d, and come,
Girl, tho it be late, it falls out well, [wrong’d!
Thou shalt not live with him in Beggar’s Hell.

Luce. He is my Husband, and high Heav’n doth know,
With what unwillingness I went to Church,
But you enforc’d me, you compell’d me to it:
The holy Church-man pronounc’d these words but now,
I must not leave my Husband in distress:
Now I must comfort him, not go with you.


Luce. This day you caus’d me on your curse to take
Do not, I pray, my grieved Soul oppress;
God knows my Heart doth bleed at his distress.
Lanc. O Master Weathercock,
I must confess I forc’d her to this match,
Led with Opinion his false Will was true.

_Weath._ Ah, he hath over-reach'd me too.

_Lanc._ She might have liv'd like Delia, in a happy Vir-
gin's state.

_Del._ Father, be patient, Sorrow comes too late.

_Lanc._ And on her Knees she begg'd and did intreat,
If she must needs taste a sad Marriage Life,
She crave'd to be Sir Arthur Greenhood's Wife.

_Arth._ You have done her and me the greater wrong.

_Lanc._ O take her yet.

_Arth._ Not I.

_Lanc._ Or, Master Oliver, accept my Child, and half my Wealth is yours.

_Oli._ No, Sir, chill break no Laws.

_Luce._ Never fear, she will not trouble you.

_Del._ Yet, Sister, in this Passion do not run headlong to
Confusion. You may affect him, tho' not follow him.

_Frank._ Do, Sister, hang him, let him go,

_Weath._ Do faith, Mistress Luce, leave him.

_Luce._ You are three gross Fools, let me alone,
I swear, I'll live with him in all his moan.

_Oli._ But an he have his Legs at liberty,
Cham ayeard he will never live with you.

_Arth._ Ay, but he is now in Hucksters handling, for running away.

_Lanc._ Huckwife, you hear how you and I are wrong'd.
And if you will redress it yet you may:
But if you stand on Terms to follow him,
Never come near my sight, nor look on me,
Call me not Father, look not for a Groat.
For all thy Portion I will this day give,
Unto thy Sister Frances.

_Fran._ How say you to that, Tom?
I shall have a good deal.

_Besides, I'll be a good Wife; and a good Wife,
Is a good thing I can tell:

_Civ._ Peace, Frank, I would be sorry to see thy Sister cast away, as I am a Gentleman.

_Lanc._ What, are you yet resolv'd?

_Luce._ Yes, I am resolv'd.
Lanc. Come then away, or now, or never come.
Luce. This way I turn, go you unto your Feast,
And I to weep, that am with Grief opprest.
Lanc. For ever fly my sight: Come, Gentlemen,
Let's in, I'll help you to far better Wives than her.
Delia, upon my Blessing talk not to her,
Base Baggage, in such haste to Beggary?
Unc. Sheriff, take your Prisoner to your charge.
Flow. Uncle, be-gad you have us'd me very hardly,
By my troth, upon my Wedding day.
[Exeunt all but Luce, young Flowerdale, his Father,
Uncle, Sheriff and Officers.
Luce. O Master Flowerdale, but hear me speak,
Stay but a little while, good Master Sheriff,
If not for him, for my sake pity him:
Good Sir, stop not your Ears at my Complaint,
My Voice grows week, for Women's words are faint.
Flow. Look you, she kneels to you.
Unc. Fair Maid, for you, I love you with my
Heart,
And grieve, sweet Soul, thy Fortune is so bad,
That thou shouldst match with such a graceless
Youth.
Go to thy Father, think not upon him,
Whom Hell hath mark'd to be the Son of Shame.
Luce. Impute his wildness, Sir, unto his Youth,
And think that now's the time he doth repent:
Alas, what good or gain can you receive,
To imprison him that nothing hath to pay?
And where nought is, the King doth lose his due;
O pity him as God shall pity you.
Unc. Lady, I know his Humours all too well,
And nothing in the World can do him good,
But Misery it self to chain him with.
Luce. Say that your Debts were paid, then is he
free?
Unc. Ay, Virgin, that being answer'd, I have
done,
But to him that is all as impossible,
The London Prodigal.

As I to scale the high Pyramids,
Sheriff, take your Prisoner; Maiden, fare thee well.

Luce. O go not yet, good Master Flowerdale:
Take my word for the Debt, my Word, my Bond.


Luce. Alas, I ne’er ought nothing but I paid it;
And I can work, alas, he can do nothing:
I have some Friends perhaps will pity me,
His chiefest Friends do seek his Misery:
All that I can, or beg, get, or receive,
Shall be for you; O do not turn away:
Methinks within a Face so reverend,
So well experienc’d in this tottering World,
Should have some feeling of a Maiden’s Grief:
For my sake, his Father’s and your Brother’s sake,
Ay, for your Soul’s sake that doth hope for Joy,
Pity my state, do not two Souls destroy.

Unc. Fair Maid, stand up; not in regard of him,
But in pity of thy hapless Choice,
I do release him: Master Sheriff, I thank you:
And Officers, there is for you to drink.

Here, Maid take this Mony, there is a hundred Angels,
And, for I will be sure he shall not have it,
Here, Kester, take it you, and use it sparingly,
But let not her have any want at all.

Dry your Eyes, Neice, do not too much lament
For him, whose Life hath been in Riot spent:
If well he useth thee, he gets him Friends,
If ill, a shameful End on him depends. [Exit Uncle.

Flow. A plague go with you for an old Fornicator.

Come, Kit, the Mony; come, honest Kit.

Fath. Nay by my Faith, Sir, you shall pardon me.

Flow. And why, Sir, pardon you? give me the
Mony, you old Rascal, or I will make you.

Luce. Pray hold your Hands, give it him honest
Friend,

Fath. If you be so content, with all my heart.

Flow. Content, Sir, ’sblood she shall be content
Whether she will or no. A rattle-baby come to follow
me?
Go, get you gone to the greasy Chuff your Father,  
Bring me your Dowry, or never look on me.

Fath. Sir, she hath forsook her Father, and all her  
Friends, for you.

Flow. Hang thee, her Friends and Father all together.  
Fath. Yet part with something to provide her Lodg-  
ing.

Flow. Yes, I mean to part with her and you, but if I  
part with one Angel, hang me at a Post. I'll rather  
throw them at a Caft of Dice, as I have done athousand  
of their Fellows.

Fath. Nay then I will be plain, degenerate Boy,  
Thou hadst a Father would have been ashamed.

Flow. My Father was an Asf, an old Asf.

Fath. Thy Father? proud licentious Villain!

What, are you at your foils? I'll foil with you.

Luce. Good Sir, forbear him.

Fath. Did not this whining Woman hang on me,  
I'd teach thee what it was to abuse thy Father:
Go hang, beg, starve, Dice, Game, that when all's  
gone,
Thou may'st after despair and hang thy self.

Luce. O do not curse him.

Fath. I do not curse him, and to pray for him were  
vain,
It grieves me that he bears his Father's Name.

Flow. Well, you old Rascal, I shall meet with you:  
Sirrah, get you gone, I will not strip the Livery  
Over your Ears, because you paid for it:
But do not use my Name, Sirrah,
Do you hear? Look you do not  
Use my Name, you were best.

Fath. Pay me the twenty Pound then that I lent you,  
Or give me Security when I may have it.

Flow. I'll pay thee not a Penny,  
And for Security I'll give thee none.

Minckins, lock you do not follow me, look you do  
not:
If you do, Beggar, I shall slit your Nose.

Luce. Alas, what shall I do?
The London Prodigal.

Flow. Why turn Whore, that's a good Trade,
And so perhaps I'll see thee now and then.

[Exit Flowerdale.

Luce. Alas-the-day that ever I was born.
Fath. Sweet Mistress, do not weep, I'll stick to you.
Luce. Alas, my Friend, I know not what to do,
My Father and my Friends, they have despis'd me:
And I a wretched Maid, thus cast away,
Knows neither where to go, nor what to say.
Fath. It grieves me at the Soul, to see her Tears.
Thus strain the Crimson Roses of her Cheeks:
Lady, take comfort, do not mourn in vain,
I have a little Living in this Town,
The which I think comes to a hundred Pound,
All that and more shall be at your dispoze;
I'll strait go help you to some strange disguise,
And place you in a Service in this Town,
Where you shall know all, yet your self unknown:
Come, grieve no more, where no help can be had.
Weep not for him, that is more worse than bad.

Luce. I thank you, Sir.

[Exeunt.

Enter Lancelot, Master Weathercock, and the rest.

Oli. Well, cha a bin zerved many a sluttish Trick,
But such a leerippoo as thick ych was ne'er a farved.

Lanc. Son Civet, Daughter Frances, bear with me,
You see how I am press'd down with inward Grief,
About that luckless Girl, your Sister Luce.
But 'tis fall'n our with me, as with many Families beside,
They are most unhappy, that are most belov'd.

Civ. Father, 'tis so, 'tis ev'n fain out so,
But what remedy? set Hand to your Heart, and let it pass,
Here is your Daughter Frances and I, and we'll not say,
We'll bring forth as witty Children, but as pretty
Children as ever she was; tho she had the prick
And praise for a pretty Wench: But Father, done is
The Mouse, you'll come?

Lanc. Ay, Son Civet, I'll come.

Civ. And you, Master Oliver?
The London Prodigal.

Ol. Ay, for che a vex't out this veaft; chill see if a gan
Make a better veaft there.

Civ. And you, Sir Arthur?

Artb. Ay, Sir, altho my Heart be full,
I'll be a Partner at your Wedding Feast.

Civ. And welcome all indeed, and welcome; come
Frank, are you ready?

Frank. Jesu, how hasty these Husbands are! I pray,
Father, pray to God to bless me.

Lanc. God blefs thee, and I do; God make thee wife,
Send you both Joy, I wish it with wet Eyes.

Frank. But, Father, shall not my Sister Delia go along
with us? She is excellent good at Cookery, and such
things.

Lanc. Yes marry shall she: Delia, make you ready,

Del. I am ready, Sir, I will first go to Greenwich,
From thence to my Cousin Chesterfield, and so to London.

Civ. It shall suffice, good Sister Delia, it shall suffice,
but fail us not, good Sister, give order to Cooks and oth-
ers, for I would not have my sweet Frank to foil her
Fingers.

Frank. No by my troth not I, a Gentlewoman, and a
married Gentlewoman too, to be Companion to Cooks,
and Kitchin-boys, nor I i'faith, I scorn that.

Civ. Why, I do not mean thou shalt, sweet Heart,
thou feest I do not go about it; well, farewell too: You
Gods pity Mr. Weathercock, we shall have your Company
too?

Weath. With all my Heart, for I love good Cheer.

Civ. Well, God be with you all, come, Frank.

Frank. God be with you, Father, God be with you,
Sir Arthur, Master Oliver, and Master Weathercock, Sister,
God be with you all: God be with you, Father, God be
with you every one.

Weath. Why, how now, Sir Arthur, all a mort, Master
Oliver, how now, Man?

Cheerly, Sir Lancelot, and merrily say,
Who can hold that will away.

Lanc. Ay, she is gone indeed, poor Girl, undone;
But when these be self-will'd, Children must smart.

Art.
Art. But, Sir, that she is wronged, you are the chiefest
Cause, therefore 'tis reason you redress her wrong.

Weath. Indeed you must, Sir Lancelot, you must.

Lanc. Must? who can compel me, Mr. Weathercock?

I hope I may do what I list.

Weath. I grant you may, you may do what you list.

Oli. Nay, but and you be well evisen, it were not good,
By this vrompoulness, and vrowardness, to cast away
As pretty a dowfly, as am should chance to see
In a Summer's Day; chill tell you what shall do,
Chill go spy up and down the Town, and see if I
Can hear any Tale or Tydings of her,
And take her away from thick a Messel, vor cham
Ashed, heel but bring her to the spoili
And so far you well, we shall meet at your Son Cively's:

Lanc. I thank you, Sir, I take it very kindly.

Artb. To find her out, I'll spend my dearest Blood.

So well I lov'd her, to affect her Good. [Exeunt Ambo.

Lanc. O Master Weathercock,

What hap had I, to force my Daughter
From Master Oliver, and this good Knight,
To one that hath no Goodness in his Thought?

Weath. Ill luck, but what remedy?

Lanc. Yes, I have almost devis'd a Remedy.

Young Flowerdale is sure a Prisoner.

Weath. Sure? nothing more sure.

Lanc. And yet perhaps his Uncle hath releas'd him.

Weath. It may be very like, no doubt he hath.

Lanc. Well if he be in Prison, I'll have Warrants

To tach me Daughter till the Law be tried,
For I will sue him upon Couzenage.

Weath. Marry may you, and overthrow him too.

Lanc. Nay that's not so; I may chance be scoft,

And Sentence past with him.

Weath. Believe me, so he may, therefore take heed.

Lanc. Well howsoever, yet I will have Warrants,
In Prison, or at Liberty, all's one:

You will help to serve them, Master Weathercock?

[Exeunt.
The London Prodigal.

Enter Flowerdale.

Flow. A plague of the Devil, the Devil take the Dice, The Dice, and the Devil, and his Dam go together, Of all my hundred golden Angels, I have not left me one Denier: A pox of come a five, what shall I do? I can borrow no more of my Credit: There's not any of my Acquaintance, Man nor Boy, But I have borrowed more or less of: I would I knew where to take a good Purse, And go clear away, by this Light I'll venture for it. God's lid my Sister Delia, I'll rob her, by this Hand.

Enter Delia and Artichoak.

Del. I prithee, Artichoak, go not so fast, The Weather is hot, and I am something weary.
Art. Nay I warrant you, Mistress Delia, I'll not tire you With leading, we'll go an extreme moderate Pace.
Flow. Stand, deliver your Purse.
Flow. Come, come, your Purse, Lady, your Purse.
Del. That Voice I have heard often before this time: What, Brother Flowerdale become a Thief?
Flow. Ay, plague on't, I thank your Father; But Sister, come, your Money, come: What the World must find me, I am born to live, 'Tis not a Sin to steal, when none will give.
Del. O God, is all Grace banish'd from thy Heart, Think of the Shame that doth attend this Fact.
Flow. Shame me no Shames, come give me your Purse; I'll bind you, Sister, lest I fare the worse.
Del. No, bind me not, hold, there is all I have, And would that Money would redeem thy Shame.

Enter
Enter Oliver, Sir Arthur, and Artichoak.

Art. Thieves, Thieves, Thieves.
Ol. Thieves, where Man? why how now, Mrs. Delia,
Ha you a liked to been a robbed?
Del. No, Master Oliver, 'tis Master Flowerdale, he did
but jest with me.
Ol. How, Flowerdale, that Scoundrel? Sirrah, you
meten us well, vang thee that.
Flow. Well, Sir, I'll not meddle with you, because I
have a Charge.
Del. Here Brother Flowerdale, I'll lend you this same
Money.
Flow. I thank you, Sister.
Ol. I wad you were ysplit, and you let the Mezet
have a Penny; but since you cannot keep it, chill keep
it my self.
Artb. 'Tis pity to relief him in this sort,
Who make a triumphant Life his daily sport.
Del. Brother, you see how all Men censure you,
Farewel, and I pray God amend your Life.
Ol. Come, chill bring you along, and you safe enough
From twenty such Scoundrels as thick an one is.
Farewel and be hanged, Zyrrah, as I think so thou
wilt be shortly: come, Sir Arthur.

[Exeunt all but Flowerdale.

Flow. A plague go with you for a Karlie Rascal;
This Devonshire Man I think is made all of Pork,
His Hands made only for to heave up Packs:
His Heart as fat and big as his Face,
As differing far from all brave gallant Minds,
As I to serve the Hogs, and drink with Hinds,
As I am very near now; well what remedy,
When Money, Means, and Friends, do grow so small,
Then farewel Life, and there's an end of all.

[Exit.
Enter young Flowerdale's Father, Luce like a Dutch Frow, Civet and his Wife Frances.

Civ. By my Troth God a Mercy for this, good Christopher. I thank thee for my Maid, like her very well, how dost thou like her, Frances?
Fran. In good Sadness, Tom, very well, excellent well,
She speaks so prettily. I pray what's your Name?
Luce. My Name, forsooth, be called Tanikin.
Fran. By my Troth a fine Name: O Tanikin, you are excellent for dressing ones Head a new Fashion.
Luce. Me fall do every ting about da Head,
Civ. What Country-woman is she, Kefer?
Fath. A Dutch Woman, Sir.
Civ. Why then she is Outlandish, is she not?
Fath. Ay, Sir, she is.
Fran. O then thou canst tell how to help me to Cheeks and Ears?
Luce. Yes, Mistress, very well.
Fath. Cheeks and Ears, why, Mistress Frances, want you Cheeks and Ears? methinks you have very fair ones.
Fran. Thou art a Fool indeed; Tom, thou knowest what I mean.
Civ. Ay, ay, Kefer, 'tis such as they wear a their Heads.
I prithee, Kit, have her in, and shew her my House.
Fath. I will, Sir; come Tanikin.
Fran. O Tom, you have not buffed me to day, Tom.
Civ. No Frances, we must not kiss afore Folks.
God save my Frank.

Enter Delia and Artichoak.

See yonder, my Sister Delia is come, welcome, good Sister.
Fran. Welcome, good Sister, how do you like the Tire of my Head?
Del. Very well, Sister.

Civ. I am glad you're come, Sister Delia, to give order for Supper, they will be here soon.

Art. Ay, but if good luck had not serv'd, she had
Not been here now; filching Flowerdale had like
To pepper'd us, but for Master Oliver we had been robb'd.

Del. Peace, Sirrah, no more.

Fath. Robb'd! by whom?

Art. Marry by none but by Flowerdale, he is turn'd thief.

Civ. By my Faith, but that is not well; but God be praise'd for your Escape: will you draw near, Sister?

Fath. Sirrah, come hither; would Flowerdale, he that was my Master, a robbed you, I prithee tell me true?

Art. Yes, I'faith, even that Flowerdale that was thy Master.

Fath. Hold thee, there is a French Crown, and speak no more of this.

Art. Not I, not a word, now do I smell Knavery:
In every Purse Flowerdale takes, he is half:
And gives me this to keep Counsel, not a word I.

Fath. Why God a Mercy.

Fran. Sister, look here, I have a new Dutch Maid,
And she speaks so fine, it would do your Heart good.

Civ. How do you like her, Sister?

Del. I like your Maid well.

Civ. Well, dear Sister, will you draw near, and give directions for Supper, Guests will be here presently.

Del. Yes, Brother, lead the way, I'll follow you.

[Exeunt all but Delia and Lucus.]

Hark you, Dutch Frow, a word.

Luce. Vat is your vill wit me?

Del. Sister Lucus, 'tis not your broken Language,
Nor this same Habit can disguise your Face
From I that know you; pray tell me, what means this?

Ime. Sister, I see you know me, yet be secret;
This borrow'd Shape that I have t'en upon me,
Is but to keep my self a space unknown
Both from my Father and my nearest Friends;

Until
Until I see how time will bring to pass,
The desperate Course of Matter Flowerdale.

_Del._ O he is worse than bad, I prithee leave him,
And let not once thy Heart to think on him.

_Luce._ Do not persuade me once to such a Thought,
Imagine yet, that he is worse than nought;
Yet one good Time may all that ill undo,
That all his former Life did run into.
Therefore, kind Sister, do not disclose my Estate,
If e'er his Heart doth turn, 'tis ne'er too late.

_Del._ Well, seeing no Counsel can remove your Mind,
I'll not disclose you, that are wilful blind.

_Luce, Delia._ I thank you. I now must please her Eyes,
My Sister Frances, neither fair nor wise. [Exeunt.

_Enter Flowerdale solus._

_Flow._ On goes he that knows no end of his Journey,
I have pass'd the very utmost bounds of Shifting,
I have no Course now but to hang my self;
I have liv'd since Yesterday two a-Clock, of a
Spice-Cake I had at a Burial: And for Drink,
I got it at an Ale-house among Porters, such as
Will bear out a Man, if he have no Money indeed;
I mean out of their Companies, for they are Men
Of good Carriage. Who comes here?
The two Coney-catchers that won all my Money of me.
I'll try if they'll lend me any.

_Enter Dick and Ralph._

_What, Mr. Richard, how do you do?_
How dost thou Ralph? By Gad, Gentlemen, the World
Grows bare with me: will you do as much as lend
Me an Angel between you both, you know you
Won a hundred of me the other day.

_Ralph._ How, an Angel? Gad damn us if we lost not
every Penny within an Hour after thou went gone.

_Flow._ I prithee lend me so much as will pay for my
I'll pay you again, as I am a Gentleman. [Supper;

_Ralph._
The London Prodigal.

Ralph. I'Faith we have not a Farthing, not a Mite;
I wonder at it, Mr. Flowerdale,
You will so carelessly undo your self;
Why you will lose more Money in an Hour,
Than any honest Man spends in a Year;
For Shame betake you to some honest Trade,
And live not thus so like a Vagabond. [Exeunt.

Flow. A Vagabond indeed, more Villains you:
They gave me Counsel that first cozen'd me;
Those Devils first brought me to this I am,
And being thus, the first that do me wrong.
Well, yet I have one Friend left in store.
Not far from hence there dwells a Cockatrice,
One that I first put in a Sattin Gown,
And not a Tooth that dwells within her Head,
But stands me at the least in twenty Pound:
Her will I visit now my Coin is gone,
And as I take it here dwells the Gentlewoman.
What ho, is Mistress Apricot within?

Enter Ruffian.

Ruf. What say'ce Rascal is that which knocks so bold?
O, is it you, old Spend-thrift? are you here?
One that is turned Cozenor about the Town:
My Mistress saw you, and sends this Word by me,
Either be packing quickly from the Door,
Or you shall have such a Greeting sent you straight,
As you will little like on, you had best be gone. [Exit.

Flow. Why so, this is as it should be, being poor,
Thus art thou serv'd by a vile painted Whore.
Well, since thy damned Crew do so abuse thee,
I'll try of honest Men, how they will use me.

Enter an ancient Citizen.

Sir, I beseech you to take Compassion of a Man:
One whose Fortunes have been better than at this Instant they seem to be; but if I might crave of you some little Portion,
The London Prodigal.

Portion, as would bring me to my Friends, I would feel thankful, until I had requited so great a Courtesie.

Cit. Fie, fie, young Man, this Course is very bad, Too many such have we about this City; Yet for I have not seen you in this sort, Nor noted you to be a common Beggar, Hold, there’s an Angel to bear your Charges Down, go to your Friends, do not on this depend, Such bad Beginnings oft have worse Ends. [Exit Ch.

Flow. Worse ends: Nay, if it fall out No worse than in old Angels I care not, Nay, now I have had such a fortunate Beginning, I’ll not let a sixpenny Purse escape me:

By the Masts here comes another.

Enter a Citizen’s Wife with a Torch before her.

God bless you, fair Mistress.

Now would it please you, Gentlewoman, to look into the Wants of a poor Gentleman, a younger Brother, I doubt not but God will treble restore it back again, one that never before this time demanded Penny, Half-penny, nor Farthing.

Cit. Wife. Stay Alexander, now by my Troth a very proper Man, and ‘tis great Pity; hold, my Friend, there’s all the Money I have about me, a couple a Shillings, and God bless thee.

Flow. Now God thank you, sweet Lady; if you have any Friend, or Garden-house, where you may employ a poor Gentleman as your Friend, I am yours to command in all secret Service.

Cit. Wife. I thank you good Friend, I prithee let me see that again I gave thee, there is one of them a brass Shilling, give me them, and here is half a Crown in Gold.

[He gives it her.

Now out upon thee, Rascal: secret Service! what do’st thou make of me? It were a good Deed to have thee whipt: Now I have my Money again, I’ll see thee hang’d before I give thee a Penny. Secret Service! on, good Alexander.

[Exeunt Ambro.

Flow.
The London Prodigal.

Flow. This is villainous Luck, I perceive Dishonesty will not thrive; here comes more, God forgive me, Sir Arthur and Mr. Oliver, aforegod I’ll speak to them. God save you, Sir Arthur: God save you, Mr. Oliver.

Oli. Been you there, Zirrah, come will you taken your selves to your Tools, Coystrel?

Flow. Nay, Mr. Oliver, I’ll not fight with you, Alas, Sir, you know it was not my doing, It was only a Plot to get Sir Lancelot’s Daughter:
By Gad I never meant you harm.

Oli. And whore is the Gentlewoman thy Wife, Mezel? Whore is she, Zirrah, ha?

Flow. By my troth, Mr. Oliver, sick, very sick; And Gad is my Judge, I know not what means to make for her, good Gentlewoman.

Oli. Tell me true, is she sick? tell me true itch’ wife thee.

Flow. Yes faith, I tell you true: Mr. Oliver, if you would do me the small kindness, but to lend me forty Shillings; So Gad help me, I will pay you so soon as my Ability shall make me able, as I am a Gentleman.

Oli. Well thou zaist thy Wife is zick; hold, there’s vomy Shillings, give it to thy Wife, look thou give it her, or I shall zo veze thee, thou wert not zo vezed this zeven year, look to it.

Artb. I’faith, Mr. Oliver, it is in vain To give to him that never thinks of her.

Oli. Well, would she could yvind it.

Flow. I tell you true, Sir Arthur, as I am a Gentleman.

Oli. Well, farewell zirrah; come, Sir Arthur.

[Exeunt Amboe.

Flow. By the Lord, this is excellent:
Five golden Angels compaft in an Hour.
If this Trade hold, I’ll never seek a new:
Welcome, sweet Gold, and Beggary adieu.

Enter Uncle and Father.

Unc. See, Kefler, if you can find the House.

Flow.
The London Prodigal.

Flow. Who's here, my Uncle, and my Man Kester?
By the Mass 'tis they. How do you, Uncle? how dost thou, Kester?
By my troth, Uncle, you must needs lend Me some Money, the poor Gentlewoman
My Wife, so Gad help me, is very sick.
I was robb'd of the hundred Angels
You gave me, they are gone.  
Unc. Ay, they are gone indeed, come, Kester, away.
Flow. Nay, Uncle, do you hear, good Uncle?
Unc. Out, Hypocrite, I will not hear thee speak; Come, leave him, Kester.
Flow. Kester, honest Kester.
Fath. Sir, I have nought to say to you,
Open the Door to my Kin, thou had'st best
Lock't fast, for there's a false Knave without.
Flow. You are an old lying Rascal,
So you are. [Exeunt Ambo;

Enter Luce.

Luce. Vat is the matter, vat be you, Yonker?
Flow. By this Light a Dutch Frow, they say they are called kind, by this Light I'll try her.
Luce. Vat be you, Yonker, why do you not speak?
Flow. By my troth, Sweet-heart, a poor Gentleman that would desire of you, if it stand with your liking, the bounty of your Purse.

Enter young Flowerdale's Father.

Luce. O here God, so young an Armime.
Flow. Armime, Sweet-heart, I know not what you mean by that, but I am almost a Beggar.
Luce. Are you not a married Man, vere been your Wife?
Here is all I have, take dis.
Flow. What Gold, young Frow? this is brave.
Fath. If he have any Grace, he'll now repent.
Luce. Why Speak you not, vere be your Wife?

Flow.
The London Prodigal.

Flour. Dead, dead, she's dead, 'tis she hath undone me:
Spent me all I had, and kept Rascals under my Nose to brave me.

Luc. Did you use her well?

Flour. Use her, there's never a Gentlewoman in England could be better used than I did her; I could but Coach her; her Diet stood me in forty Pound a Month, but she is dead, and in her Grave my Cares are buried.

Luc. Indeed dat was not scone.

Fath. He is turn'd more Devil than he was before.

Flour. Thou dost belong to Master Civet here, dost thou not?

Luc. Yes, me do.

Flour. Why there's it, there's not a handful of Plate but belongs to me, Gad's my Judge:
If I had such a Wench as thou art,
There's never a Man in England would make more Of her, than I would do, so she had any Stock.

They call within.

O why Tanikin.

Luc. Stay, one doth call, I shall come by and by again.

Flour. By this hand this Dutch Wench is in love with me.

Were it not admirable to make her steal
All Civet's Plate, and run away?

Fath. Twere beastly. O Master Flowerdale,
Have you no fear of God, nor Conscience?

What do you mean, by this vile course you take?

Flour. What do I mean? why, to live, that I mean.

Fath. To live in this sort, by upon the course,
Your Life doth show, you are a very Coward.

Flour. A Coward, I pray in what?

Fath. Why you will borrow Six-pence of a Boy.

Flour. 'sNails, is there such a Cowardice in that? I dare borrow it of a Man, ay, and of the tallest Man in England, if he will lend it me: Let me borrow it how I can, and let them come by it how they dare. And it is well
The London Prodigal.

well known, I might ride out a hundred times if I would, so I might.

Fad. It was not want of Will, but Cowardice,
There is none that lends to you, but know they gain:
And what is that but only Stealth in you?
Delia might hang ye now, did not her heart
Take pity of you for her Sister's sake.
Go get you hence, lest lingering here you stay,
You fall into their hand you look not for.

Flow. I'll tarry here, till the Dutch Frow comes,
If all the Devils in Hell were here. [Exit Father.

Enter Sir Lancelot, Mr. Weathercock, and Artichoak.

Lanc. Where is the Door? are we not past it, Artichoak?

Art. By the Mass here's one.
I'll ask him: Do you hear, Sir? [way
What, are you so proud? do you hear, which is the
To Mr. Civer's house? what, will you not speak?
O me, this is filching Flowerdale.

Lanc. O wonderful, is this lewd Villain here?
O you cheating Rogue, you Cut-purse, Cony-catcher,
What Ditch, you Villain, is my Daughter's Grave?
A cozening Rascal, that must make a Will,
Take on him that strict Habit, very that:
When he should turn to Angel, a dying Grace,
I'll Father-in-Law you, Sir, I'll make a Will:
Speak, Villain, where's my Daughter?
Poison'd, I warrant you, or knock'd at the Head:
And to abuse good Master Weathercock, with
His forg'd Will, and Master Weathercock,
To make my grounded Resolution;
Then to abuse the Devonshire Gentleman:

Flow. Wherefore to Prison? Sir, I will not go.
Enter Master Civet, his Wife, Oliver, Sir Arthur, young Flowerdale's Father, Uncle, and Delia.

Lanc. O here's his Uncle:
Welcome, Gentlemen, welcome all:
Such a Cozenor, Gentlemen, a Murderer too
For any thing I know, my Daughter is missing,
Hath been look'd for, cannot be found, a wild upon thee.

Unc. He is my Kinman, altho his Life be vile,
Therefore, in God's Name, do with him what you will.

Lanc. Marry to Prison.


Lanc. Bring forth my Daughter then, away with him.

Flow. Go seek your Daughter, what do lay to my Charge?

Lanc. Suspicion of Murder, go, away with him.

Flow. Murder your Dogs, I murder your Daughter!

Come, Uncle, I know you'll bail me.

Unc. Not I, were there no more,
Than I the Jaylor, thou the Prisoner.

Lanc. Go, away with him.

Enter Luce like a Trow.

Luce. O my Life, where will you ha de Man?
Vat ha de Yonker done!

Weath. Woman, he hath kill'd his Wife.

Luce. His Wife, dat is not good, dat is not seen.

Lanc. Hang not upon him, Husbwife, if you do I'll lay you by him.

Luce. Have me no, and or way do you leave him,
He tell me dat he love me heartily.

Fran. Lead away my Maid to Prison! why Tom, will you suffer that?

Civ. No, by your leave, Father, she is no Vagrant:
She is my Wife's Chamber-maid, and as true as the Skin between any Man's Brows here.

Lanc.
The London Prodigal.

Lan. Go to, you're both Fools:
Son Civet, of my Life this is a Plot,
Some straggling Counterfeit profer'd to you,
No doubt to rob you of your Plate and Jewels:
I'll have you led away to Prison, Trull.

Luc. I am no Trull, neither outlandish Frow,
Nor he, nor I shall to the Prison go:
Know you me now? nay, never stand amazed.
Father, I know I have offended you,
And tho that Duty wills me bend my Knees
To you in Duty and Obedience;
Yet this way's do I turn, and to him yield
My Love, my Duty, and my Humbleness.

Lan. Bastard in Nature, kneel to such a Slave?

Luc. O Master Flowerdale, if too much Grief
Have not flopt up the Organs of your Voice,
Then speak to her that is thy faithful Wife,
Or doth Contempt of me thus tye thy Tongue?
Turn not away, I am no Ethiopia,
No wanton Creffid, nor a changing Hellen:
But rather one made wretched by thy Loss.
What turn'lt thou still from me? O then
I guess thee wofull'it among hapless Men.

Flow. I am indeed, Wife, Wonder among Wives!
Thy Chastity and Virtue hath insus'd
Another Soul in me, red with Defame.
For in my blushing Cheeks is seen my Shame.


Luc. Not trust him? —— by the hopes of after Bliss,
I know no Sorrow can be compar'd to his.

Lan. Well, since thou wert ordain'd to Beggary,
Follow thy Fortune, I defy thee.

Oli. Ywood she were so well ydouffed as was ever white Cloth in tocking Mill, an she ha not made me weep.

Fath. If he hath any Grace he'll now repent.

Arth. It moves my Heart.

Weath. By my Truth I must weep, I cannot chuse.

Unc. None but a Beast would such a Maid misuse.
The London Prodigal.

Flow. Content thy self, I hope to win his Favour,
And to redeem my Reputation lost:
And, Gentlemen, believe me, I beseech you,
I hope your Eyes shall behold such Change,
As shall deceive your Expectation.

Oli. I would she were split now, but she believe him.

Lanc. How, believe him!

Weath. By the Matkins, I do.

Lanc. What do you think that e'er he will have Grace?

Weath. By my Faith it will go hard.

Oli. Well, she vor ye he is chang'ed; and, Mr. Flow-
erdale, in hope you been so, hold there's vorty Pound
within your setting up: what be not ashamed, vang it,
Man, vang it; be a good Husband, loven to your Wife,
And you shall not want for vorty more, I che vor thee.

Arth. My Means are little, but if you'll follow me,
I will instruct you in my ablest Power:
But to your Wife I give this Diamond,
And prove true Diamond fair in all your Life.

Flow. Thanks, good Sir Arthur: Mr. Oliver,
You being my Enemy, and grown so kind,
Binds me in all endeavour to restore.

Oli. What, restore me no restorings, Man,
I have vorty Pound more here, vang it:
Zouth chill devie London else: What, do not think me
A Mezel or a Secundrel, to throw away my Money? she
have an hundred Pound more to pace of any good Sper-
tation: I hope your Under and your Uncle will follow
my zamplas.

Unc. You have guest right of me, if he leave off this
course of Life, he shall be mine Heir.

Lanc. But he shall never get a Groat of me;
A Cozener, a Deceiver, one that kill'd his painful
Father, honest Gentleman,
That pass'd the fearful Danger of the Sea,
To get him Living, and maintain him brave.

Weath. What, hath he kill'd his Father?

Lanc. Ay, Sir, with conceit of his vile courses.

Fath. Sir, you are misinform'd,

[Self.

Lanc. Why, thou old Knave, thou told'st me so thy
The London Prodigal.

Fath. I wrong'd him then:
And toward my Master's Stock,
There's twenty Nobles for to make amends.

Flow. No, Kester, I have troubled thee, and wrong'd thee more,

What thou in love gives, I in love restore.

Fath. Ha, ha, Sister, there you plaid bo-peep with us; Tom, what shall I give her toward Household?

Sister Delia, shall I give her my Fan?

Del. You were best ask your Husband.

Fath. Shall I, Tom?

Civ. Ay, do, Frank, I'll buy thee a new one, with a longer handle.

Fath. A russet one, Tom.

Civ. Ay, with russet Feathers.

Fath. Here, Sister, there's my Fan toward Household,
to keep you warm.

Luce. I thank you, Sister.

Weath. Why this is well, and toward fair Luce's Stock,
here's forty Shillings: And forty good Shillings more,
I'll give her, marry. Come, Sir Lancelot, I must have you Friends.

Lanc. Not I, all this is Counterfeit,
He will consume it, were it a Million.

Fath. Sir, what is your Daughter's Dower worth?

Lanc. Had she been married to an honest Man,
It had been better than a thousand Pound.

Fath. Pay it him, and I'll give you my Bond,
To make her Jointure better worth than three.

Lanc. Your Bond, Sir! why, what are you?

Fath. One, whose Word in London, tho I say it,
Will pass there for as much as yours.

Lanc. Wert not thou late that Unthrifit's Serving-man?

Fath. Look on me better, now my Scar is off:

Ne'er muse Man, at this Metamorphosis.

Lanc. Master Flowerdale!

Flow. My Father! O I shame to look on him.
Pardon, dear Father, the Follies that are past.

Fath. Son, Son, I do, and joy at this thy Change,
And applaud thy Fortune in this virtuous Maid.
Whom Heav'n hath sent to thee to save thy Soul.

Luce. This addeth Joy to Joy, high Heav'n be prais'd.

Weath. Mr. Flowerdale, welcome from Death, good Mr. Flowerdale.

'Twas said so here, 'twas said so here good Faith.

Faith. I caus'd that Rumour to be spread my self.

Because I'd see the Humours of my Son,

Which to relate the Circumstance is needless:

And Sirrah, see you run no more into that same Disease:

For he that's once cur'd of that malady,

Of Riot, Swearing, Drunkenness, and Pride,

And falls again into the like distress.

That Fever is deadly, doth till death endure:

Such Men die mad, as of a Calenture.

Flow. Heav'n helping me, I'll hate the course as Hell.

Unc. Say it, and do it, Cousin, all is well.

Lanc. Well, being in hope you'll prove an honest Man,

I take you to my favour. Brother Flowerdale, 

Welcome with all my Heart: I see your Care

Hath brought these Acts to this Conclusion,

And I am glad of it, come let's in and feast.

Oli. Nay zoft you a while, you promis'd to make

Sir Arthur and me amends, here is your wisest

Daughter, see which an's she'll have.

Lanc. A God's Name ye have my good-will, get hers.

Oli. How say you then, Damsel?

Del. I, Sir, am yours.

Oli. Why, then send for a Vicar, and chill have it

Dispatched in a trice, so chill.

Del. Pardon me, Sir, I mean. I am yours,

In Love, in Duty, and Affection.

But not to love as Wife, shall ne'er be said,

Delia was buried, married, but a Maid.

Arth. Do not condemn your self for ever,

Virtuous Fair, you were born to love.

Oli. Why you say true, Sir Arthur, she was ybore to it,

So well as her Mother; but I pray you show us

Some Zamples or Reasons why you will not marry?
Del. Not that I do condemn a married Life,
For 'tis no doubt a sanctimonious thing:
But for the care and crosses of a Wife,
The trouble in this World that Children bring,
My Vow's in Heav'n, in Earth to live alone;
Husbands, howsoever good, I will have none.

Olî. Why then, chill live a Batchelor too,
Che zet not a vig by a Wife, if a Wife zet not a vig
By me: Come, shall's go to Dinner?

Fath. To morrow I crave your Companies in Mark.
lane:
To Night we'll frolick in Mr. Civet's House,
And to each Health drink down a full Caroufe.

[Exeunt omnes]
THE LIFE
AND DEATH
OF
Thomas Lord Cromwell.

Printed in the YEAR MDCCXXVIII.
Dramatis Personae.

Duke of Norfolk.
Duke of Suffolk.
Earl of Bedford and his Hose.
Cardinal Wolsey.
Gardner, Bishop of Winchester.
Sir Thomas Moor.
Sir Christopher Hales.
Sir Ralph Sadler.
Old Cromwell, a Blacksmith of Putney.
Young Thomas Cromwell, his Son.
Master Bowser, a Merchant.
Banister, a broken Merchant, and his Wife.
Bagot, a cruel covetous Broker.
Friskiball, a Florentine Merchant.
The Governors of the English House at Antwerp.
States and Officers of Bononia.
Goodman Seely, and his Wife Joan.
Lieutenant of the Tower.
Hodge, Will and Tom, old Cromwell's Servants.
Two Citizens.
Two Merchants.
A Post.
Messengers.
Ushers, and Servants.

THE
THE LIFE and DEATH OF Thomas Lord Cromwell.

ACT I. SCENE I.

Enter Hodge, and two other Smiths; Servants to old Cromwell.

HODGE.

OME, Masters, I think it be past five a-Clock, is it not time we were at Work? my old Master he'll be stirring anon.

I Smith. I cannot tell whether my old Master will be stirring or no; but I am sure I can hardly take my Afternoon's Nap, for my young Master Thomas, he keeps such a coil in his Study, with the Sun, and the Moon, and the seven Stars, that I do verily think he'll read out his Wits.

Hod
The Life and Death of

Hodge. He Skill of the Stars?
There's Goodman Car of Fulham,
He that carried us to the strong Ale, where Goody Trundel
Had her Maid got with Child: O, he knows the Stars,
He'll tickle you Charles's Wain in nine Degrees:
That same Man will tell Goody Trundel
When her Ale shall miscarry, only by the Stars.
2 Smith. Ay, that's a great Virtue indeed; I think Thomas
Be no body in comparison to him.
1 Smith. Well, Masters, come, shall we to our Hammers?
Hodge. Ay, content, first let's take our Morning's
Draught, and then to work roundly.
2 Smith. Ay, agreed, go in, Hodge. [Exeunt.

Enter young Cromwell.

Crom. Good-morrow, Morn, I do salute thy brightness,
The Night seems tedious to my troubled Soul:
Whose black Obscurity binds in my Mind
A thousand sundry Cogitations:
And now Aurora with a lively Drew,
Adds Comfort to my Spirit that mounts on high,
Too high indeed, my state being so mean:
My Study like a Mineral of Gold,
Makes my Heart proud, wherein my hope's enroll'd;
My Books are all the Wealth I do possess,
And unto them I have engag'd my Heart:
O, Learning, how divine thou seem'st to me!
Within whose Arms is all Felicity.
Peace with your Hammers, leave your knocking there.

[Here within they beat with their Hammers.]
You do disturb my Study and my Rest;
Leave off, I say, you mad me with the Noise.

Enter Hodge, and the two Men.

Hodge. Why, how now, Master Thomas, how now?
Will you not let us work for you?
Crom. You fret my Heart, with making of this Noise.
Thomas Lord Cromwell.

Hodge. How, fret your Heart? Ay, but Thomas, you'll fret your Father's Purse if you let us from Working.

2Smith. Ay, this 'tis for him to make him a Gentleman: Shall we leave work for your musing? that's well i'faith; But here comes my old Master now.

Enter Old Cromwell.

Old Crom. You idle Knaves, what are you loytring now? No Hammers walking, and my Work to do? What not a Heat among your Work to day?

Hodge. Marry, Sir, your Son Thomas will not let us work at all.

Old Crom. Why, Knave I say, have I thus cark'd and car'd, And all to keep thee like a Gentleman, And dost thou let my Servants at their work; That sweat for thee, Knave? labour thus for thee?

Crom. Father, their Hammers do offend my Study.

Old Crom. Out of my doors, Knave, if thou lik'lt it not; I cry you Mercy, are your Ears so fine? I tell thee, Knave, these get when I do sleep; I will not have my Anvil stand for thee.

Crom. There's Money, Father, I will pay your Men.

[He throws Money among them.

Old Crom. Have I thus brought thee up unto my cift, In hope that one day thou wouldst relieve my Age, And art thou now so lavish of thy Coin, To scatter it among these idle Knaves?

Crom. Father be patient, and content your self, The time will come I shall hold Gold as trash: And here I speak with a presaging Soul, To build a Palace where now this Cottage stands, As fine as is King Henry's House at Sheen. (Beggar ;

Old Crom. You build a House? you Knave, you'll be a Now afore God all is but cast away That is beflow'd upon this thriftless Lad: Well, had I bound him to some honest Trade, This had not been; but it was his Mother's doing, To send him to the University: How? build a House where now this Cottage stands,
As fair as that at Sheen? he shall not hear me,
A good Boy Tom, I con thee thank Tom,
Well said Tom, Grammarchies Tom:
In to your work, Knaves; hence saucy Boy.

[Exeunt all but young Cromwell.

Crom. Why should my Birth keep down my mounting
Spirit?
Are not all Creatures subject unto time?
To time, who doth abuse the World,
And fills it full of hodge-podge Bastardy;
There's Legions now of Beggars on the Earth,
That their Original did spring from Kings;
And many Monarchs now, whose Fathers were
The riff-raff of their Age; for Time and Fortune
Wears out a noble train to Beggary;
And from the Dunghill Minions do advance
To State; and mark, in this admiring World
This is but Course, which in the name of Fate
Is seen as often as it whirls about:
The River Thames, that by our Door doth pass,
His first beginning is but small and shallow,
Yet keeping on his Course grows to a Sea.
And likewise Wolsey, the wonder of our Age;
His Birth as mean as mine, a Butcher's Son;
Now who within this Land a greater Man?
Then Cromwell, cheer thee up, and tell thy Soul,
That thou may'st live to flourish and controul.

Enter Old Cromwell.

Old Crom. Tom Cromwell, what Tom I say.
Crom. Do you call, Sir?
Old Crom. Here is Master Bowser come to know if
you have dispatch'd his Petition for the Lords of the
Council, or no.
Crom. Father, I have, please you to call him in.
Old Crom. That's well said, Tom, a good Lad, Tom.

Enter
Enter Master Bowser.

Bow. Now, Master Cromwell, have you dispatch'd this Petition?
Crom. I have, Sir, please you to peruse it.
Bow. It shall not need, we'll read it as we go by Water, And, Master Cromwell, I have made a Motion May do you good, and if you like of it. Our Secretary at Antwerp, Sir, is dead, And the Merchants there have sent to me, For to provide a Man fit for the Place: Now I do know none fitter than your self, If with your liking it stand, Master Cromwell.
Crom. With all my heart, Sir, and I much am bound, In Love and Duty for your Kindness shown.
Old Crom. Body of me, Tom, Make haste, left some body Get between thee and home, Tom, I thank you, good Master Bowser, I thank you for my Boy, I thank you always, I thank you most heartily, Sir; Ho, a Cup of Beer here for Master Bowser.
Bow. It shall not need, Sir: Master Cromwell, will you go?
Crom. I will attend you, Sir.
Old Crom. Farewel, Tom, God bless thee, Tom, God speed thee, good Tom. [Exeunt.

Enter Bagot, a Broker, solus.

Bag. I hope this Day is fatal unto some, And by their loss must Bagot seek to gain. This is the Lodging of Master Friskibal, A liberal Merchant, and a Florentine, To whom Banister owes a thousand Pound, A Merchant-Bankrupt, whose Father was my Master. What do I care for pity or regard, He once was wealthy, but he now is fall'n, And this Morning have I got him arrested.
At the Suit of Master Friskibal,
And by this means shall I be sure of Coin,
For doing this same good to him unknown:
And in good time, see where the Merchant comes.

Enter Friskibal.

Good-morrow to kind Master Friskibal.

Fris. Good-morrow to your self, good Master Bag,.
And what's the News you are so early stirring?
It is for Gain, I make no doubt of that.

Bag. It is for the Love, Sir, that I bear to you.

When did you see your Debtor Banister?

Fris. I promise you, I have not seen the Man
This two Months day, his Poverty is such,
As I do think he shames to see his Friends.

Bag. Why then assure your self to see him straight,
For at your Suit I have arrested him,
And here they will be with him presently.

Fris. Arrest him at my Suit? you were to blame,
I know the Man's Misfortunes to be such,
As he's not able for to pay the Debt,
And were it known to some, he were undone.

Bag. This is your pitiful Heart to think it so,
But you are much deceiv'd in Banister:
Why, such as he will break for Fashion-fake,
And unto those they owe a thousand Pound,
Pay scarce a hundred. O, Sir, beware of him,
The Man is lewdly given to Dice and Drabs,
Spends all he hath in Harlots Companies,
It is no mercy for to pity him:
I speak the truth of him, for nothing else,
But for the kindness that I bear to you.

Fris. If it be so, he hath deceiv'd me much,
And to deal strictly with such a one as he,
Better severe than too much lenity:
But here is Master Banister himself,
And with him, as I tak'y, the Officers.
Enter Banister, his Wife, and two Officers.

Ban. O Master Friskibal, you have undone me:
My State was well nigh overthrown before,
Now altogether down-cast by your means.
Mrs. Ban. O, Mr. Friskibal, pity my Husband’s case,
He is a Man hath liv’d as well as any,
Till envious Fortune, and the ravenous Sea
Did rob, disrobe, and spoil us of our own.

Fris. Mistress Banister, I envy not your Husband,
Nor willingly would I have us’d him thus:
But that I hear he is so loudly given,
Hunts wicked Company, and hath enough
To pay his Debts, yet will not be known thereof.
Ban. This is that damned Broker, that shame Bagot,
Whom I have often from my Trencher fed:
Ingrateful Villain for to use me thus.

Bag. What I have said to him is nought but Truth.

Mrs. Ban. What thou hast said springs from an envious
A Cannibal that doth eat Men alive: (Heart,
But here upon my Knee, believe me, Sir,
And what I speak, so help me God, is true,
We scarce have Meat to feed our little Babes;
Most of our Plate is in that Broker’s Hand,
Which had we Money to defray our Debts,
O think, we would not bide that Penury:
Be merciful, kind Master Friskibal,
My Husband, Children, and my self will eat
But one Meal a-day, the other will we keep and sell.

Fris. Go too, I see thou art an envious Man.

Good Mistress Banister, kneel not to me,
I pray rise up, you shall have your desire.
Hold Officers; be gone, there’s for your pains.
You know you owe to me a thousand Pound,
Here take my Hand, if e’er God make you able,
And place you in your former State again,
Pay me: but if still your Fortune frown,
Upon my Faith I’ll never ask you Crown:
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I never yet did wrong to Men in thrall,
For God doth know what to my self may fall.

Ban. This unexpected Favour undeserv'd,
Doth make my Heart bleed inwardly with joy:
Ne'er may o'er prosper with me is my own,
If I forget this Kindness you have shewn.

Mrs. Ban. My Children in their Prayers both night and
For your good Fortune and Success shall pray.

Fris. I thank you both, I pray go dine with me,
Within these three Days, if God give me leave,
I will to Florence to my native home:
Hold, Bagot, there's a Portague to drink,
Altho you ill deserv'd it by your merit:
Give not such cruel scope unto your Heart;
Be sure the ill you do will be requited:
Remember, what I say, Bagot, farewell.
Come, Master Banister, you shall with me,
My fare's but simple, but welcome heartily.

[Exeunt all but Bagot.

Bag. A Plague go with you, would you had eat your best,
Is this the thanks I have for all my pains?
Confusion light upon you all for me:
Where he had wont to give a score of Crowns,
Doth he now foist me with a Portague?
Well, I will be revenged upon this Banister.
I'll to his Creditors, buy all the Debts he owes,
As seeming that I do it for good will,
I am sure to have them at an easy rate;
And when 'tis done, in Christendom he stays not,
But I'll make his Heart take with sorrow.
And if that Banister becomes my Debtor,
By Heav'n and Earth, I'll make his Plague the greater.

[Exit Bagot

Enter Chorus.

Cho. Now, Gentlemen, imagine,
That young Cromwell is in Antwerp,
Ledger for the English Merchants:
And Banister, to shun this Bagot's Hate.
Thomas Lord Cromwell.

Hearing that he hath got some of his Debts, 
is fled to Antwerp, with his Wife and Children; 
Which Bagot hearing, is gone after them; 
And thither sends his Bills of Debt before, 
To be reveng'd on wretched Banister; 
What doth fall out, with Patience sit and see, 
A just Requital of false Treachery.           [Exit.

Enter Cromwell in his Study, with Bags of Money before him, casting of Account.

Crom. Thus far my reckoning doth go strait and ev'n, 
But, Cromwell, this same plodding fits not thee; 
Thy Mind is altogether set on travel, 
And not to live thus cloyster'd, like a Nun: 
It is not this same trash that I regard, 
Experience is the Jewel of my Heart.

Enter a Post.

Post. I pray, Sir, are you ready to dispatch me?
Crom. Yes, here's those Sums of Money you must carry, 
You go so far as Franksford, do you not?
Post. I do, Sir.
Crom. Well, prithee make all the haste thou canst,
For there be certain English Gentlemen 
Are bound for Venice, and may happily want, 
And if that you should linger by the way: 
But in hope that you will make good speed,
There's two Angels to buy you Spurs and Wands.
Post. I thank you, Sir, this will add Wings indeed.
Crom. Gold is of pow'r to make an Eagle's speed.

Enter Mistress Banister.

What Gentlewoman is this, that grieves so much? 
It seems she doth address her self to me.
Mrs. Ban. God save you, Sir, pray is your Name Mr. 
Matter Cromwell?
The Life and Death of

Crom. My Name is Thomas Cromwell, Gentlewoman.
Mrs. Ban. Know you not one Bagot, Sir, that's come to Antwerp?
Crom. No, trust me, I never saw the Man,
But here are Bills of Debt I have received
Against one Banister, a Merchant fall'n into decay.
Mrs. Ban. Into decay indeed, long of that Wretch:
I am the Wife to woful Banister,
And by that bloody Villain am pursu'd,
From London, here to Antwerp:
My Husband he is in the Governor's Hands,
And God of Heav'n knows how he'll deal with him;
Now, Sir, your Heart is fram'd of milder Temper,
Be merciful to a distressed Soul,
And God no doubt will treble bless your Gain.
Crom. Good Mistress Banister, what I can, I will,
In any thing that lies within my pow'r.
Mrs. Ban. O speak to Bagot, that same wicked Wretch,
An Angel's Voice may move a damned Devil.
Crom. Why is he come to Antwerp, as you hear?
Mrs. Ban. I heard he landed some two Hours since.
Crom. Well, Mistress Banister, assure your self,
I'll speak to Bagot in your own behalf;
And win him t'all the pity that I can:
Mean time, to comfort you, in your distress,
Receive these Angels to relieve your need,
And be assur'd, that what I can effect,
To do you good, no way I will neglect.
Mrs. Ban. That mighty God that knows each Mortal's Heart,
Keep you from trouble, sorrow, grief and smart.

[Exit Mistress Banister]

Crom. Thanks, courteous Woman, for thy hearty Pray'r:
It grieves my Soul to see her misery,
But we that live under the Work of Fate,
May hope the best, yet know not to what fate
Our Stars and Destinies have us assign'd,
Fickle is Fortune, and her Face is blind.

[Exit, Enter]
Thomas Lord Cromwell.

Enter Bagot Solus.

Bag. So, all goes well, it is as I would have it.

Banister, he is with the Governor:
And shortly shall have Gyves upon his Heels.
It gilds my Heart to think upon the Slave:
I hope to have his Body rot in a Prison,
And after here, his Wife to hang her Self,
And all his Children die for want of Food.
The Jewels I have brought to Antwerp
Are reckon'd to be worth five thousand Pound,
Which scarcely stood me in three hundred Pound;
I bought them at an easy kind of rate,
I care not which way they came by them
That sold them me, it comes not near my Heart;
And lest they should be stole, as sure they are,
I thought it meet to sell them here in Antwerp,
And so have left them in the Governor's Hand,
Who offers me within two hundred Pound
Of all my Price: but now no more of that,
I must go see and if my Bills be safe,
The which I sent to Master Cromwell,
That if the Wind should keep me on the Sea,
He might arrest him here before I came:
And in good time, see where he is: God save you,
Sir.

Enter Cromwell.

Crom. And you; pray pardon me, I know you not.

Bag. It may be so, Sir, but my Name is Bagot,
The Man that sent to you the Bills of Debt.

Crom. O, the Man that pursues Banister,
Here are the Bills of Debt you sent to me:
As for the Man, you know best where he is.
It is reported you've a Flinty Heart,
A Mind that will not flinch to any Pity;
An Eye that knows not how to shed a Tear,
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A Hand that's always open for Reward.
But, Master Bagot, would you be ruler'd by me.
You should turn all these to the contrary;
Your Heart should still have feeling of remorse,
Your Mind, according to your State, be liberal
To those that stand in need, and in distress;
Your Hand to help them that do stand in want,
Rather than with your Poise to hold them down,
For every ill turn show your self more kind,
Thus should I do; pardon, I speak my Mind.

Bag. I, Sir, you speak to hear what I would say,
But you must live, I know, as well as I:
I know this Place to be Extortion.
And 'tis not for a Man to keep safe here,
But he must ly, cog, with his dearest Friend;
And as for Pity, scorn it, hate all Conscience:
But yet I do commend your Wit in this,
To make a show of what I hope you are not,
But I commend you, and it is well done:
This is the only way to bring your Gain.

Crom. My Gain? I had rather chain me to an Oar,
And like a Slave, there toil out all my Life,
Before I'd live to base a Slave as thou.
I, like an Hypocrite, to make a show
Of seeming Virtue, and a Devil within?
No Bagot, if thy Conscience were as clear,
Poor Banister ne'er had been troubled here.

Bag. Nay, good Master Cromwell, be not angry,
Sir,
I know full well that you are no such Man,
But if your Conscience were as white as Snow,
It will be thought that you are otherwise.

Crom. Will it be thought that I am otherwise?
Let them that think so, know they are deceiv'd;
Shall Cromwell live to have his Faith misconstr'd?
Antwerp, for all the Wealth within thy Town,
I will not tarry here full two Hours longer:
As good luck serves, my Accounts are all made even,
Therefore I'll straight unto the Treasurer:
Thomas Lord Cromwell.

Bagot, I know you'll to the Governor,
Commend me to him, say I am bound to travel,
To see the fruitful Parts of Italy;
And as you ever bore a Christian Mind,
Let Banister some Favour of you find.

Bag. For your sake, Sir, I'll help him all I can,
To starve his Heart out ere he gets a Groat;
So, Master Cromwell, do I take my leave,
For I must strait unto the Governor. [Exit Bagot.

Crom. Farewel, Sir, pray you remember what I said.
No, Cromwell, no, thy Heart was ne'er so base,
To live by Falshood, or by Brokery;
But 't falls out well, I little it repent,
Hereafter, time in Travel shall be spent.

Enter Hodge, his Father's Man.

Hodge. Your Son Thomas, quoth you, I have been Thomas; I had thought it had been no such matter to a-gone by Water; for at Putney I'll go you to Parish Garden for two Pence, fit as still as may be, without any wagging or jolting in my Guts, in a little Boat too: Here we were scarce four Miles in the great green Water, but I thinking to go to my Afternoon's Lunchines, as 'twas my manner at home, but I felt a kind of rising in my Guts: At last, one of the Sailors spying of me, be a good cheer, says he, set down thy Victuals, and up with it, thou hast nothing but an Eel in thy Belly: Well, to't went I, to my Victuals went the Sailors, and thinking me to be a Man of better Experience than any in the Ship, ask'd me what Wood the Ship was made of: They all swore I told them as right as if I had been acquainted with the Carpenter that made it: At last we grew near Land, and I grew villainous hungry, went to my Bag, the Devil a bit there was, the Sailors had tickled me; yet I cannot blame them, it was a part of kindness; for I in kindness told them what Wood the Ship was made of, and they in kindness eat up my Victuals, as indeed one good turn asketh another: Well, would I, could I, find my Master Thomas in this Dutch Town, he might put some English Beer into my Belly.
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Crom. What Hodge, my Father's Man! by my Hand welcome: How doth my Father? what's the News at home?

Hodge. Master Thomas, O God, Master Thomas, your Hand, Glove and all, this is to give you to Understand, that your Father is in Health, and Alice Downing here hath sent you a Nutmeg, and Bess Make-water a Race of Ginger, my Fellows Will and Tom hath between them sent you a dozen of Points, and Goodman Toll, of the Goat, a pair of Mittons, my self came in Person, and this is all the News.

Crom. Gramercy, good Hodge, and thou art welcome to me.

But in as ill a Time thou comest as may be;

For I am travelling into Italy:

What say'lt thou, Hodge, wilt thou bear me Company?

Hodge. Will I bear thee Company, Tom? what tell'st me of Italy? were it to the farthest Part of Flanders, I would go with thee, Tom; I am thine in all weal and woe, thy own to command; what, Tom, I have pass'd the rigorous Waves of Neptune's Blasts, I tell you, Thomas, I have been in danger of the Floods, and when I have seen Boreas begin to play the Ruffin with us, then would I down a-my-Knees, and call upon Vulcan.

Crom. And why upon him?

Hodge. Because, as this same Fellow Neptune is God of the Seas, so Vulcan is Lord over the Smiths, and therefore I being a Smith, thought his Godhead would have some care yet of me.

Crom. A good Conceit: but tell me, hast thou din'd yet?

Hodge. Thomas, to speak the truth, not a bit yet, I.

Crom. Come go with me, thou shalt have Cheer good
And farewell, Anwerp, if I come no more.

Hodge. I follow thee, sweet Tom, I follow thee.

[Exeunt ambo.

Enter the Governor of the English House, Bagot, Banister, his Wife, and two Officers.

Gov. Is Cromwell gone then? say you, Mr. Bagot.

What dislike, I pray? what was the Cause?
Bag. To tell you true, a wild Brain of his own,
Such Youth as they cannot see when they are well:
He is all bent to Travel, that’s his reason,
And doth not love to eat his Bread at home.

Gov. Well, good Fortune with him, if the Man be
We hardly shall find such a Man as he,
To fit our turns, his Dealings were so honest.
But now, Sir, for the Jewels that I have,
What do you say? what, will you take my Price?

Bag. O Sir, you offer too much under foot.

Gov. ’Tis but two hundred Pound between us, Man,
What’s that in Payment of five thousand Pound?

Bag. Two hundred Pound, birlady, Sir, ’tis great,
Before I got so much it made me sweat.

Gov. Well, Master Bagot, I’ll proffer you fairly,
You see this Merchant, Master Banister,
Is going now to Prison at your Suit:
His Substance all is gone, what would you have?
Yet in regard I knew the Man of Wealth,
Never dishonest Dealing, but such Mishaps
Hath fall’n on him, may light on me or you:
There is two hundred Pound between us,
We will divide the same, I’ll give you one,
On that condition you will set him free:
His State is nothing, that you see your self,
And where nought is, the King must lose his Right.

Bag. Sir, Sir, you speak out of your Love,
’Tis foolish Love, Sir, sure to pity him:
Therefore content your self; this is my Mind,
To do him good I will not bate a Penny.

Ban. This is my Comfort, tho’ thou dost no good,
A mighty Ebb follows a mighty Flood.

Mrs. Ban. O thou base Wretch, whom we have lost
Even as a Serpent for to poison us,
If God did ever right a Woman’s wrong,
To that same God I bend and bow my Heart,
To let his heavy wrath fall on thy Head,
By whom my hopes and joys are butchered.
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Bag. Alas! fond Woman, I prithee pray thy worst, The Fox fares better still when he is curst.

Enter Master Bowser a Merchant.

Gov. Master Bowser! you're welcome, Sir, from England. What's the best News? how do all our Friends? (Land, Bow. They are all well, and do commend them to you: There's Letters from your Brother and your Son: So, fare you well, Sir, I must take my leave, My Haste and Business doth require so.

Gov. Before you dine, Sir? what, go you out of Town?

Bow. I' faith unless I hear some News in Town, I must away, there is no remedy.

Gov. Master Bowser, what is your Business, may I know

Bow. You may, Sir, and so shall all the City. (It?
The King of late hath had his Treasury robb'd,
And of the choicest Jewels that he had:
The value of them was seven thousand Pounds,
The fellow that did steal these Jewels is hang'd,
And did confess that for three hundred Pound,
He sold them to one Bagot dwelling in London:
Now Bagot's fled, and as we hear, to Antwerp,
And hither am I come to seek him out,
And they that first can tell me of his News,
Shall have a hundred Pound for their Reward.

Ban. How just is God to right the Innocent!

Gov. Master Bowser, you come in happy time,
Here is the Villain Bagot that you seek,
And all those Jewels have I in my Hands:
Officers, look to him, hold him fast.

Bag. The Devil ought me a shame, and now he hath paid it.

Bow. Is this that Bagot? Fellows, bear him hence,
We will not now stand for his Reply,
Lade him with Irons, we will have him try'd
In England, where his Villanies are known.

Bag. Mischief, confusion light upon you all,
O hang me, drown me, let me kill my self;
Let go my Arms, let me run quick to Hell.

Bow.
Thomas Lord Cromwell. 149

Bow. Away, bear him away, stop the Slave's Mouth.

[They carry him away.]

Mrs. Ban. Thy Works are infinite, great God of Heav'n.

Gov. I heard this Bagot was a wealthy Fellow.

Bow. He was indeed, for when his Goods were seiz'd,
Of Jewels, Coin, and Plate, within his House,
Was found the value of five thousand Pound,
His Furniture fully worth half so much,
Which being all strain'd for the King,
He frankly gave it to the Antwerp Merchants,
And they again, out of their bounteous Mind,
Have to a Brother of their Company,
A Man decay'd by Fortune of the Seas,
Given Bagot's Wealth to set him up again,
And keep it for him; his Name is Banister.

Gov. Master Bowser, with this happy News,
You have reviv'd two from the Gates of Death,
This is that Banister, and this his Wife.

Bow. Sir, I am glad my Fortune is so good,
To bring such Tidings as may comfort you.

Ban. You have given Life unto a Man deem'd dead,
For by these News my Life is newly bred.

Mrs. Ban. Thanks to my God, next to my Sovereign
King;
And last to you, that these good News do bring.

Gov. The hundred Pound I must receive, as due,
For finding Bagot, I freely give to you.

Bow. And, Master Banister, if so you please,
I'll bear you Company, when you cross the Seas.

Ban. If it please you, Sir, my Company is but mean,
Stands in your liking, I'll wait on you.

Gov. I am glad that all Things do accord so well:
Come, Master Bowser, let us to Dinner:
And, Mistress Banister, be merry, Woman,
Come, after Sorrow now let's cheer your Spirit,
Knaves have their due, and you but what you merit.

[Exeunt omnes.]
Enter Cromwell and Hodge in their Shirts, and without Hats.

Hodge. Call ye this seeing Fashions?
Marry, would I had staid at Putney still.
O, Master Thomas, we are spoil'd, we are gone.
Crom. Content thee, Man, this is but Fortune.
Hodge. Fortune, a Plague of this Fortune, it makes me go wet-shod, the Rogues would not leave me a Shoe to my Feet; for my Hose, they scorn'd them with their Heels; but for my Doublet and Hat, O Lord, they embrac'd me, and unlace'd me, and took away my Clothes, and so disgrac'd me.
Crom. Well, Hodge, what Remedy?
What shift shall we make now?
Hodge. Nay, I know not, for Begging I am naught, for Stealing worse; by my troth, I must even fall to my old Trade, to the Hammer and the Horse-heels again; but now the worst is, I am not acquainted with the Humour of the Horses in this Country; whether they are not coltish, given much to kicking, or no; for when I have one Leg in my Hand, if he should up and lay tother on my Chops, I were gone, there lay I, there lay Hodge.
Crom. Hodge, I believe thou must work for us both.
Hodge. O, Master Thomas, have not I told you of this? have not I many time and often said, Tom, or Master Thomas, learn to make a Horse-shoe, it will be your own another Day; this was not regarded. Hark you, Thomas, what do you call the Fellows that robb'd us?
Crom. The Bandetti.
Hodge. The Bandetti, do you call them? I know not what they are call'd here, but I am sure we call them plain Thieves in England. O, Tom, that we were now at Putney, at the Ale there.
Crom. Content thee, Man, here set up these two Bills,
And let us keep our Standing on the Bridge:
The Fashion of this Country is such,
If any Stranger be oppressed with Want,
Thomas Lord Cromwell.

To write the manner of his Misery,
And such as are dispos'd to succour him,
Will do it. What, hast thou set them up?

Hodge. Ay, they're up, God send some to read them,
And not only to read them, but also to look on us:
And not altogether look on us,
But to relieve us. O cold, cold, cold.

[One stands at one end, and one at t'other.

Enter Friskibal the Merchant, and reads the Bills:

Fris. What's here? two Englishmen robb'd by the Bandetti?
One of them seems to be a Gentleman:
'Tis pity that his Fortune was so hard,
To fall into the desperate Hands of Thieves.
I'll question him, of what Estate he is.
God save you, Sir, are you an Englishman?

Crom. I am, Sir, a distressed Englishman.

Fris. And what are you, my Friend?

Hodge. Who, I Sir, by my troth I do not know my self, what I am now, but, Sir, I was a Smith, Sir, a poor Farrier of Putney; that's my Master, Sir, yonder,
I was robb'd for his sake, Sir.

Fris. I see you have been met by the Bandetti,
And therefore need not ask how you came thus.
But, Friskibal, why dost thou question them
Of their Estate, and not relieve their need?
Sir, the Coin I have about me is not much:
There's sixteen Ducks for to clothe your selves,
There's sixteen more to buy your Diet with,
And there's sixteen to pay for your Horse-hire.
'Tis all the Wealth, you see, my Purse possesse's;
But if you please for to enquire me out,
You shall not want for ought that I can do:
My Name is Friskibal, a Florence Merchant,
A Man that always lov'd your Nation.

Crom. This unexpected Favour at your Hands,
Which God doth know, if ever I shall requite it,
Necessity makes me to take your Bounty,

G. 4
And for your Gold can yield you nought but Thanks. 
Your Charity hath help'd me from Despair;
Your Name shall still be in my hearty Prayer.

Fris. It is not worth such Thanks, come to my House,
Your want shall better be reliev'd than thus.

Crom. I pray excuse me, this shall well suffice
To bear my Charges to Bononia,
Whereas a noble Earl is much distress'd:
An Englishman, Russel the Earl of Bedford,
Is by the French King sold unto his Death,
It may fall out that I may do him good:
To save his Life, I'll hazard my Heart Blood:
Therefore, kind Sir, thanks for your liberal Gift,
I must be gone to aid him, there's no shift.

Fris. I'll be no hinderer to so good an Act,
Heav'n prosper you, in that you go about:
If Fortune bring you this way back again,
Pray let me see you; so I take my leave,
All good a Man can wish, I do bequeath. [Ex. Friskib.

Crom. All good that God doth send light on your Head,
There's few such Men within your Climate bred.
How say you now, Hodge, is not this good Fortune?

Hodge. How say you, I'll tell you what, Master Thomas,
If all Men be of this Gentleman's Mind,
Let's keep our Standings upon this Bridge,
We shall get more here with begging in one Day,
Than I shall with making Horse-shoes in a whole Year.

Crom. No, Hodge, we must be gone unto Bononia,
There to relieve the noble Earl of Bedford:
Where if I fail not in my Policy,
I shall deceive their subtle Treachery.

Hodge. Nay, I'll follow you, God bless us from thiev-
ing Bandetti again.

[Exeunt.

Enter Bedford and his Host.

Bed. Am I betray'd? was Bedford born to die
By such base Slaves, in such a place as this?
Have I escap'd so many times in France,
So many Battels have I overpass'd,

And
And made the French sir, when they heard my Name:
And am I now betray’d unto my Death?

Some of their Hearts Blood first shall pay for it.

Host. They do desire, my Lord, to speak with you.

Bed. The Traitors do desire to have my Blood;
But by my Birth, my Honour, and my Name,
By all my Hopes, my Life shall cost them dear.
Open the Door, I’ll venture out upon them,
And if I must die; then I’ll die with Honour.

Host. Alas, my Lord, that is a desperate Course;
They have begirt you, round about the House;
Their meaning is to take you Prisoner,
And so to send your Body unto France.

Bed. First shall the Ocean be as dry as Sand,
Before alive they send me unto France:
I’ll have my Body first bor’d like a Sieve,
And die as Hector, ‘gainst the Myrmidons,
Ere France shall boast, Bedford’s their Prisoner;
Treach'rous France, ‘gainst the Law of Arms,
Hath here betray’d thy Enemy to Death:
But be assur’d, my Blood shall be reveng’d
Upon the best Lives that remain in France.
Stand back, or else thou run’st upon thy Death.

Enter Servant.

Ser. Pardon, my Lord, I come to tell your Honour,
That they have hired a Neapolitan,
Who by his Oratory hath promis’d them,
Without the shedding of one drop of Blood,
Into their Hands safe to deliver you,
And therefore craves none but himself may enter,
And a poor Swain that attends on him.

We’re he as cunning in his Eloquence,
As Cicero the famous Man of Rome,
His Words would be as Chaff against the Wind.
Sweet-tongued Ulysses, that made Ajax mad,
Were he and his Tongue in this Speaker’s Head,
Alive he wins me not; then ’tis no Conquest.

G. 5.
Enter Cromwell like a Neapolitan, and Hodge with him.

*Crom.* Sir, are you the Master of the House?

*Hoft.* I am, Sir.

*Crom.* By this same Token you must leave this Place, And leave none but the Earl and I together, And this my Peasant here to tend on us.

*Hoft.* With all my heart, God grant you do some good.

*[Exit Hoft, Cromwell shuts the Door.]*

*Bed.* Now, Sir, what's your will with me?

*Crom.* Intends your Honour not to yield yourself?

*Bed.* No, good-man Goose, not while my Sword doth Is this your Eloquence for to persuade me? (last; *Crom.* My Lord, my Eloquence is for to save you;

I am not, as you judge, a Neapolitan,

But Cromwell your Servant, and an Englishman.

*Bed.* How? Cromwell? not my Farrier's Son?

*Crom.* The same, Sir, and am come to succour you.

*Hodge.* Yes Faith, Sir, and I am Hodge your poor Smith;

Many a time and oft have I shooed your Dapper Gray:

*Bed.* And what avails it me, that thou art here?

*Crom.* It may avail if you'll be rul'd by me;

My Lord, you know the Men of Mantua,
And these Bononians, are at deadly strife,
And they, my Lord, both love and honour you;
Could you but get out of the Mantua Port,
Then were you safe, despit of all their Force.

*Bed.* Tut, Man, thou talk'st of things impossible;

Doft thou not see, that we are round beset?

How then is't possible we should escape?

*Crom.* By Force we cannot, but by Policy:

Put on the Apparel here that Hodge doth wear,
And give him yours; the States they know you not,
For, as I think, they never saw your Face,
And at a Watch-word must I call them in,
And will desire, that we two safe may pass
To Mantua, where I'll say my Business lies;
How doth your Honour like of this Advice?

*Bed.*
Thomas Lord Cromwell.

Bed. O wondrous good! But wilt thou venture, Hodge?
Hodge. Will I? O noble Lord, I do accord in any thing,
I can;
And do agree, to set thee free, do Fortune what she can.
Bed. Come then, let’s change our Apparel freight.
Crom. Go, Hodge, make haste, left they chance to call.
Hodge. I warrant you I’ll fit him with a Sute.

[Exeunt Earl and Hodge.

Crom. Heavens grant this Policy doth take Success,
And that the Earl may safely scape away.
And yet it grieves me for this simple Wretch,
For fear they should offer him Violence;
But of two Evils ’tis best to shun the greatest,
And better is it that he live in thrall,
Than such a noble Earl as he should fall.
Their stubborn Hearts, it may be will relent;
Since he is gone, to whom their hate is bent.
My Lord, have you dispatch’d?

Enter Bedford like the Clown, and Hodge in his Cloak and his Hat.

Bed. How dost thou like us, Cromwell, is it well?
Crom. O! my good Lord, excellent. Hodge, how dost
feel thy self?
Hodge. How do I feel my self? why, as a Noble Man
should do.
O how I feel Honour come creeping on,
My Nobility is wonderful melancholy:
Is it not most Gentleman-like to be melancholy?
Crom. Yes, Hodge; now go sit down in thy Study.
And take State upon thee.

Hodge. I warrant you, my Lord, let me alone to take
State upon me; but hark, my Lord, do you feel nothing:
bite about you?
Bed. No, trust me, Hodge.

Hodge. Ay, they know they want their old Pasture;
’tis a strange thing of this Vermin; they dare not meddle
with Nobility.
Crom. Go take thy place, Hodge, I will call them in.

[Hodge
Enter the States, and Officers with Halberts.

Gov. What, have you won him? will he yield himself?
Crom. I have, an't please you, and the quiet Earl
Doth yield himself to be dispos'd by you.
Gov. Give him the Money that we promis'd him:
So let him go, whither he please himself.
Crom. My Business, Sir, lies unto Mantua;
Please you to give me safe Conduct thither.
Gov. Go, and conduct him to the Mantua Port,
And see him safe delivered presently.

[Exeunt Cromwell and Bedford.

Go draw the Curtains, let us see the Earl:
O, he is writing, stand apart a while.

Hodge. Fellow William, I am not as I have been; I
went from you a Smith, I write to you as a Lord; I am
at this present writing among the Polonian Casiges. I do
commend my Lordship to Ralph and to Roger, to Bridget
and to Dorothy, and so to all the Youth of Putney.

Gov. Sure these are the Names of English Noblemen,
Some of his special Friends, to whom he writes:
But stay, he doth address himself to sing.

[Here he sings a Song.

My Lord, I am glad you are so frolick and so blithe;
Believe me, Noble Lord, if you knew all,
You'd change your merry Vein to sudden Sorrow.

Hodge. I change my merry Vein? no, thou Bononian,
I am a Lord, and therefore let me go;
And do defy thee and thy Casiges:
Therefore stand off; and come not near my Honour.

Gov. My Lord, this Jesting cannot serve your turn,
Hodge. Doft think, thou black Bononian Beast,
That I do spout, do gibe, or jest?
No, no, thou Bear-pot, know that I,
A noble Earl, a Lord par'dy.

Gov. What means this Trumpet's sound?

[A Trumpet sounds.

Enter
Enter a Messenger.

Cit. One come from the States of Mantua.
Gov. What would you with us, speak thou Man of Mantua?
Mes. Men of Bononia, this my Message is,
To let you know the noble Earl of Bedford
Is safe within the Town of Mantua,
And wills you send the Peasant that you have,
Who hath deceiv'd your Expectation;
Or else the States of Mantua have vow'd,
They will recal the Truce that they have made,
And not a Man shall stir from forth your Town,
That shall return, unless you send him back.

Gov. O this misfortune, how it mads my Heart?
The Neapolitan hath beguil'd us all.
Hence with this Fool, what shall we do with him,
The Earl being gone? a plague upon it all.

Hodge. No I'll assure you, I am no Earl, but a Smith,
Sir,
One Hodge, a Smith at Putney, Sir;
One that hath gulled you, that hath bored you, Sir.

Gov. Away with him, take hence the Fool you came
for.

Hodge. Ay, Sir, and I'll leave the greater Fool with
you.

Mes. Farewel, Bononians. Come, Friend, along with
me.

Hodge. My Friend, afore, my Lordship will follow
thee.

[Exit.

Gov. Well, Mantua, since by thee the Earl is lost,
Within few Days I hope to see thee crost. [Exeunt.

Enter Chorus.

Cho. Thus far you see how Cromwell's Fortune pass'd,
The Earl of Bedford, being safe in Mantua,
Desires Cromwell's Company into France,
To make requital for his Courtesy:

But
But Cromwell doth deny the Earl his Suit,
And tells him that those Parts he meant to see,
He had not yet set footing on the Land,
And so directly takes his way to Spain;
The Earl to France, and so they both do part,
Now let your Thoughts as swift as is the Wind,
Skip some few Years that Cromwell spent in Travel;
And now imagine him to be in England,
Servant unto the Master of the Rolls:
Where in short time he there began to flourish.
An Hour shall show you what few Years did cherish.

[Exit.

The Musick plays, they bring out the Banquet.

Enter Sir Christopher Hales, Cromwell, and two Servants.

Hales. Come, Sirs, be careful of your Master's Credit;
And as our Bounty now exceeds the Figure
Of common Entertainment, so do you,
With Looks as free as is your Master's Soul,
Give formal Welcome to the thronged Tables,
That shall receive the Cardinal's Followers,
And the Attendance of the great Lord Chancellor.
But all my Care, Cromwell, depends on thee:
Thou art a Man differing from vulgar Form,
And by how much thy Spirit is rank'd 'bove these,
In rules of Art, by so much it shines brighter by Travel,
Whose Observance pleads his Merit,
In a most learn'd, yet unaffected Spirit.
Good Cromwell, cast an Eye of fair Regard
'Bout all my House, and what this ruder Flesh,
Thro' Ignorance, or Wine, do miscreate,
Salve thou with Courtesie; if Welcome want,
Full Bowls, and ample Banquets will seem scant.

Crom. Sir, whatsoever lies in me,
Assure you I will shew my utmost Duty. [Exit Crom.

Hales. About it then, the Lords will straight be here:
Cromwell, thou haft those parts would rather sute
The Service of the State than of my House;
Thomas Lord Cromwell.

I look upon thee with a loving Eye,
That one Day will prefer thy Destiny.

Enter Messenger.

Mess. Sir, the Lords be at hand.
Hales. They are welcome, bid Cromwell straight attend us,
And look you all things be in perfect readiness.

[The Musick plays.

Enter Cardinal Wolsey, Sir Thomas Moore, and Gardiner.

Wol. O, Sir Christopher, you are too liberal: What, a Banquet too?
Hales. My Lords, if Words could show the ample Welcome, that my free Heart affords you, I could then become a Prater: but I now must deal like a seaf'nt Politician with your Lordships, defer your Welcome till the Banquet end, that it may then salve our defect of Fare:
Yet welcome now, and all that tend on you.
Wol. Thanks to the kind Master of the Rolls.
Come and sit down, sit down Sir Thomas Moore:
'Tis strange, how that we and the Spaniard differ,
Their Dinner is our Banquet, after Dinner,
And they are Men of active Disposition:
This I gather, that by their sparing Meat,
Their Bodies are more fitter for the Wars:
And if that Famine chance to pinch their Maws,
Being us'd to fast, it breeds less Pain.
Hales. Fill me some Wine; I'll answer Cardinal Wolsey:
My Lord, we Englishmen are of more free Souls,
Than hunger-starv'd, and ill-complexion'd Spaniards;
They that are rich in Spain, spare belly Food,
To deck their Backs with an Italian Hood,
And Silks of Sevil, and the poorest Snake,
That feeds on Lemons, Pilchers, and ne'er heated

His
His Pallet with sweet Flesh, will bear a Case
More fat and gallant than his starved Face;
Pride, the Inquisition, and this belly-evil,
Are, in my Judgment, Spain’s three-headed Devil.

Moore. Indeed it is a Plague unto their Nation,
Who stagger after in blind Imagination.

Hales. My Lords, with welcome, I present your
Lordships a solemn Health.

Moore. I love Health well, but when as Healths do bring
Pain to the Head, and Bodies forfeiting,
Then cease I Healths:

Nay spill not Friend, for tho’ the drops be small,
Yet have they force, to force Men to the Wall.

Wol. Sir Christopher, is that your Man?

Hales. And like your Grace, he is a Scholar, and a
Linguist,

One that hath travelled many parts of Christendom,
my Lord.

Wol. My Friend, come nearer, have you been a
Traveller?

Crom. My Lord, I have added to my Knowledge, the
Low Countries,
France, Spain, Germany, and Italy:
And tho’ small gain of Profit I did find,
Yet did it please my Eye, content my Mind.

Wol. What do you think of the several States,
And Princes Courts as you have travelled?

Crom. My Lord, no Court with England may compare,

Neither for State, nor Civil Government:
Luft dwells in France, in Italy, and Spain,
From the poor Peasant, to the Prince’s Train:
In Germany, and Holland, Riot serves,
And he that most can drink, most he deserves.

England I praise not: For I there was born,
But that she laugheth the others into Scorn.

Wol. My Lord, there dwells within that Spirit,
More than can be discern’d by outward Eye;
Sir Christopher, will you part with your Man?

Hales.
Thomas Lord Cromwell.

Hales. I have sought to proffer him to your Lordship,
And now I see he hath preferr’d himself.

Wol. What is thy Name?

Crom. Cromwell, my Lord.

Wol. Then, Cromwell, here we make thee Sollicitor
   of our Causes.
And nearest next our self:
Gardiner, give you kind welcome to the Man.

[Gardiner embraces him.

Moore. My Lord, you are a royal Winner,
Hath got a Man, besides your bounteous Dinner.
Well, Knight, pray we come no more:
If we come often, thou may’st shut thy Door.

Wol. Sir Christopher, hadst thou given me
Half thy Lands, thou could’st not have pleased me
So much as with this Man of thine:
My infant Thoughts do spell,
Shortly his Fortune shall be lifted higher;
True Industry doth kindle Honour’s Fire,
And so, kind Master of the Rolls, farewell.

Hales. Cromwell, Farewell.

Crom. Cromwell takes his leave of you,
That ne’er will leave to love, and honour you:

[Exeunt. The Musick plays as they go out.

Enter Chorus.

Cho. Now Cromwell’s higgest Fortunes do begin.
Wolsey that lov’d him, as he did his Life,
Committed all his Treasure to his Hands:
Wolsey is dead, and Gardiner his Man
Is now created Bishop of Winchester:
Pardon, if we omit all Wolsey’s Life,
Because our Play depends on Cromwell’s Death.
Now sit and see his higgest State of all;
His height of rising, and his sudden Fall:
Pardon the Errors are already past,
And live in hope the best doth come at last:
My hope upon your Favour doth depend,
And look to have your liking ere the end.

[Exit.

Enter
Enter Gardiner Bishop of Winchester, the Dukes of Norfolk and of Suffolk, Sir Thomas Moore, Sir Christopher Hales, and Cromwell.

Nor. Master Cromwell, since Cardinal Wolsey's Death, His Majesty is given to understand, There's certain Bills and Writings in your Hand, That much concern the State of England; My Lord of Winchester, is it not so?

Gar. My Lord of Norfolk, we two were whilome Fellows, And Master Cromwell, tho our Master's love Did bind us, while his love was to the King, It is no boot now to deny those things Which may be prejudicial to the State; And tho that God hath rais'd my Fortune higher, Than any way I looked for, or deferv'd, Yet my Life no longer with me dwell, Than I prove true unto my Sovereign.

Suf. What say you, Master Cromwell? have you those Writings, ay, or no?

Crom. Here are the Writings, and upon my Knees, I give them up unto the worthy Dukes Of Suffolk and of Norfolk; he was my Master, And each virtuous Part That liv'd in him, I tender'd with my Heart, But what his Head complotted 'gainst the State, My Country's love commands me that to hate. His sudden Death I grieve for, not his Fall, Because he fought to work my Country's thrall.

Suf. Cromwell, the King shall hear of this thy Duty; Whom I assure my self, will well reward thee; My Lord, let's go unto his Majesty, And shew those Writings which he longs to see.

[Exeunt Norfolk and Suffolk.

Enter Bedford hastily.

Bed. How now, Who's this, Cromwell?
Thomas Lord Cromwell.

By my Soul, welcome to England:
Thou once didst save my Life, didst thou not, Cromwell?

Crom. If I did so, 'tis greater Glory
For me that you remember it,
Than for my self vainly to report it,

Bed. Well, Cromwell, now is the time.
I shall commend thee to my Sovereign;
Chear up thy self, for I will raise thy State,
A Russell yet was never found ingrate.

Hales. O how uncertain is the Wheel of State,
Who lately greater than the Cardinal,
For Fear, and Love; and now who lower lies?
Gay Honours are but Fortune's flatteries,
And whom this Day Pride and Promotion swells,
To Morrow Envy and Ambition quells.

Moore. Who sees the Cob-web intangle the poor
Fly,
May boldly say the Wretch's Death is nigh.

Gard. I knew his State, and proud Ambition,
Were too too violent to last over-long.

Hales. Who soars too near the Sun, with golden
Wings,
Melts them, to ruin his own Fortune brings.

Enter the Duke of Suffolk.

Suf. Cromwell, kneel down in King Henry's Name;
Arise, Sir Thomas Cromwell, thus begin thy Fame.

Enter the Duke of Norfolk.

Nor. Cromwell, the Majesty of England,
For the good liking he conceives of thee,
Makes thee Master of the Jewel-house,
Chief Secretary to himself, and withal,
Creates thee one of his Highness's Privy-Council.
Enter the Earl of Bedford.

Bed. Where is Sir Thomas Cromwell? is he Knighted?

Suf. He is, my Lord.

Bed. Then, to add Honour to his Name, The King creates him Lord Keeper of his Privy Seal, And Master of the Rolls; Which you, Sir Christopher, do now enjoy:
The King determines higher place for you.

Crom. My Lords, these Honours are too high for my Desert.

Moore. O content thee, Man, who would not choose it?

Yet thou art wise, in seeming to refuse it.

Gard. Here’s Honours, Titles and Promotions; I fear this climbing will have a sudden Fall.

Nor. Then come, my Lords, let’s all together bring This new-made Counsellor to England’s King.

[Exeunt all but Gardiner.

Gard. But Gardiner means his Glory shall be dim’d: Shall Cromwell live a greater Man than I? My Envy with his Honour now is bred, I hope to shorten Cromwell by the Head. [Exit.

Enter Friskibal very poor.

Frisk. O Friskibal, what shall become of thee? Where shalt thou go, or which way shalt thou turn? Fortune, that turns her too unconstant Wheel, Hath turn’d thy Wealth and Riches in the Sea; All parts abroad where-ever I have been, Grow weary of me, and deny me Succour; My Debtors, they that should relieve my want, Forswear my Mony, say they owe me none: They know my State too mean to bear out Law; And here in London, where I oft have been, And have done good to many a wretched Man, Am now most wretched here, despis’d my self:
Thomas Lord Cromwell.

In vain it is more of their Hearts to try,
Be patient therefore, lay thee down and die.

[He lies down.

Enter Goodman Seely, and his Wife Joan.

Seely. Come, Joan, come, let's see what he will do for us now? I wis we have done for him, when many a time and often he might have gone a hungry to Bed.

Wife. Alas Man, now he is made a Lord, he'll never look upon us; he'll fulfill the old Proverb, Set Beggars a Horse-back and they'll ride; a, well a day for my Cow; such as he hath made us come behind hand, we had never pawn'd our Cow else to pay our Rent.

Seely. Well, Joan, he'll come this way; and by Gad's Dickens I'll tell him roundly of it, and if he were ten Lords; a shall know that I had not my Cheese and my Bacon for nothing.

Wife. Do you remember, Husband, how he would mouch upon my Cheese-Cakes, he hath forgot this now, but now we'll remember him.

Seely. Ay, we shall have now three flaps with a Fox Tail: But i'faith I'll gibber a Joint, but I'll tell him his own; stay, who comes here? O, stand up, here he comes, stand up.

Enter Hodge very fine, with a Tip-staff, Cromwell with the Mace carried before him; the Dukes of Norfolk and Suffolk, and Attendants.

Hodge. Come, away with these Beggars here,

Rise up, Sirrah; come out, good People;
Run before there ho.

[Friskibal riseth, and stands afar off.

Seely. Ay, we are kick'd away, now we come for our own; the time hath been, he would a look'd more friendly upon us: And you, Hodge, we know you well enough, tho you are so fine.

Crom. Come hither, Sirrah: Stay, what Men are these?
My honest Host of Hunslow, and his Wife;
I owe thee Mony, Father, do I not?

Seely. Ay, by the Body of me, dost thou; would thou
wouldstRendering pay me, good four Pounds it is, I have a the
Post at home.

Crom. I know 'tis true; Sirrah, give him ten Ang-
gels,
And look your Wife and you do stay to Dinner:
And while you live, I freely give to you
Four Pound a Year, for the four Pound I ought you.

Seely. Art not chang'd, art old Tom still?
Now God bless thee, good Lord Tom:
Home, Joan, home; I'll dine with my Lord Tom to
Day,
And thou shalt come next Week,
Fetch my Cow; home, Joan, home.

Wife. Now God bless thee, my good Lord Tom;
I'll fetch my Cow presently.

Enter Gardiner.

Crom. Sirrah, go to you Stranger, tell him I desire him
stay to Dinner: I must speak with him.

Gard. My Lord of Norfolk, see you this same Bub-
ble?
That same puff; but mark the end, my Lord, mark
the end.

Nor. I promise you, I like not something he hath
done;
But let that pass; the King doth love him well.

Crom. Good morrow to my Lord of Winchester:
I know you bear me hard about the Abbey Lands.

Gar. Have I not reason, when Religion is wrong'd?
You had no colour for what you have done.

Crom. Yes, the abolishing of Antichrist,
And of his Popish order from our Realm:
I am no Enemy to Religion,
But this is done, it is for England's Good:
What did they serve for, but to feed a fort
Thomas Lord Cromwell.

Of lazy Abbots, and of full fed Fryers?
They neither Plow, nor Sow, and yet they Reap
The Fat of all the Land, and suck the Poor:
Look what was theirs, is in King Henry's Hands,
His Wealth before lay in the Abbey Lands.

Gar. Indeed these things you have alledg'd, my Lord,
When, God doth know, the Infant yet unborn,
Will curse the time, the Abbies were pull'd down;
I pray you, where is Hospitality?
Where now may poor distress'd People go,
For to relieve their Need, or rest their Bones,
When weary Travel doth oppress their Limbs?
And where religious Men should take them in,
Shall now be kept back by a Mastive Dog:
And thousand thousand—

Nor. O my Lord, no more:
Things past redress, 'tis bootless to complain.

Crom. What, shall we to the Convocation-house?

Nor. We'll follow you, my Lord, pray lead the way.

Enter old Cromwell, like a Farmer.

Old Crom. How? one Cromwell
Made Lord-keeper since I left Putney,
And dwelt in Yorkshire? I never heard better News;
I'll see that Cromwell, or it shall go hard.

Crom. My aged Father! State set aside:
Father, on my Knee I crave your Blessing:
One of my Servants go and have him in,
At better Leisure will we talk with him.

Old Crom. Now if I dye how happy were the Day,
To see this Comfort rains forth showers of Joy.

[Exit old Cromwell.

Nor. This Duty in him shows a kind of Grace.
Crom. Go on before, for time draws on apace.
[Exeunt all but Friskibal.

Tris. I wonder what this Lord would have with me,
His Man so strictly gave me charge to stay:
I never did offend him to my Knowledge:

Well,
The Life and Death of
Well, good or bad, I mean to bide it all,
Worse than I am now, never can befall.

Enter Banister and his Wife.

Ban. Come, Wife, I take it be almost Dinner time,
For Mr. Newton, and Mr. Crosby sent to me
Last Night, they would come dine with me,
And take their Bond in, I pray thee hie thee home,
And see that all things be in readiness.

Mrs. Ban. They shall be welcome, Husband, I'll go before.

But is not that Man Master Friskibal?

She runs and embraces him.

Ban. O Heavens! it is kind Master Friskibal:
Say, Sir, what hap hath brought you to this pass?

Fri. The same that brought you to your Misery.

Ban. Why would you not acquaint me with your state?

Is Banister your poor Friend forgot?
Whose Goods, whose Love, whose Life and all is yours.

Fri. I thought your usage would be as the rest,
That had more kindness at my Hands than you,
Yet look'd ascence when as they saw me poor.

Mrs. Ban. If Banister would bear so base a Heart,
I never would look my Husband in the Face,
But hate him as I would a Cockatrice.

Ban. And well thou mightest should Banister deal so.

Since that I saw you, Sir, my state is mended:
And for the thousand Pound I owe to you,
I have it ready for you, Sir, at home:
And tho' I grieve your Fortune is so bad,
Yet that my hap's to help you makes me glad:
And now, Sir, will it please you walk with me.

Fri. Not yet I cannot, for the Lord Chancellor
Hath here commanded me to wait on him,
For what I know not, pray God it be for good.
Thomas Lord Cromwell. 169

Ban. Never make doubt of that, I'll warrant you,
He is as kind a noble Gentleman,
As ever did possess the place he hath.
Mrs. Ban. Sir, my Brother is his Steward; if you
please,
We'll go along and bear you Company;
I know we shall not want for welcome there.
Fri. With all my heart; but what's become of
Bagot?
Ban. He is hang'd for buying Jewels of the King's.
Fri. A just Reward for one so Impious.
The Time draws on, Sir, will you go along?
Ban. I'll follow you, kind Master Friskibal.

[Exeunt.]

Enter two Merchants,

1 Mer. Now, Master Crosby, I see you have a care
To keep your Word, in payment of your Mony.

2 Mer. By my Faith I have reason; upon a Bond,
Three thousand Pound is too much to forfeit.
Yet I doubt not Master Banister.

1 Mer. By my Faith your Sum is greater than mine,
And yet I am not much behind you too,
Considering that to Day I paid at Court.

2 Mer. Maffs, and well remembred:
What's the reason the Lord Cromwell's Men
Wear such long Skirts upon their Coats?
They reach down to their very Hams.

1 Mer. I will resolve you, Sir, and thus it is;
The Bishop of Wincheste'r, that loves not Cromwell,
As great Men are envied as well as less,
A while ago there was a jar between them,
And it was brought to my Lord Cromwell's Ear,
That Bishop Gardiner would fit on his Skirts;
Upon which Word he made his Men long blue
Coats,
And in the Court wore one of them himself:
And meeting with the Bishop, quoth he, my Lord,
Here's Skirts enough now for your Grace to fit on:

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Which vexed the Bishop to the very Heart;
This is the reason why they wear long Coats.

2 Mer. 'Tis always seen, and mark it for a Rule,
That one great Man will envy still another;
But 'tis a thing that nothing concerns me:
What, shall we now to Master Banister's?

1 Mer. Ay, come, we'll pay him royally for our
Dinner. [Exeunt.

Enter the Usher, and the Sewer, the Meat goes over
the Stage.

Ush. Uncover there, Gentlemen.

Enter Cromwell, Bedford, Suffolk, old Cromwell,
Friskibal, Goodman Seely, and Attendants.

Crom. My noble Lords of Suffolk and Bedford,
Your Honours welcome to poor Cromwell's House:
Where is my Father? nay, be covered, Father,
Altho that Duty to these Noblemen doth challenge it,
Yet I'll make bold with them.
Your Head doth bear the Calender of Care:
What? Cromwell cover'd, and his Father bare?
It must not be. Now, Sir, to you;
Is not your Name Friskibal, and a Florentine?

Fris. My Name was Friskibal, 'till cruel Fate
Did rob me of my Name, and of my State.

Crom. What Fortune brought you to this Country
now?

Fris. All other Parts have left me succourless,
Save only this, because of Debts I have
I hope to gain, for to relieve my want.

Crom. Did you not once upon your Florence Bridge,
Help a distressed Man, robb'd by the Bandetti,
His Name was Cromwell?

Fris. I never made my Brain
A Calender of any good I did,
I always lov'd this Nation with my heart.

Crom.
Thomas Lord Cromwell.

Crom. I am that Cromwell that you there reliev'd,
Sixteen Duckets you gave me for to clothe me,
Sixteen to bear my Charges by the way,
And sixteen more I had for my Horse-hire;
There be those several Sums justly return'd:
Yet it Injustice were, that serving at my need,
For to repay them without Interest:
Therefore receive of me these four several Bags;
In each of them there is four hundred Mark,
And bring to me the Names of all your Debtors,
And if they will not see you paid, I will,
O God forbid, that I should see him fall,
That help't me in my greatest need of all.
Here stands my Father that first gave me Life,
Alas what Duty is too much for him?
This Man in time of need did save my Life,
And therefore cannot do too much for him.
By this old Man I oftentimes was fed,
Else might I have gone supperless to Bed.
Such kindness have I had of these three Men,
That Cromwell no way can repay agen.
Now in to Dinner, for we stay too long,
And to good Stomachs is no greater wrong.

[Exeunt.

Enter Gardiner in his Study, and his Man.

Gard. Sirrah, where be those Men I caus'd to stay?
Ser. They do attend your Pleasure, Sir, within.
Gard. Bid them come hither, and stay you without,
For by those Men the Fox of this same Land,
That makes a Goose of better than himself,
MUST worried be unto his latest home,
Or Gardiner will fail in his intent.
As for the Dukes of Suffolk and of Norfolk,
Whom I have sent for to come speak with me;
Howsoever outwardly they shadow it,
Yet in their Hearts I know they love him not.

H 2

As
The Life and Death of
As for the Earl of Bedford, he is but one,
And dares not gain-say what we do set down.

Enter the two Witnesses.

Now, my Friends, you know I sav'd your Lives,
When by the Law you had deserved Death;
And then you promis'd me upon your Oaths,
To venture both your Lives to do me good.

Both Wit. We swore no more than what we will perform.

Gard. I take your Words; and that which you must do,
Is service for your God, and for your King;
To root a Rebel from this flourishing Land,
One that's an Enemy unto the Church:
And therefore must you take your solemn Oaths,
That you heard Cromwell, the Lord Chancellor,
Did with a Dagger at King Henry's Heart:
Fear not to swear it, for I heard him speak it;
Therefore we'll shield you from ensuing Harms.

2 Wit. If you will warrant us the Deed is good,
We'll undertake it.

Gard. Kneel down, and I will here absolve you both;
This Crucifix I lay upon your Heads,
And sprinkle Holy-Water on your Brows:
The Deed is meritorious that you do,
And by it shall you purchase Grace from Heav'n.

1 Wit. Now, Sir, we'll undertake it, by our Souls.

2 Wit. For Cromwell never loved none of our sort.

Gard. I know he doth not, and for both of you
I will prefer you to some place of worth.
Now get you in, until I call for you,
For presently the Dukes mean to be here. [Exeunt Wit.

Cromwell, sit fast, thy time's not long to reign;
The Abbies that were pull'd down by thy means,
Is now a mean for me to pull thee down:
Thy Pride also thy own Head lights upon,
Thomas Lord Cromwell.

For thou art he hath chang'd Religion:
But now no more, for here the Dukes are come.

Enter Suffolk, Norfolk, and the Earl of Bedford.

Suf. Good Even to my Lord Bishop.
Nor. How fares my Lord? what are you all alone?
Gard. No, not alone, my Lords, my Mind is troubled:
I know your Honours muse wherefore I sent,
And in such haste: What, came you from the King?
Nor. We did, and left none but Lord Cromwell with him.
Gard. O what a dangerous time is this we live in?
There's Thomas Wolsey, he's already gone,
And Thomas Moor, he follow'd after him:
Another Thomas yet there doth remain,
That is far worse than either of those twain;
And if with Speed, my Lords, we not pursue it,
I fear the King and all the Land will rue it.
Bed. Another Thomas? pray God it be not Cromwell.
Gard. My Lord of Bedford, it is that Traitor Cromwell.
Bed. Is Cromwell false? my Heart will never think it.
Suf. My Lord of Winchester, what likelihood,
Or proof have you of this his Treachery?
Gard. My Lord, too much; call in the Men within.

Enter the Witnesses.

These Men, My Lord, upon their Oaths affirm,
That they did hear Lord Cromwell in his Garden,
Wished a Dagger sticking at the Heart
Of our King Henry: What is this but Treason?
Bed. If it be so, my Heart doth bleed with Sorrow.
Suf. How say you, Friends; what, did you hear these Words?
1 Wit. We did, an't like your Grace.
Nor. In what Place was Lord Cromwell when he spake them?
The Life and Death of

2 Wit. In his Garden; where we did attend a Suit, Which we had waited for two Years and more.

Stif. How long is't since you heard him speak these Words?

2 Wit. Some half a Year since.

Bed. How chance that you conceal'd it all this time?

1 Wit. His Greatness made us fear: that was the cause.

Gard. Ay, ay, his Greatness, that's the cause indeed; And to make his Treason here most manifest, He calls his Servants to him round about, Tells them of Wolsey's Life, and of his Fall, Says that himself hath many Enemies, And gives to some of them a Park, or Manor, To others Leaves, Lands to other some: What need he do this in his prime of Life, An if he were not fearful of his Death?

Stif. My Lord, these likelihoods are very great.

Bed. Pardon me, Lords, for I must needs depart; Their Proofs are great, but greater is my Heart. [Exit Bedford.

Nor. My Friends, take heed of that which you have said;
Your Souls must answer what your Tongues report: Therefore take heed, be wary what you do.

2 Wit. My Lord, we speak no more but truth.

Nor. Let them depart, my Lord of Winchester; Let these Men be close kept until the Day of Trial.

Gard. They shall, my Lord; ho, take in these two Men. [Exeunt Witnesses.

My Lords, if Cromwell have a publick Trial,
That which we do, is void, by his denial,
You know the King will credit none but him.

Nor. 'Tis true, he rules the King ev'n as he pleases.

Stif. How shall we do for to attack him then?

Gard. Marry, my Lords, thus,
By an Act he made himself,
With an intent to intrap some of our Lives,
And this it is: If any Counsellor
Be convicted of High Treason,
Thomas Lord Cromwell.

He shall be executed without a publick Trial.
This Act, my Lords, he caus'd the King to make.
   Sif. A did indeed, and I remember it,
And now it is like to fall upon himself.
   Nor. Let us not slack it, 'tis for England's good,
We must be wary, else he'll go beyond us.
   Gard. Well hast your Grace said, my Lord of Norfolk,
Therefore let us presently to Lambeth.
Thither comes Cromwell, from the Court to Night,
Let us arrest him, send him to the Tower,
And in the Morning cut off the Traitor's Head.
   Nor. Come then about it, let us guard the Town,
This is the Day that Cromwell must go down.
   Gard. Along my Lords; well, Cromwell is half dead,
He shak'd my Heart, but I will shave his Head. [Exeunt.

Enter Bedford solus.

   Bed. My Soul is like a Water troubled,
And Gardiner is the Man that makes it so;
   O Cromwell, I do fear thy end is near:
Yet I'll prevent their Malice if I can,
And in good time, see where the Man doth come;
Who little knows how near's his Day of Doom.

Enter Cromwell with his Train, Bedford makes as tho
he would speak to him: He goes on.

   Crom. You're well encountred, my good Lord of
       Bedford,
Pray pardon me, I am sent for to the King,
And do not know the Business yet my self;
So fare you well, for I must needs be gone.
   [Exit with the Train.

   Bed. You must: well, what remedy?
I fear too soon you must be gone indeed:
The King hath Business, but little dost thou know,
Who's busy for thy Life; thou think'st not so.
The Life and Death of

Enter Cromwell and the Train again.

Crom. The second time we met, my Lord of Bedford:
I am very sorry that my haste is such,
Lord Marquess Dorset being sick to Death,
I must receive of him the Privy- Seal.
At Lambeth, soon my Lord, we'll talk our fill.

[Exit with the Train.

Bed. How smooth and easy is the way to Death?

Enter a Messenger.

Mes. My Lord, the Dukes of Norfolk and of Suffolk,
Accompanied with the Bishop of Winchester,
Intreat you to come presently to Lambeth,
On earnest matters that concern the State.

Bed. To Lambeth, so; Go fetch me Pen and Ink,
I and Lord Cromwell there shall talk enough:
Ay, and our last, I fear, and if he come.

[He writes a Letter.

Here, take this Letter, and bear it to Lord Cromwell,
Bid him read it, say it concerns him near,
Away, be gone, make all the haste you can,
To Lambeth do I go, a woful Man.

[Exit.

Enter Cromwell and his Train.

Crom. Is the Barge ready? I will straight to Lambeth.
And if this one Day's Business once were past,
I'd take my ease to Morrow after trouble.
How now, my Friend, wouldn't thou speak with me?

[The Messenger brings the Letter, he puts it in his Pocket.

Mes. Sir, here's a Letter from my Lord of Bedford.
Crom. O good my Friend, commend me to thy Lord;
Hold, take those Angels, drink them for thy pains.

Mes.
Thomas Lord Cromwell.

Maj. He doth desire your Grace to read it,
Because he says it doth concern you near.
Crom. Bid him assure himself of that, farewell,
To morrow, tell him, he shall hear from me.
Set on before there, and away to Lambeth. [Exeunt.

Enter Winchester, Suffolk, Norfolk, Bedford, Serjeants
at Arms, the Herald, and Halberts.

Gard. Halberts, stand close unto the Water-side,
Serjeant at Arms, be bold in your Office,
Herald, deliver the Proclamation.

Her. This to give notice to all the King's Subjects,
The late Lord Cromwell, Lord Chancellor of England,
Vicar General over the Realm,
Him to hold and esteem as a Traitor,
Against the Crown and Dignity of England.
So God save the King.

Gar. Amen.

Bed. Amen, and root thee from the Land,
For whilst thou livest Truth cannot stand.

Nor. Make a Lane there, the Traitor is at hand.
Keep back Cromwell's Men:
Drown them if they come on. Serjeant, your Office.

Enter Cromwell, they make a Lane with their Halberts.

Crom. What means my Lord of Norfolk by these Words?
Sirs, come along.

Gard. Kill them, if they come on.
Ser. Lord Cromwell, in King Henry's Name,
I do arrest your Honour of High Treason.
Crom. Serjeant, me of Treason?
[Cromwell's Men offer to draw.

Suf. Kill them, if they draw a Sword.
Crom. Hold, I charge you, as you love me, draw not a Sword.
Who dares accuse Cromwell of Treason now?
Gard. This is no Place to reckon up your Crime,
Your Dove-like Looks were view'd with Serpents Eyes.
The Life and Death of

Crom. With Serpents Eyes indeed, by thine they were,
But, Gardiner, do thy worst, I fear thee not,
My Faith compar'd with thine, as much shall pass,
As doth the Diamond excel the Glass.
Attach'd of Treason, no Accusers by,
Indeed what Tongue dares speak so foul a Lye?
Nor My Lord, my Lord, matters are too well known,
And it is time the King had note thereof.

Crom. The King, let me go to him Face to Face,
No better Trial I desire than that,
Let him but say, that Cromwell's Faith was feign'd,
Then let my Honour and my Name be stain'd;
If e'er my Heart against the King was set,
O let my Soul in Judgment answer it:
Then if my Faith's confirmed with his Reason,
'Gainst whom hath Cromwell then committed Treason?

Suf. My Lord, your Matter shall be tried,
Mean time with patience content your self.

Crom. Perforce I must with Patience be content:
O dear Friend Bedford, dost thou stand so near?
Cromwell rejoyceth, one Friend sheds a Tear.
And whither is't? which way must Cromwell now?

Gard. My Lord, you must unto the Tower:
Lieutenant, take him to your Charge.

Crom. Well, where you please; yet before I part,
Let me confer a little with my Men.

Gard. As you go by Water so you shall.

Crom. I have some Business present to impart.

Nor. You may not stay, Lieutenant, take your Charge.

Crom. Well, well, my Lord, you second Gardiner's Text.

Norfolk, farewell, thy turn will be the next.

[Exit Cromwell and the Lieutenant.

Gard. His guilty Conscience makes him rave, my Lord.

Nor. Ay, let him talk, his time is short enough.

Gard. My Lord of Bedford, come, you weep for him,
That would not shed a Tear for you.

Bed. It grieves me for to see his sudden Fall.

Gard. Such Success with I unto Traitors all, [Exeunt.
Thomas Lord Cromwell.

Enter two Citizens.

1 Cit. Why? can this News be true? is't possible?
The great Lord Cromwell arrested upon High Treason?
I hardly will believe it can be so.

2 Cit. It is too true, Sir, would it were otherwise,
Condition I spent half the Wealth I have;
I was at Lambeth, saw him there arrested,
And afterward committed to the Tower.

1 Cit. What, was't for Treason that he was committed?

2 Cit. Kind Noble Gentleman: I may rue the time;
All that I have, I did enjoy by him,
And if he die, then all my State is gone.

1 Cit. It may be hoped that he shall not dye,
Because the King did favour him so much.

2 Cit. O Sir, you are deceiv'd in thinking so:
The Grace and Favour he had with the King,
Hath caus'd him have so many Enemies:
He that in Court secure will keep himself,
Must not be great, for then he is envied at.
The Shrub is safe, when as the Cedar shakes:
For where the King doth love above compare,
Of others they as much more envied are.

1 Cit. 'Tis pity that this Nobleman should fall,
He did so many charitable Deeds.

2 Cit. 'Tis true, and yet you see in each Estate,
There's none so good, but some one doth him hate,
And they before would smile him in the Face,
Will be the foremost to do him disgrace:
What, will you go along unto the Court?

1 Cit. I care not if I do, and hear the News,
How Men will judge what will become of him.

2 Cit. Some Men will speak hardly, some will speak in pity.

Go you to the Court. I'll go into the City,
There I am sure to hear more News than you.

1 Cit. Why then soon will we meet again. [Exeunt.

Enter
Enter Cromwell in the Tower.

Crom. Now, Cromwell, hast thou time to meditate, And think upon thy state, and of the time: Thy Honours came unsought, ay, and unlock’d for; They fall as sudden, and unlock’d for too: What Glory was in England that had I not? Who in this Land commanded more than Cromwell? Except the King, who greater than my self? But now I see what After-Ages shall, The greater Men, more sudden is their Fall. And now I do remember, the Earl of Bedford Was very desirous for to speak to me: And afterward sent unto me a Letter, The which I think I have still in my Pocket. Now may I read it, for I now have leasure, And this I take it is. [He reads the Letter.

My Lord, come not this Night to Lambeth, For if you do, your State is overthrowen, And much I doubt your Life, and if you come: Then if you love your self, stay where you are.

O God, had I but read this Letter, Then had I been free from the Lion’s Paw: Deferring this to read until to Morrow, I spurn’d at Joy, and did embrace my Sorrow.

Enter the Lieutenant of the Tower and Officers.

Now, Master Lieutenant, when’s this Day of Death? Lieu. Alas, my Lord, would I might never see it: Here are the Dukes of Suffolk and of Norfolk, Winchester, Bedford, and Sir Richard Ratcliff, With others, but why they come I know not.

Crom. No matter wherefore, Cromwell is prepar’d, For Gardiner has my Life and State infrain’d: Bid them come in, or you shall do them wrong, For here stands he, whom some think lives too long.
Thomas Lord Cromwell.

Learning kills Learning, and instead of Ink
To dip his Pen, Cromwell's Heart-blood doth drink.

Enter all the Nobles.

Nor. Good Morrow, Cromwell, what, alone so sad?
Crom. One good among you, none of you are bad:
For my part, it best suits me be alone.
Sadness with me, not I with any one.
What, is the King acquainted with my Cause?
Nor. We have, and he hath answered us, my Lord.
Crom. How shall I come to speak with him my self?
Gard. The King is so advertised of your Guilt,
He will by no means admit you to his Presence.
Crom. No way admit me! am I so soon forgot?
Did he but yesterdaiy embrace my Neck,
And said that Cromwell was even half himself?
And are his Princely Ears so much bewitch'd
With scandalous Ignominy, and fland'rous Speeches,
That now he doth deny to look on me?
Well, my Lord Winchester, no doubt but you
Are much in favour with his Majesty,
Will you bear a Letter from me to his Grace?
Gard. Pardon me, I'll bear no Traitor’s Letters.
Crom. Ha, will you do this kindness then?
Tell him by word of Mouth what I shall say to you.
Gard. That will I.
Crom. But on your Honour will you?
Gard. Ay, on my Honour.
Crom. Bear witness, Lords.
Tell him, when he hath known you,
And try'd your Faith but half so much as mine,
He'll find you to be the falsest-hearted Man.
In England: Pray tell him this.

Bed. Be patient, good my Lord, in these Extremities.
Crom. My kind and honourable Lord of Bedford,
I know your Honour always lov'd me well,
But, pardon me, this still shall be my Theme,
Gardiner's the cause makes Cromwell so extreme:
Sir Ralph Sadler, pray a word with you;

You
You were my Man, and all that you possess
Came by my means, to requite all this,
Will you take this Letter here of me,
And give it with your own Hands to the King.

Sad. I kiss your Hand, and never will I rest,
Ere to the King this be delivered.

[Exit Sadler.

Crom. Why yet Cromwell hath one Friend in store.

Gard. But all the haste he makes shall be but vain;
Here's a discharge for your Prisoner,
To see him executed presently:
My Lord, you hear the tenor of your Life.

Crom. I do embrace it, welcome my last date,
And of this glittering World I take last leave,
And, Noble Lords, I take my leave of you:
As willingly I go to meet with Death,
As Gardiner did pronounce it with his Breath:
From Treason is my Heart as white as Snow,
My Death only procured by my Foe:
I pray commend me to my Sovereign King,
And tell him in what sort his Cromwell dy'd,
To lose his Head before his Cause was try'd;
But let his Grace, when he shall hear my Name,
Say only this, Gardiner procur'd the same.

Enter young Cromwell.

Lieut. Here is your Son come to take his leave.

Crom. To take his leave? Come hither, Harry Cromwell.

Mark, Boy, the last words that I speak to thee;
Flatter not Fortune, neither fawn upon her;
Gape not for State, yet lose no spark of Honour;
Ambition, like the Plague, see thou eschew it.
I die for Treason, Boy, and never knew it;
Yet let thy Faith as spotless be as mine,
And Cromwell's Virtues in thy Face shall shine:
Come, go along and see me leave my Breath,
And I'll leave thee upon the floor of Death.

Son. O Father, I shall die to see that Wound,
Your Blood being Spilt will make my Heart toound.
Thomas Lord Cromwell.

Crom. How, Boy, not look upon the Axe?
How shall I do then to have my Head struck off?
Come on, my Child, and see the end of all,
And after say, that Gardiner was my Fall.

Gard. My Lord, you speak it of an envious Heart,
I have done no more than Law and Equity.

Bed. O, my good Lord of Winchester, forbear;
It would better seemed you to been absent,
Than with your Words disturb a dying Man.

Crom. Who me, my Lord? no: he disturbs not me,
My Mind he stirs not, tho his mighty Shock
Hath brought more Peers Heads down to the Block.
Farewel, my Boy, all Cromwell can bequeath,
My hearty Blessing, so I take my leave.

Hang. I am your Death's Man, pray my Lord forgive me.

Crom. Ev'n with my Soul, why Man thou art my Doctor,
And bring'st me precious Physick for my Soul;
My Lord of Bedford, I desire of you,
Before my Death a corporal Embrace.

[Bedford comes to him, Cromwell embraces him.

Farewel, great Lord, my Love I do commend;
My Heart to you, my Soul to Heav'n I send:
This is my Joy, that ere my Body fleet,
Your honour'd Arms is my true Winding-sheet;
Farewel, dear Bedford, my Peace is made in Heav'n;
Thus falls great Cromwell a poor Ell in length,
To rise to unmeasur'd height, wing'd with new strength.
The Lands of Worms, which dying Men discover,
My Soul is shrin'd with Heaven's Celestial Cover.

[Exeunt Cromwell and the Officers, and others.

Bed. Well, farewel Cromwell, the truest Friend
That ever Bedford shall possess again;
Well, Lords, I fear when this Man is dead,
You'll wish in vain that Cromwell had a Head.

Enter one with Cromwell's Head.

Offic. Here is the Head of the deceased Cromwell.

Bed.
Bed. Pray thee go hence, and bear his Head away, Unto his Body, inter them both in Clay.

Enter Sir Ralph Sadler.

Sad. How now, my Lords, what is Lord Cromwell dead ?
Bed. Lord Cromwell's Body now doth want a Head.
Sad. O God, a little speed had sav'd his Life,
Here is a kind Reprieve come from the King,
To bring him straight unto his Majesty.

Suf. Ay, ay, Sir Ralph, Reprievices come now too late.
Gard. My Conscience now tells me this Deed was ill;
Would Christ that Cromwell were alive again.

Nor. Come let us to the King, whom well I know,
Will grieve for Cromwell, that his Death was so.

[Exeunt omnes.]
THE HISTORY OF
Sir John Oldcastle,
THE GOOD
LORD COBHAM.

Printed in the YEAR MDCCXXVIII.
THE

PROLOGUE.

THE doubtful Title, Gentlemen, prefixt
Upon the Argument we have in Hand,
May breed suspense, and wrongfully disturb
The peaceful Quiet of your settled Thoughts:
To stop which Scruple, let this brief suffice,
It is no pamper'd Glutton we present,
Nor aged Counsellor to youthful Sin;
But one, whose Virtue shone above the rest,
A valiant Martyr, and a virtuous Peer;
In whose true Faith and Loyalty express
Unto his Sovereign, and his Country's weal,
We strive to pay that Tribute of our Love
Your Favours merit; let fair Truth be gra'td,
Since forg'd Invention former Time defac'd.

Dramatis
Dramatis Personæ.

King Henry the Fifth.
Sir John Oldcastle, Lord Cobham.
Harpool Servant to the Lord Cobham.
Lord Herbert with Gough his Man.
Lord Powis, with Owen, and Davy, his Men.
The Mayor of Hereford, and Sheriff of Herefordshire,
with Bailiffs and Servants.

Two Judges of Assize.
The Bishop of Rochester, and Clun his Sumner.
Sir John the Parson of Wrotham, and Doll his Concubine.
The Duke of Suffolk.
The Earl of Huntington.
The Earl of Cambridge.
Lord Scroop.
Lord Grey.
Chartres the French Agent.
Sir Roger Afton.
Sir Richard Lee.
Mather Bourn.
Mather Beverly.
Murley the Brewer of Dunstable.
Mather Butler, Gentleman of the Privy-Chamber.
Lady Cobham.
Lady Powis.
Cromer, Sheriff of Kent.
Lord Warden of the Cinque-Ports.
Lieutenant of the Tower.
The Mayor, Constable, and Gaoler of St. Albans.
A Kentish Constable and an Ale-man.
Soldiers and old Men begging.
Dick and Tom, Servants to Murley.
An Irishman.

An Host, Hostler, a Carrier and Kate.

THE
THE
HISTORY
OF
Sir John Oldcastle.

ACT I. SCENE I.

Enter Sheriff, Lord Herbert, Lord Powis, Owen, Bailiff, Gough, and Davy.

SHERIFF.

Y Lords, I charge ye in his Highness' Name to keep the Peace, you and your Followers.

Her. Good Master Sheriff, look unto your self.

Pow. Do so, for we have other Business.

[Proffer to fight again. Sher. Will ye disturb the Judges, and the Assize?
Hear the King's Proclamation, ye were best.
Pow. Hold then let's hear it.

Her.
The History of

Her. But be brief, ye were best.
Bail. O yes.
Davy. Gossone, make shorter O, or shall mar your
Bail. O yes.
Owen. What, has her nothing to say, but O yes?
Bail. O yes.
Davy. O nay, vy Cos Plut, down with her, down
with her. A Powis, a Powis.
Gough. A Herbert, a Herbert, and down with Powis,
[Helter skelter again.
Sher. Hold in the King's Name, hold.
Owen. Down with a Knave's Name, down.
[In the fight the Bailiff is knock'd down, and the
Sheriff and the others run away.
Her. Powis, I think thy Welsh and thou do smart.
Pow. Herbert, I think my Sword came near thy Heart.
Her. Thy Heart's best Blood shall pay the loss of mine.
Gough. A Herbert, a Herbert.
Davy. A Powis, a Powis.

As they are fighting, Enter the Mayor of Hereford, his
Officers and Townsmen with Clubs.

May. My Lords, as you are Liegemen to the Crown,
True Noblemen, and Subjects to the King,
Attend his Highness' Proclamation,
Commanded by the Judges of Assize,
For keeping Peace at this Assembly.
Her. Good Master Mayor of Hereford, be brief.
May. Serjeant, without the Ceremonies of O yes,
Pronounce aloud the Proclamation.
Ser. The King's Justices perceiving what publick Mil-
chief may ensue this private Quarrel; in his Majesty's
Name, do straitly charge and command all Persons, of
what Degree soever, to depart this City of Hereford,
except such as are bound to give attendance at this
Assize, and that no Man presume to wear any Weapon,
especially Welsh-Hooks, Foreft-Bills.
Owen. Haw? No Pilk nor Wells-Hoo[g? ha?
May. Peace, and hear the Proclamation.
Ser.
Sir John Oldcastle.

Ser. And that the Lord Powis do presently disperse and discharge his Retinue, and depart the City in the King's Peace, he and his Followers, on pain of Imprisonment.


Gough. A Herbert, a Herbert.

In this fight the Lord Herbert is wounded, and falls to the Ground, the Mayor and his Company cry for Clubs: Powis runs away, Gough and Herbert's Faction are busy about him. Enter the two Judges, the Sheriff and his Bailiffs afore them, &c.

1 Judge. Where's the Lord Herbert? Is he hurt or slain?

Sher. He's here, my Lord.

2 Judge. How fares his Lordship, Friends?

Gough. Mortally wounded, speechless, he cannot live.

1 Judge. Convey him hence, let not his Wounds take Air,

And get him drest with Expedition.

[Exit L. Herbert and Gough.

Master Mayor of Hereford, Master Sheriff o'th'Shire,
Commit Lord Powis to safe Custody,
To answer the disturbance of the Peace,
Lord Herbert's Peril, and his high contempt
Of us; and you the King's Commissioners,
See it be done with Care and Diligence.

Sher. Please it your Lordship, my Lord Powis is gone past all recovery.

2 Judge. Yet let search be made,
To apprehend his Followers that are left.

Sher. There are some of them: Sirs, lay hold of them.

Owen. Of us? and why? what has her done, I pray you?

Sher. Disarm them, Bailiffs.

May. Officers assist.

Davy. Hear you, Lord Shudge, what reason for this?

Owen.
Owen. Cossoon, pe puse for fighting for our Lord?
1 Judge. Away with them.
Davy. Harg you, my Lord.
Owen. Gough my Lord Herbert's Man's a shitten Kanave.
Davy. Ice live and tye in good Quarrel.
Owen. Pray you do shustice, let awl be Prision.
Davy. Prision, no,
Lord Shudge, I wool give you Pale, good Surety.
2 Judge. What Bail? what Sureties?
Davy. Her Cozen ap Rice, ap Evan, ap Morice, ap Morgan, ap Lluellyn, ap Mador, ap Meredith, ap Griffin, ap Davy, ap Owen, ap Shinken Shones.
2 Judge. Two of the most sufficient are enow
Sher. And't please your Lordship these are all but one.
1 Judge. To Goal with them and the Lord Herbert's Men.
[Exeunt.

We'll talk with them, when the Affize is done.
Riotous, audacious, and unruly Grooms,
Mull we be forced to come from the Bench,
To quiet Brawls, which every Constable
In other civil Places can supprefs?

2 Judge. What was the quarrel that caus'd all this Stir?
Sher. About Religion, as I have heard, my Lord.
Lord Powis's detracted from the Power of Rome,
Affirming Wickliff's Doctrine to be true,
And Rome's erroneous: Hot Reply was made
By the Lord Herbert, they were Traitors all
That would maintain it. Powis answer'd,
They were as true, as noble, and as wife
As he, that would defend it with their Lives.
He nam'd for instance Sir John Oldcastle
The Lord Cobham: Herbert reply'd again,
He, thou and all are Traitors that so hold.
The Lie was giv'n, the several Factions drawn,
And so enrag'd, that we could not appease it.

1 Judge. This case concerns the King's Prerogative,
And 'tis dangerous to the State and Commonwealth.
Gentlemen, Justices, Master Mayor, and Master Sheriff,
It doth behove us all, and each of us
Sir John Oldcastle.

In general and particular, to have care,
For the suppressing of all Mutinies,
And all Assemblies, except Soldiers Musters,
For the King's Preparation into France.
We hear of secret Conventicles made,
And there is no doubt of some Conspiracies,
Which may break out into rebellious Arms
When the King's gone, perchance before he go:
Note as an instance, this one perillous Fray,
What Factions might have grown on either part,
To the destruction of the King and Realm:
Yet, in my Conscience, Sir John Oldcastle's
Innocent of it, only his Name was us'd.
We therefore from his Highness give this Charge:
You Master Mayor, look to your Citizens,
You Master Sheriff, unto your Shire, and you
As Justices in every one's Precinct,
There be no Meetings; when the vulgar Sort
Sit on their Ale-Bench, with their Cups and Cans,
Matters of State be not their common talk,
Nor pure Religion by their Lips prophan'd.
And there examine further of this Fray.

Enter a Bailiff and a Serjeant.

Sher. Sirs, have ye taken the Lord Powis yet?
Bail. No, nor heard of him.
Ser. No, he's gone far enough.
2 Judge. They that are left behind, shall answer all.

Enter the Duke of Suffolk, Bishop of Rochester, Master Butler, Sir John the Parson of Wrotham.

Suff. Now, my Lord Bishop, take free Liberty
To speak your Mind; what is your Suit to us?
Roch. My noble Lord, no more than what you know,
And have been oftentimes invested with:
Grievous Complaints have past between the Lips
Of envious Persons to upbraid the Clergy,

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Some carping at the Livings which we have;
And others spurning at the Ceremonies
That are of ancient Custom in the Church.
Amongst the which, Lord Cobham is a Chief:
What Inconvenience may proceed hereof,
Both to the King, and to the Commonwealth,
May easily be discern'd, when like a frenzy
This Innovation shall possess their Minds.
These Upstarts will have Followers to uphold
Their damn'd Opinion, more than Harry shall
To undergo his quarrel 'gainst the French.

Suff. What proof is there against them to be had,
That what you say the Law may justify?

Roch. They give themselves the Name of Protestants,
And meet in Fields and Solitary Groves.

S. John. Was ever heard, my Lord, the like till now?
That Thieves and Rebels, 'sblood Hereticks,
Plain Hereticks, I'll stand to't to their Teeth,
Should have, to colour their vile Practices,
A Title of such worth, as Protestant?

Enter one with a Letter.

Suff. O but you must not swear, it ill becomes
One of your Coat, to rap out bloody Oaths,

Roch. Pardon him, good my Lord, it is his Zeal.
An honest Country Prelate, who laments
To see such foul disorder in the Church.

S. John. There's one they call him Sir John Oldcastle.
He has not his Name for nought: For like a Castle
Doth he encompass them within his Walls.
But till that Castle be subverted quite,
We ne'er shall be at quiet in the Realm.

Roch. This is our Suit, my Lord, that he be ta'en
And brought in question for his Heresy:
Beside, two Letters brought me out of Wales,
Wherein my Lord of Hartford writes to me,
What tumult and sedition was begun,
About the Lord Cobham, at the Sizes there,
Sir John Oldcastle.

For they had much ado to calm the Rage,
And that the valiant Herbert is there slain.

Suff. A Fire that must be quench'd. Well say no more.
The King anon goes to the Council Chamber,
There to debate of Matters touching France,
As he doth pass by, I'll inform his Grace
Concerning your Petition. Master Butler,
If I forget, do you remember me.

But. I will, my Lord.

Roch. Not as a Recompence,
But as a Token of our Love to you, [Offers him a Purse:
By me, my Lords, the Clergy doth present
This Purse, and in it full a thousand Angels,
Praying your Lordship to accept their Gift.

Suff. I thank them, my Lord Bishop, for their love,
But will not take their Money; if you please
To give it to this Gentleman, you may.

Roch. Sir, then we crave your furtherance herein.

But. The best I can, my Lord of Rochester.

Roch. Nay, pray take it, trust me you shall.

S. John. Were ye all three upon New Market Heath
You should not need Strain court'ly who should ha't,
Sir John would quickly rid ye of that care.

Suff. The King is coming: Fear ye not, my Lord,
The very first thing I will break with him
Shall be about your matter.

Enter the King, and Earl of Huntington in talk.

King. My Lord of Suffolk,
Was it not said the Clergy did refuse
To lend us Money toward our Wars in France?

Suff. It was my Lord, but very wrongfully.

King. I know it was: For Huntington here tells me
They have been very bountiful of late.

Suff. And still they vow, my gracious Lord, to be so,
Hoping your Majesty will think on them.
As of your loving Subjects, and suppress
All such malicious Errors as begin
To spot their Calling, and disturb the Church.

I z

King.
The History of

King. God else forbid: why, Suffolk,
Is there any new Rupture to disquiet them?
Suff. No new, my Lord, the old is great enough,
And to increasing, as if not cut down,
Will breed a scandal to your Royal State,
And set your Kingdom quickly in an uproar.
The Kentish Knight, Lord Cobham, in despight
Of any Law or spiritual Discipline,
Maintains this upstart new Religion still,
And divers great Assemblies by his means
And private Quarrels are commenc'd abroad,
As by this Letter more at large, my Liege, is made apparent.

King. We do find it here,
There was in Wales a certain Fray of late
Between two Noblemen. But what of this?
Follows it straight Lord Cobham must be he
Did cause the same? I dare be sworn, good Knight,
He never dream'd of any such contention.

Roch. But in his Name the quarrel did begin,
About the Opinion which he held, my Liege.

King. What if it did? was either he in place
To take part with them? or abet them in it?
If brabling Fellows, whose enkindled Blood
Seeths in their fiery Veins, will needs go fight,
Making their Quarrels of some Words that past
Either of you, or you, amongst their Cups,
Is the Fault yours? or are they guilty of it?

Suff. With pardon of your Highness, my dread Lord,
Such little Sparks of your Highness, my dread Lord,
Grow to a mighty Flame. But that's not all,
He doth beside maintain a strange Religion,
And will not be compell'd to come to Mass.

Roch. We do beseech you therefore, gracious Prince,
Without Offence unto your Majesty,
We may be bold to use Authority.

King. As how?

Roch. To summon him unto the Arches,
Where such Offences have their Punishment:

King. To answer personally, is that your meaning?
Sir John Oldcastle.

Roch. It is, my Lord.

King. How if he appeal?

Roch. My Lord, he cannot in such a Cafe as this,

Suff. Not where Religion is the Plea, my Lord.

King. I took it always, that our self stood on't

As a sufficient Refuge: Unto whom

Not any but might lawfully appeal.
But we'll not argue now upon that Point.

For Sir John Oldcastle, whom you accuse,

Let me intreat you to dispense a while

With your high Title of Preheminence. [In scorn.

Report did never yet condemn him so,

But he hath always been reputed loyal:

And in my Knowledge I can say thus much,

That he is virtuous, wise, and honourable.

If any way his Conscience be seduc'd.

To waver in his Faith, I'll send for him,

And school him privately: If that serve not,

Then afterwards you may proceed against him.

Butler, be you the Messenger for us,

And will him presently repair to Court. [Exit.

S. John. How now my Lord? why stand you discontent?

Insooth, methinks, the King hath well decreed.

Roch. Ay, ay, Sir John, if he would keep his word:

But I perceive he favours him so much

As this will be to small Effect, I fear.

S. John. Why then I'll tell you what you're best to do:

If you suspect the King will be but cold

In reprehending him, send you a Process too

To serve upon him, so you may be sure

To make him answer't, howsoever it fall.

Roch. And well remembred, I will have it so,

A Summer shall be sent about it straight. [Exit.

S. John. Yea, do so. In the mean space this remains

For kind Sir John of Wrotham, honest Jack:

Methinks the Purse of Gold the Bishop gave

Made a good shew, it had a tempting Look:

Bethrew me, but my Fingers ends do itch

To be upon those golden Ruddocks. Well 'tis thus;
I am not as the World doth take me for:
If ever Wolf were cloathed in Sheep's Coat,
Then I am he; old huddle and twang i'faith:
A Priest in shew, but, in plain Terms, a Thief:
Yet let me tell you too, an honest Thief,
One that will take it where it may be spar'd,
And spend it freely in good Fellowship.
I have as many Shapes as Proteus had,
That still when any Villany is done,
There may none suspect it was Sir John.
Besides, to comfort me, (for what's this Life,
Except the crabbed Bitterness thereof
Be sweetned now and then with Letchery?)
I have my Doll, my Concubine as 'twere,
To frolick with, a lusty bouncing Girl.
But whilst I loiter here, the Gold may scape,
And that must not be so: It is mine own,
Therefore I'll meet him on his way to Court,
And thrive him of it, there will be the Sport.  

Enter four poor People, some Soldiers, some old Men.

1. God help, God help, there's Law for punishing,
But there's no Law for Necessity:
There be more Stocks to set poor Soldiers in,
Than there be Houses to relieve them at.

Old Man. Ay, House-keeping decays in every place,
Even as St. Peter writ, still worse and worse.

2. Master Mayor of Rochester has given command,
That none shall go abroad out of the Parish, and has
set down an Order forsooth, what every poor Housoer
must give for our Relief; where there be some self-
fed, I may say to you, had almost as much need to beg
as we.

1. It is a hard World the while.

Old Man. If a poor Man ask at the Door for God's
fake, they ask him for a Licence or a Certificate from a
Justice.

2. Faith we have none but what we bear upon our
Bodies, our maim'd Limbs. God help us.
4. And yet as lame as I am, I'll with the King into France, if I can but crawl a Ship-board, I had rather be slain in France, than starve in England.

Old Man. Ha, were I but as lusty as I was at Shrewsbury Battel, I would not do as I do; but we are now come to the good Lord Cobham's House, the best Man to the Poor in all Kent.
4. God bless him, there be but few such.

Enter Cobham with Harpool.

Cob. Thou peevish sroward Man, what wouldst thou have?

Har. This Pride, this Pride, brings all to beggary, I serv'd your Father, and your Grandfather, Shew me such two Men now: No, no, Your Backs, your Backs; the Devil and Pride Has cut the Throat of all good House-keeping, They were the best Yeomens Masters that Ever were in England.

Cob. Yea, except thou have a crew of filthy Knaves And sturdy Rogues still feeding at my Gate, There is no Hospitality with thee.

Har. They may sit at the Gate well enough, but the Devil of any thing you give them, except they'll eat Stones.

Cob. 'Tis long then of such hungry Knaves as you: Yea, Sir, here's your Retinue, your Guests be come, They know their hours, I warrant you.

Old Man. God bless your Honour, God save the good Lord Cobham, and all his House.

Sold. Good your Honour, bestow your blessed Alms upon poor Men.

Cob. Now, Sir, here be your Alms Knights: Now are you as safe as the Emperor.

Har. My Alms Knights? Nay, they're yours: It is a shame for you, and I'll stand to it, Your foolish Alms maintains more Vagabonds Than all the Noblemen in Kent beside.

Out you Rogues, you Knaves, work for your Livings.
Alas, poor Men, they may beg their Hearts out,
There's no more Charity among Men
Than amongst so many Maffive Dogs.
What make you here, you needy Knaves?
Away, away, you Villains.

2 Sold. I beseech you, Sir, be good.

Cob. Nay, nay, they know thee well enough, I think that all the Beggars in this Land are thy Acquaintance; go bestow your Alms, none will control you, Sir.

Har. What should I give them? you are grown so beggarly, that you can scarce give a bit of Bread at your Door: you talk of your Religion so long, that you have banished Charity from you: a Man may make a Flaxshop in your Kitchen Chimneys, for any Fire there is stirring.

Cob. If thou wilt give them nothing, send them hence: Let them not stand here starving in the Cold.

Har. Who, I drive them hence? If I drive poor Men from the Door, I'll be hang'd: I know not what I may come to myself: God help ye poor Knaves, ye see the World. Well, you had a Mother: O God be with thee good Lady, thy Soul's at rest: She gave more in Shirts and Smocks to poor Children, than you spend in your House, and yet you live a Beggar too.

Cob. Ev'n the worst deed that ever my Mother did, Was relieving such a Fool as thou.

Har. Ay, I am a Fool still: with all your Wit you'll die a Beggar, go to.

Cob. Go, you old Fool, give the poor People something: Go in, poor Men, into the inner Court, and take such Alms as there is to be had.

Sold. God bless your Honour.

Har. Hang you, Rogues, hang you, there's nothing but Misery amongst you, you fear no Law, you. [Exit.

Old Man. God bless you, good Master Ralph, God save your Life, you are good to the Poor still.

[Exeunt.}

Enter
Sir John Oldcastle.

Enter the Lord Powis disguis'd.

Cob. What Fellow's yonder comes along the Grove?
Few Passengers there be that know this way:
Methinks he stops as tho he staid for me,
And meant to shroud himself among the Bushes.
I know the Clergy hates me to the Death,
And my Religion gets me many Foes:
And this may be some desperate Rogue
Suborn'd to work me Mischief: as pleaseth God.
If he come toward me, 'tis sure I'll stay his coming,
Be he but one Man, whatsoever he be.

[Lord Powis comes on.]

I have been well acquainted with that Face.

Pow. Well met, my honourable Lord and Friend.

Cob. You are welcome, Sir, what'er you be;
But of this sudden, Sir, I do not know you.

Pow. I am one that wisheth well unto your Honour.
My Name is Powis, an'old Friend of yours.

Cob. My honourable Lord, and worthy Friend,
What makes your Lordship thus alone in Kent?
And thus disguised in this strange Attire?

Pow. My Lord, an unexpected Accident
Hath at this time enforce'd me to these Parts,
And thus it hap'd: Not yet full five Days since,
Now at the last Assize at Hereford,
It chanc'd that the Lord Herbert and myself,
'Mongst other things discoursing at the Table,
To fall in Speech about some certain Points
Of Wickliff's Doctrine against the Papacy,
And the Religion Catholick maintaine'd
Thro' the most part of Europe at this Day:
The wilful testy Lord stuck not to say,
That Wickliff was a Knave, a Schismatick,
His Doctrine devilish and heretical:
And whatsoever he was maintaine'd the same,
Was Traitor both to God, and to his Country.
Being moved at this peremptory Speech,
I told him, some maintaine'd those Opinion,
The History of
Men, and truer Subjects than Lord Herbert was:
And he replying in Comparisons,
Your Name was urg'd, my Lord, against this Chal-
lenge,
To be a perfect Favourer of the Truth.
And to be short, from words we fell to blows,
Our Servants and our Tenants taking parts,
Many on both sides hurt: and for an Hour
The Broil by no means could be pacified,
Until the Judges rising from the Bench,
Were in their Persons forc'd to part the Fray.
Cob. I hope no Man was violently flain.
Pow. Faith none I trust, but the Lord Herbert's self,
Who is in truth so dangerously hurt,
As it is doubted he can hardly 'scape.
Cob. I am sorry, my good Lord, of these ill News.
Pow. This is the cause that drives me into Kent,
To shroud my self with you so good a Friend,
Until I hear how things do speed at home.
Cob. Your Lordship is most welcome unto Cobham:
But I am very sorry, my good Lord,
My Name was brought in question in this Matter,
Considering I have many Enemies,
Th: threaten Malice, and do lie in wait
To take the vantage of the smallest thing.
But you are welcome, and repose your Lordship,
And keep your self here secret in my House,
Until we hear how the Lord Herbert speeds.

Enter Harpool.

Here comes my Man: Sirrah, what News?
Har. Yonder's one Mr. Builer of the Privy Chamber,
Is sent unto you from the King.
Pow. Pray God the Lord Herbert be not dead, and the
King hearing whither I am gone, hath sent for me.
Cob. Comfort your self, my Lord, I warrant you.
Har. Fellow, what ails thee? dost thou quake? dost
thou shaké? dost thou tremble? ha?
Sir John Oldcastle.

Cob. Peace, you old Fool: Sirrah, convey this Gentleman in the back way, and bring the other into the Walk.

Har. Come Sir, you're welcome, if you love my Lord.


Cob. I thought as much, that it would not be long, before I heard of something from the King.

About this matter.

Enter Harpool, with Master Butler.

Har. Sir, yonder my Lord walks, you see him? Ill have your Men into the Cellar the while.

Cob. Welcome, good Master Butler.

But. Thanks, my good Lord: his Majesty doth commend his Love unto your Lordship, and wills you to repair unto the Court.

Cob. God bless his Highness, and confound his Enemies, I hope his Majesty is well?

But. In good Health, my Lord.

Cob. God long continue it: methinks you look as tho you were not well, what ails ye, Sir?

But. Faith I have had a foolish odd mischance, that angers me: coming over Shooter's Hill, there came one to me like a Sailor, and askt me Mony; and whilst I staid my Horse to draw my Purse, he takes the advantage of a little Bank, and leaps behind me, whips my Purse away, and with a sudden jerk, I know not how, threw me at least three Yards out of my Saddle, I never was so rob'd in all my Life.

Cob. I am very sorry, Sir, for your mischance; we will send our Warrant forth, to stay such Suspicious Persons as shall be found; then Mr. Butler we'll attend you.

But. I humbly thank your Lordship, I will attend you.

Enter the Summoner.

Sum. I have the Law to warrant what I do, and tho' the Lord Cobham be a Nobleman, that dispenses not with Law, I dare serve a Process were he five Noblemen.
men; tho we Sumners make sometimes a mad flip in a corner with a pretty Wench, a Sumner must not go always by seeing: a Man may be content to hide his Eyes where he may feel his Profit. Well, this is Lord Cobham's House, if I cannot speak with him, I'll clap my Citation upon's Door, so my Lord of Rochester bad mé; but methinks here comes one of his Men.

Har. Welcome Good-fellow, welcome, who would'rt thou speak with?

Sum. With my Lord Cobham I would speak, if thou be one of his Men.

Har. Yes, I am one of his Men, but thou canst not speak with my Lord.

Sum. May I send to him then?

Har. I'll tell thee that, when I know thy Errand.

Sum. I will not tell my Errand to thee.

Har. Then keep it to thy self, and walk like a Knave as thou can't.

Sum. I tell thee, my Lord keeps no Knaves, Sirrah.

Har. Then thou servest him not, I believe. What Lord is thy Master?

Sum. My Lord of Rochester.

Har. In good time: and what wouldst thou have with my Lord Cobham?

Sum. I come by vertue of a Proces, to cite him to appear before my Lord in the Court at Rochester.

Har. [aside.] Well, God grant me Patience, I could eat this Counger. My Lord is not at home, therefore it were good, Sumner, you carried your Proces back.

Sum. Why if he will not be spoken withal, then will I leave it here, and see that he take knowledge of it.

Har. 'Zounds, you Slave, do you set up your Bills here? go to, take it down again. Dost thou know what thou dost? Dost thou know on whom thou servest a Proces?

Sum. Yes, marry do I, on Sir John Oldcastle, Lord Cobham.

Har. I am glad thou knowest him yet: and Sirrah, dost not know that the Lord Cobham is a brave Lord, that keeps good Beef and Beer in his House, and every
Day feeds a hundred poor People at's Gate, and keeps a hundred tall Fellows?

Sum. What's that to my Process?
Har. Marry this, Sir, is this Process Parchment?
Sum. Yes marry is it.
Har. And this Seal Wax?
Sum. It is so.
Har. If this be Parchment, and this Wax, eat you this Parchment and this Wax, or I will make Parchment of your Skin, and beat your Brains into Wax. Sirrah, Sumner, dispatch, devour, Sirrah, devour.
Sum: I am my Lord of Rochester's Sumner, I came to do my Office, and thou shalt answer it.
Har. Sirrah, no railing; but betake your self to your Teeth, thou shalt eat no worse than thou bring'ft with thee: thou bring'ft it for my Lord, and wilt thou bring my Lord worse than thou wilt eat thy self?
Sum. Sir, I brought it not my Lord to eat.
Har. O, do you Sir me now; all's one for that, I'll make you eat it, for bringing it.
Sum. I cannot eat it.
Har. Can you not? 'sblood I'll beat you till you have a Stomach.
[Beats him.
Sum. O hold, hold, good Mr. Servingman, I will eat it.
Har. Be champing, be chawing, Sir, or I'll chaw you, you Rogue, the purest of the Honey.
Sum. Tough Wax is the purest Honey.
Har. O Lord, Sir, oh, oh.
Feed, feed, 'tis wholesome, Rogue, wholesome.
Cannot you, like an honest Sumner, walk with the Devil your Brother, to fetch in your Bailiff's Rents; but you must come to a Nobleman's House with Process? If thy Seal was as broad as the Lead that covers Rochester Church, thou should'ft eat it.
Sum. O I am almost choak'd, I am almost choak'd.
Har. Who's within there? will you shame my Lord? is there no Beer in the House? Butler, I say.
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Enter Butler.

But. Here, here.
Har. Give him Beer. [He Drink.
There: tough old Sheepskins, bare dry Meat.
Sum. O, Sir, let me go no farther, I'll eat my word.
Har. Yea marry, Sir, I mean you shall more than
your own word, for I'll make you eat all the Words in
the Process. Why you Drab-monger, cannot the Se-
crets of all the Wenches in a Shire serve your turn, but
you must come hither with a Citation with the Fox?
I'll cite you.

A Cup of Sack for the Summer.
But. Here, Sir, here.
Har. Here, Slave, I drink to thee.
Sum. I thank you, Sir.
Har. Now if thou find'st thy Stomach well, because
thou shalt see my Lord keeps Meat in's House, if thou
wilt go in thou shalt have a piece of Beef to thy Break-
fast.
Sum. No, I am very well, good Master Servingman.
I thank you, very well, Sir.
Har. I am glad on't, then be walking towards Ro-
chester to keep your Stomach warm. And Summer, if
I do know you disturb a good Wench within this Dio-
cess, if I do not make thee eat her Petticoat, if there
were four Yards of Kentish Cloth in't, I am a Villain.
Sum. God be w'ye, Master Servingman. [Exit.
Har. Farewel, Summer.

Enter Constable.

Con. Save you, Master Harpool.
Har. Welcome, Constable, welcome Constable, what
News with thee?
Con. An't please you, Master Harpool, I am to make
Hue and Cry for a Fellow with one Eye, that has
rob'd two Clothiers, and am to crave your hindrance to
search all suspected Places; and they say there was a
Woman in the Company.
Sir John Oldcastle.

Har. Haft thou been at the Ale-house? Haft thou sought there?

Con. I durst not search in my Lord Cobham's Liberty, except I had some of his Servants for my Warrant.

Har. An honest Constable, call forth him that keeps the Ale-house there.

Con. Ho, who's within there?

Ale-man. Who calls there? Oh, is't you, Mr. Constable, and Mr. Harpool? you're welcome with all my Heart, what make you here so early this Morning?

Har. Sirrah, what Strangers do you lodge? there is a Robbery done this Morning, and we are to search for all suspected Persons.

Ale-man. Gods-bores, I am sorry for't. I'faith, Sir, I lodge no body, but a good honest Priest, call'd Sir John a Wrotham, and a handsom Woman that is his Neice, that he says he has some Suit in Law for, and as they go up and down to London, sometimes they lie at my House.

Har. What, is she here in thy House now?

Ale-man. She is, Sir: I promise you, Sir, he is a quiet Man, and because he will not trouble too many Rooms, he makes the Woman lie every Night at his Bed's feet.

Har. Bring her forth, Constable, bring her forth, let's see her, let's see her.

Ale-man. Dorothy, you must come down to Master Constable.

Doll. A-non forsooth. [She enters.

Har. Welcome, sweet Lass, welcome.

Doll. I thank you good Sir, and Master Constable also.

Har. A plump Girl by the Masts, a plump Girl; ha, Doll, ha. Wilt thou forfake the Priest, and go with me, Doll?

Con. Ah! well said, Master Harpool, you are a merry old Man i'faith; you will never be old now by the Mack, a pretty Wench indeed.
The History of

Har. Ye old mad merry Constable, art thou advis'd of that? Ha, well said Doll, fill some Ale here.

Doll. aside. Oh! if I wist this old Priest would not stick to me, by Jove I would jingle this old Serving-man.

Har. Oh! you old mad Colt, i'faith I'll ferk you: fill all the Pots in the House there.

Con. Oh! well said Master Harpool, you are a Heart of Oak when all's done.

Har. Ha Doll, thou hast a sweet pair of Lips by the Masts.

Doll. Truly you are a sweet old Man, as ever I saw; by my Troth, you have a Face able to make any Woman in Love with you.

Har. Fill, sweet Doll, I'll drink to thee.

Doll. I pledge you Sir, and thank you therefore, and I pray you let it come.

Har. [Embracing her.] Doll, canst thou love me? a mad merry Lass, would to God I had never seen thee.

Doll. I warrant you, you will not out of my Thoughts this Twelvemonth, truly you are as full of Favour, as any Man may be. Ah these sweet Gray Locks, by my Troth they are most lovely.

Con. Cuds bores, Master Harpool, I'll have one Buss too.

Har. No licking for you, Constable, hand off, hand off.

Con. Belady I love Kissing as well as you.

Doll. Oh, you are an odd Boy, you have a wanton Eye of your own: ah you sweet Sugar-lipt Wanton, you will win as many Womens Hearts as come in your Company.

Enter Priest.

Priest. Doll, come hither.

Har. Priest, she shall not.

Doll. I'll come anon, sweet Love.

Priest.
Sir John Oldcastle.

Priest. Hand off, old Fornicator.
Har. Vicar, I'll sit here in sight of thee, is this stuff for a Priest to carry up and down with him?
Priest. Sirrah, dost thou not know that a good Fellow Parson may have a Chappel of Ease, where his Parish Church is far off?
Har. You Whorson's old Vicar.
Priest. You old Russian, you Lion of Cotsol.
Har. 'Zounds, Vicar, I'll geld you. [Flies upon him.
Con. Keep the King's Peace.
Doll. Murder, murder, murder!
Ale-man. Hold, as you are Men, hold; for God's fake be quiet: put up your Weapons, you draw not in my House.
Har. You Whorson Bawdy Priest.
Priest. You old Mutton-monger.
Con. Hold, Sir John, hold.
Doll. I pray thee, sweet Heart, be quiet, I was but sitting to drink a Pot of Ale with him, even as kind a Man as ever I met with.
Har. Thou art a Thief, I warrant thee.
Priest. Then I am but as thou hast been in thy Days, let's not be ashamed of our Trade, the King hath been a Thief himself.
Doll. Come, be quiet, hast thou sped?
Priest. I have, Wenche, here be Crowns 'faith.
Doll. Come, let's be all Friends then.
Con. Well said, Mistress Dorothy.
Har. Thou art the maddest Priest that ever I met with.
Priest. Give me thy Hand, thou art as good a Fellow: I am a Singer, a Drinker, a Bencher, a Wencher; I can say a Mass, and kiss a Lass: Faith I have a Pension, and because I would not be at too much Charges, this Wenche serveth me for a Sexton.
Har. Well said, mad Priest, we'll in and be Friends.
[Exeunt.
Enter Sir Roger Acton, Master Bourn, Master Beverley, and William Murley the Brewer of Dunstable.

Act. Now Master Murley, I am well assure'd
You know our Errand, and do like the Cause,
Being a Man affected as we are.

Mur. Marry God dild ye dainty my dear: No Master, good Sir Roger Acton, Master Bourn, and Master Beverley, Gentlemen and Justices of the Peace, no Master, I, but plain William Murley the Brewer of Dunstable, your honest Neighbour and your Friend, if ye be Men of my Profession.

Bew. Professed Friends to Wickliff; Foes to Rome.

Mur. Hold by me, Lad, lean upon that Staff, good Master Beverley, all of a House, say your Mind, say your Mind.

Act. You know our Faction now is grown so great
Throughout the Realm, that it begins to smock
Into the Clergies Eyes, and the King's Ears;
High time it is that we were drawn to head,
Our General and Officers appointed.
And Wars ye wot, will ask great store of Coin,
Able to strength our Action with your Purse,
You are Elected for a Colonel
Over a Regiment of fifteen Bands.

Mur. Foe, Paltry, paltry, in and out, to and fro,
be it more or less upon occasion, Lord have Mercy upon us; what a World is this! Sir Roger Acton, I am but a Dunstable Man, a plain Brewer, ye know: Will Justy Cavaliering Captains (Gentlemen) come at my Calling, go at my bidding? dainty my Dear, they'll do a Dog of Wax, a Horse of Cheese, a Prick and a Pudding; no, no, ye must appoint some Lord or Knight at least, to that place.

Bour. Why, Master Murley, you shall be a Knight:
Were you not in Election to be Sheriff?
Have ye not pass'd all Offices but that?
Have ye not Wealth to make your Wife a Lady?
I warrant you, my Lord, our General

Beflows
Sir John Oldcastle.

Bestows that Honour on you, at first sight.

Mrs. Marry God dild ye dainty my Dear:
But tell me, who shall be our General.

Where's the Lord Cobham, Sir John Oldcastle,
That noble Alms-giver, House-keeper, virtuous,
Religious Gentleman? Come to me there, Boys,
Come to me there.

Att. Why, who but he shall be our General?

Mrs. And shall he Knight me, and make me Colonel?

Att. My word for that, Sir William Murley Knight.

Mrs. Fellow, Sir Roger Attlestone Knight, all Fellows I
mean in Arms, how strong are we? how many Part-
ners? Our Enemies beside the King are mighty, be it
more or less upon occasion, reckon our Force.

Att. There are of us, our Friends, and Followers,
Three thousand and three hundred, at the least:
Of Northern Lads four thousand, beside Horse:
From Kent there comes with Sir John Oldcastle
Seven thousand; then from London issue out,
Of Masters, Servants, Strangers, Prentices,
Forty odd thousand into Ficket Field,
Where we appoint our Special Rendezvous.

Mrs. Fue, paltry, paltry, in and out, to and fro,
Lord have Mercy upon us, what a World is this?
Where's that Ficket Field, Sir Roger?

Att. Behind St. Giles's in the Field, near Holbourn.

Mrs. Newgate, up Holbourn, St. Giles's in the Field,
and to Tyburn, an old say. For the Day, for the
Day?

Att. On Friday next, the Fourteenth day of Jan-
uary.

Mrs. Tilly vally, trust me never if I have any lik-
ing of that Day. Fue, paltry, paltry, Friday, quoth a,
dimfial day, Childermas-day this Year was Friday.

Bev. Nay Master Murley, if you observe such days,
We make some question of your Constancy.
All Days are alike to Men resolv'd in Right.

Mrs. Say Amen, and say no more; but say and
hold Master Beverley: Friday next, and Ficket Field,
and William Murley and his merry Men shall be all one: I have half a score Jades that draw my Beer Cart, and every Jade shall bear a Knave, and every Knave shall wear a Jack, and every Jack shall have a Scull, and every Scull shall shew a Spear, and every Spear shall kill a Foe at Ficket Field, at Ficket Field: John and Tom, Dick and Hodge, Ralph and Robin, William and George, and all my Knaves shall fight like Men, at Ficket Field, on Friday next.

Bourn. What Sum of Money mean you to disburse?

Mur. It may be modestly, decently, and soberly, and handsomely, I may bring five hundred Pound.

Att. Five hundred, Man? five thousand’s not enough.

A hundred thousand will not pay our Men Two Months together; either come prepar’d Like a brave Knight, and Martial Colonel, In glimmering Gold, and gallant Furniture, Bringing in Coin, a Cart-load at least, And all your Followers mounted on good Horse, Or never come disgraceful to us all.

Bev. Perchance you may be chosen Treasurer,

Ten thousand Pound’s the least that you can bring.

Mur. Paltry, paltry, in and out, to and fro: upon occasion I have ten thousand Pound to spend, and ten too. And rather than the Bishop shall have his will of me for my Conscience, it shall all go. Flame and Flax, Flax and Flame. It was got with Water and Malt, and it shall fly with Fire and Gunpowder. Sir Roger, a Cart-load of Money till the Axletree crack; my self and my Men in Ficket Field on Friday next; remember my Knight-hood and my Place: there’s my Hand, I’ll be there. [Exit.

Att. See what Ambition may persuade Men to, In hope of Honour he will spend himself.

Bourn. I never thought a Brewer half so rich.

Bev. Was never Bankrupt Brewer yet but one,

With using too much Malt, too little Water.

Att. That’s no fault in Brewers now-a-days:

Come, away about our Business. [Exeunt.

Enter
Sir John Oldcastle.

Enter King, Duke of Suffolk, Master Butler, Oldcastle Kneeling to the King.

King. 'Tis not enough, Lord Cobham, to submit,
You must for sake your gross Opinion:
The Bishops find themselves much injured,
And that for some good Service you have done,
We for our part are pleas'd to pardon you,
Yet they will not so soon be satisfy'd.

Cob. My gracious Lord, unto your Majesty,
Next unto my God, I owe my Life;
And what is mine, either by Nature's gift,
Or Fortune's bounty, all is at your Service.
But for Obedience to the Pope of Rome,
I owe him none; nor shall his shaveling Priests
That are in England, alter my belief.
If out of Holy Scripture they can prove
That I am in an Error, I will yield,
And gladly take Instruction at their Hands:
But otherwise, I do beseech your Grace,
My Conscience may not be incroach'd upon.

King. We would be loth to press our Subjects Bodies;
Much less their Souls, the dear redeemed part
Of him that is the Ruler of us all:
Yet let me counsel you that might command;
Do not presume to tempt them with ill words,
Nor suffer any meetings to be had
Within your House, but to the uttermost
Disperse the Flocks of this new gathering Sect.

Cob. My Liege, if any breathe that dares come forth,
And say, my Life in any of these Points
Deserves th'attainder of ignoble Thoughts:
Here stand I, craving no remorse at all,
But even the utmost Rigour may be shown.

King. Let it suffice, we know your Loyalty:
What have you there?

Cob. A Deed of Clemency,
Your Highness' Pardon for Lord Powis' Life,
Which
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Which I did beg, and you, my Noble Lord,
Of gracious Favour did vouchsafe to grant.

King. But yet it is not signed with our Hand.
Cob. Not yet, my Liege.

King. The Fact you say was done
Not of propens'd Malice, but by chance.
Cob. Upon mine Honour so, no otherwise.

King. There is his Pardon, bid him make amends,
And cleanse his Soul to God for his Offence,
What we remit is but the Body's Scourge.
How now, Lord Bishop?

Enter Bishop of Rochester.

Roch. Justice, dread Sovereign,
As thou art King, so grant I may have Justice.

King. What means this Exclamation? let us know.
Roch. Ah, my good Lord, the State's abus'd,
And our Decrees most shamefully prophan'd.

King. How? or by whom?
Roch. Even by this Heretick,
This Jew, this Traitor to your Majesty.
Cob. Prelate, thou liest, even in thy greasy Maw,
Or whosoever twits me with the Name
Of either Traitor, or of Heretick.

King. Forbear, I say: and Bishop shew the Cause
From whence this late Abuse hath been deriv'd.

Roch. Thus, mighty King: by general consent
A Messenger was sent to cite this Lord
To make appearance in the Consistory:
And coming to his House, a Russian Slave,
One of his daily Followers, met the Man,
Who knowing him to be a Parator,
Assaults him first, and after in contempt
Of us, and our proceedings, makes him eat
The written Process, Parchment, Seal and all:
Whereby this Matter neither was brought forth,
Nor we but scorn'd for our Authority.
Sir John Oldcastle.

King. When was this done?
Roch. At six a Clock this Morning.
King. And when came you to Court?
Cob. Last Night, my Liege.
King. By this it seems he is not guilty of it,
And you have done him wrong t' accuse him so.
Roch. But it was done, my Lord, by his appointment,
Or else his Man durst not have been so bold.
King. Or else you durst be bold to interrupt
And fill our Ears with frivolous Complaints.
Is this the Duty you do bear to us?
Was't not sufficient we did pass our word
To send for him, but you misdoubting it,
Or which is worse, intending to forestal
Our Regal Power, must likewise summon him?
This favours of Ambition, not of Zeal,
And rather proves you malice his Estate,
Than any way that he offends the Law.
Go to, we like it not: and he your Officer
Had his desert for being insolent,

Enter Lord Huntington.

That was imploy'd so much amiss herein.
So Cobham, when you please, you may depart.
Cob. I humbly bid farewell unto my Liege. [Exit.
King. Farewel; what's the News by Huntington?
Hun. Sir Roger Aston, and a Crew, my Lord,
Of bold seditious Rebels, are in Arms,
Intending Reformation of Religion:
And with their Army they intend to pitch
In Ficket Field, unless they be repuls'd.
King. So near our Presence? Dare they be so bold?
And will proud War and eager thirst of Blood,
Whom we had thought to entertain far off,
Press forth upon us in our Native Bounds?
Must we be forc'd to hankel our sharp Blades
In England here, which we prepar'd for France?

Well,
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Well, a God's Name be it. What's their Number, say,
Or who's the chief Commander of this Row?

**Hun.** Their Number is not known as yet, my Lord,
But 'tis reported, Sir John Oldcastle
Is the chief Man, on whom they do depend,

**King.** How? the Lord Cobham?

**Hun.** Yes, my gracious Lord.

**Roch.** I could have told your Majesty as much
Before he went, but that I saw your Grace
Was too much blinded by his Flattery.

**Suff.** Send Post, my Lord, to fetch him back again.

**But.** Traitor unto his Country, how he smooth'd
And seem'd as Innocent as Truth it self?

**King.** I cannot think it yet he would be false:
But if he be, no matter, let him go,
We'll meet both him and them unto their woe.

**Roch.** This falls out well, and at the last I hope
To see this Heretick die in a Rope.         [Exeunt.

Enter Earl of Cambridge, Lord Scroop, Gray, and
Chartres the French Factor.

**Scroop.** Once more my Lord of Cambridge, make
Rehearsal

How you do stand Intituled to the Crown,
The deeper shall we print it in our Minds,
And every Man the better be resolv'd,
When he perceives his Quarrel to be just.

**Cam.** Then thus, Lord Scroop, Sir Thomas Gray.

And you, Monsieur de Chartres, Agent for the French,
This Lionel, Duke of Clarence, (as I said)
Third Son of Edward (England's King) the Third,
Had Issue, Philip his sole Daughter and Heir;
Which Philip afterward was given in Marriage
To Edmund Mortimer the Earl of March,
And by him had a Son call'd Roger Mortimer;
Which Roger likewise had of his Descent,
Edmund, Roger, Ann and Helenor,
Two Daughters, and two Sons, but of those, three
Dy'd without Issue: Ann, that did survive,
And now was left her Father’s only Heir,
My fortune was to marry, being too
By my Grandfather of King Edward’s Line:
So of his Sir-name, I am call’d you know,
Richard Plantagenet; my Father was,
Edward the Duke of York, and Son and Heir,
To Edmund Langley, Edward the Third’s first Son.
Schoop. So that it seems your Claim comes by your
Wife,
As lawful Heir to Roger Mortimer,
The Son of Edmund, which did marry Philip,
Daughter and Heir to Lionel Duke of Clarence.

Cam. True, for this Harry, and his Father both,
Harry the first, as plainly doth appear,
Are false Intruders, and usurp the Crown:
For when Young Richard was at Pomfret slain,
In him the Title of Prince Edward dy’d,
That was the Eldest of King Edward’s Sons:
William of Hatfield, and their second Brother,
Death in his Nonage had before bereft:
So that my Wife deriv’d from Lionel,
Third Son unto King Edward, ought proceed
And take Possession of the Diadem
Before this Harry, or his Father King,
Who fetch’d their Title but from Lancaster,
Fourth of that Royal Line. And being thus,
What Reason is’t, but she should have her Right?
Schoop. I am resolv’d, our Enterprize is just.
Gray. Harry shall die, or else resign his Crown.
Char. Perform but that, and Charles the King of
France
Shall aid you Lords, not only with his Men,
But send you Mony to maintain your Wars:
Five hundred thousand Crowns he bad me proffer,
If you can stop but Harry’s Voyage for France.
Schoop. We never had a fitter time than now,
The Realm in such division as it is.

Cam. Besides you must persuade you, there is due
Vengeance for Richard’s Murder, which altho
It be deferr’d, yet will it fall at last,
Vol. IX.  K.
And now as likely as another time:
Sin hath had many Years to ripen in,
And now the Harvest cannot be far off,
Wherein the Weeds of Usurpation
Are to be crop'd, and cast into the Fire.

Scroop. No more, Earl Cambridge, here I plight my Faith,
To set up thee and thy renowned Wife.

Gray. Gray will perform the same, as he is Knight.
Char. And to assist ye, as I said before,
Chartres doth 'gage the Honour of his King.

Scroop. We lack but now Lord Cobham's Fellowship,
And then our Plot were absolute indeed.

Cam. Doubt not of him, my Lord; his Life's pursu'd
By the incensed Clergy, and of late
Brought in displeasure with the King, assures
He may be quickly won to our Faction,
Who hath the Articles were drawn at large
Of our whole purpose?

Gray. That have I, my Lord.

Cam. We should not now be far off from his House,
Our serious Conference hath beguil'd the way:
See where his Castle stands, give me the writing.
When we are come unto the Speech of him,
Because we will not stand to make recount
Of that which hath been said, here he shall read
Our Minds at large, and what we crave of him.

Enter Lord Cobham.

Scroop. A ready way; here comes the Man himself
Booted and spur'd, it seems he hath been riding.

Cam. Well met, Lord Cobham.

Cob. My Lord of Cambridge?

Your Honour is most welcome into Kent,
And all the rest of this fair Company.
I am now come from London, gentle Lords:
But will ye not take Cowling for your Host,
And see what Entertainments it affords?
Sir John Oldcastle.

Cam. We were intended to have been your Guests; But now this lucky Meeting shall suffice To end our Business, and defer that kindness. Cob. Business, my Lord? what Business should Let you to be merry? we have no Delicacies; Yet this I'll promise you, a piece of Venison, A Cup of Wine, and so forth, Hunters fare: And if you please, we'll strike the Stag our selves Shall fill our Dishes with his well-fed flesh.

Scroop. That is indeed the thing we all desire. Cob. My Lords, and you shall have your choice with me.

Cam. Nay, but the Stag which we desire to strike, Lives not in Cowling: If you will consent, And go with us, we'll bring you to a Forest, Where runs a lusty Herd; among the which There is a Stag superior to the rest; A stately Beast, that when his Fellows run He leads the Race, and beats the fullen Earth, As tho' he scorn'd it with his trampling Hoofs, Aloft he bears his Head, and with his Breast Like a huge Bulwark counter-checks the Wind: And when he standeth still, he stretcheth forth His proud ambitious Neck, as if he meant To wound the Firmament with forked Horns.

Cob. 'Tis pity such a goodly Beast should die.

Cam. Not so, Sir John, for he is Tyrannous, And gives the other Deer, and will not keep Within the Limits are appointed him. Of late he's broke into a Several, Which doth belong to me, and there he spoils Both Corn and Pasture: two of his wild Race Alike for stealth, and covetous incroaching, Already are remov'd; if he were dead, I should not only be secure from hurt, But with his Body make a Royal Feast.

Scroop. How say you then, will you first hunt with us?

Cob. Faith, Lords, I like the Pastime, where's the Place?

K 2 Cam.
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Cam. Peruse this Writing, it will shew you all,
And what occasion we have for the sport. [He reads.
Cob. Call ye this Hunting, my Lords? Is this the Stag
You fain would chase, Harry our dread King?
So we may make a Banquet for the Devil;
And in the stead of wholesome Meat, prepare
A Dish of Pois'ton to confound our selves.
Cam. Why so, Lord Cobham? See you not our Claim?
And how imperiously he holds the Crown?
Scroop. Besides, you know your self is in disgrace,
Held as a Recreant, and pursu'd to Death.
This will defend you from your Enemies,
And 'stablish your Religion thro' the Land.
Cob. Notorious Treason! yet I will conceal [Aside.
My secret Thoughts to found the depth of it.
My Lord of Cambridge, I do see your Claim,
And what good may redound unto the Land,
By prosecuting of this Enterprize.
But where are Men? where's Pow'r and Furniture
To order such an Action? we are weak,
Harry, you know's a mighty Potentate.
Cam. Tut, we are strong enough; you are belov'd,
And many will be glad to follow you,
We are the like, and some will follow us:
Nay, there is hope from France: Here's an Ambas-
Sador
That promiseth both Men and Mony too.
The Commons likewise, as we hear, pretend
A sudden Tumult, we will join with them.
Cob. Some likelihood, I must confess, to speed:
But how shall I believe this in plain truth?
You are, my Lords, such Men as live in Court,
And have been highly favour'd of the King,
Especially Lord Scroop, whom oftentimes
He maketh choice of for his Bedfellow.
And you, Lord Gray, are of his Privy-Council:
Is not this train laid to intrap my Life?
**Sir John Oldcastle.**

Cam. Then perish may my Soul: what, think you so?

Scroop. We’ll swear to you.

Gray. Or take the Sacrament.

CoB. Nay you are Noblemen, and I imagine,
As you are honourable by Birth, and Blood,
So you will be in Heart, in Thought, in Word.
I crave no other Testimony but this:
That you would all subscribe, and let your Hands
Unto this Writing which you gave to me.

Cam. With all our Hearts: Who hath any Pen and Ink?

Scroop. My Pocket should have one; O, here it is.

Cam. Give it me, Lord Scroop. There is my Name.

Scroop. And there is my Name.

Gray. And mine.

CoB. Sir, let me crave that you would likewise write
your Name with theirs, for Confirmation of your
Master’s words, the King of France.

Char. That will I, noble Lord.

CoB. So, now this Action is well knit together,
And I am for you; where’s our Meeting, Lords?

Cam. Here, if you please, the tenth of July next.

CoB. In Kent? agreed. Now let us in to Supper,
I hope your Honours will not away to night.

Cam. Yes presently, for I have far to ride,
About soliciting of other Friends.

Scroop. And we would not be absent from the
Court,

Left thereby grow suspicion in the King.

CoB. Yet taste a Cup of Wine before ye go.

Cam. Not now, my Lord, we thank you: so fare-
wel.

[Exeunt all but Cobham.

CoB. Farewel, my noble Lords. My noble Lords?

My noble Villains, base Conspirators;
How can they look his Highness in the Face,
Whom they so closely study to betray?
But I’ll not sleep until I make it known,
This Head shall not be burden’d with such Thoughts,
Nor in this Heart will I conceal a Deed

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Of such Impiety against my King.
Madam, how now?

Enter Lady Cobham, Lord Powis, Lady Powis, and Harpool.

L. Cob. You're welcome home, my Lord:
Why seem you so unquiet in your Looks?
What hath befall'n you that disturbs your Mind?
L. Pow. Bad News I am afraid touching my Husband.
Cob. Madam, not so; there is your Husband's Pardon;
Long may you live, each joy unto the other.
L. Pow. So great a Kindness, as I know not how to reply, my Sense is quite confounded.
Cob. Let that alone; and Madam, stay me not,
For I must back unto the Court again,
With all the speed I can: Harpool, my Horse.
L. Cob. So soon, my Lord? what will you ride all Night?
Cob. All Night or Day, it must be so sweet Wife;
Urge me not why, or what my Business is,
But get you in: Lord Powis bear with me.
And, Madam, think your welcome ne'er the worse,
My House is at your Use. Harpool, away.

Har. Shall I attend your Lordship to the Court?
Cob. Yea Sir, your Gelding mount you presently.

[Exit,

L. Cob. I prithee, Harpool, look unto thy Lord,
I do not like this sudden postling back.
Pow. Some earnest Business is a-foot belike;
Whate'er it be, pray God be his good Guide.
L. Pow. Amen, that hath so highly us bested.
L. Cob. Come, Madam, and my Lord, we'll hope
the best,
You shall not into Wales till he return.
Pow. Tho great occasion be we should depart,
Yet, Madam, will we stay to be resolved
Of this unlook'd-for doubtful Accident.

[Exit.
Sir John Oldcastle.

Enter Murley and his Men, prepar'd in some filthy Order for War.

Mur. Come my Hearts of Flint, modestly, decently, soberly, and handsomely, no Man afore his Leader: Follow your Master, your Captain, your Knight that shall be, for the honour of Meal-men, Millers, and Malt-men, Dun is the Mouse: Dick and Tom for the credit of Dunstable, ding down the Enemy to Morrow. Ye shall not come into the Field like Beggars. Where be Leonard and Lawrence my two Loaders? Lord have mercy upon us, what a World is this? I would give a couple of Shillings for a dozen of good Feathers for ye, and forty Pence for as many Scarfs to let you out withal. Frost and Snow, a Man has no Heart to fight till he be brave.

Dick. Master, we are no Babes, our Town Foot-balls can bear witness; this little appareal we have shall off, and we'll fight naked before we run away.

Tom. Nay, I'm of Lawrence mind for that, for he means to leave his Life behind him, he and Leonard, your two Loaders, are making their Wills because they have Wives, now we Bachelors bid our Friends scramble for our Goods if we die: But, Master, pray let me ride upon Cut.

Mur. Meal and Salt, Wheat and Malt, Fire and Tow, Frost and Snow, why Tom thou shalt. Let me see, here are you, William and George are with my Cart, and Robin and Hodge holding my own two Horses; proper Men, handsom Men, tall Men, true Men.

Dick. But Master, Master, methinks you are mad to hazard your own Person, and a Cart-Load of Mony too.

Tom. Yea, and Master, there's a worse matter in't; if it be as I heard say, we go fight against all the learned Bishops, that should give us their Blessing, and if they curse us, we shall speed ne'er the better.

Dick. Nay, Birlady, some say the King takes their part; and Master, dare you fight against the King?
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_Mur._ Fie paltry, paltry, in and out, to and fro upon occasion, if the King be so unwise to come there, we'll fight him too.

_Tom._ What if ye should kill the King?

_Mur._ Then we'll make another.

_Dick._ Is that all? do ye not speak Treason?

_Mur._ If we do, who dare trip us? We come to fight for our Conscience, and for Honour; little know you what is in my Bosom, look here mad Knaves, a pair of gilt Spurs.

_Tom._ A pair of Golden Spurs? Why do you not put them on your Heels? your Bosom's no place for Spurs.

_Mur._ Be't more or less upon occasion, Lord have Mercy upon us. _Tom_ thou'rt a Fool, and thou speakest Treason to Knight-hood: Dare any wear Gold or Silver Spurs, till he be a Knight? No, I shall be Knighted to-morrow, and then they shall on: Sirs, was it ever read in the Church-book of _Dunstable_, that ever Maltman was made Knight?

_Tom._ No, but you are more: You are Meal-man, Malt-man, Miller, Corn-master, and all.

_Dick._ Yea, and half a Brewer too, and the Devil and all for Wealth: You bring more Mony with you than all the rest.

_Mur._ The more's my Honour, I shall be a Knight to-morrow. Let me _'spose my Men, Tom_ upon Cut, _Dick_ upon Hob, Hodge upon Ball, _Ralph_ upon Sorrel, and _Robin_ upon the Fore-horse.

*Enter Acton, Bourn, and Beverley.*

_Tom._ Stand, who comes there?

_Act._ All Friends, good Fellow.

_Mur._ Friends and Fellows indeed, Sir _Roger_.

_Act._ Why, thus you shew your self a Gentleman?

To keep your Day, and come so well prepared. Your Cart stands yonder guarded by your Men, Who tell me it is loaden well with Coin. What Sum is there?

_Mur._
Sir John Oldcastle.

Mnr. Ten thousand Pound, Sir Roger, and modestly, decently, soberly, and handsomely, see what I have here against I be Knighted.

Act. Gilt Spurs? 'Tis well.

Mnr. Where's our Army, Sir?

Act. Difperst in sundry Villages about; Some here with us in High-gate, some at Finchley, Tottenham, Enfield, Edmonton, Newington, Islington, Hogsdon, Pancrège, Kenfigton,
Some nearer, Thames, Ratcliff, Blackwall and Brix:
But our chief Strength must be the Londoners,
Which, ere the Sun to morrow shine,
Will be near fifty thousand in the Field.

Mnr. Marry, God dild ye, dainty my Dear, but upon occasion, Sir Roger Acton, doth not the King know of it, and gather his Power against us?

Act. No, he's secure at Elsham.

Mnr. What do the Clergy?

Act. Fear extremely, yet prepare no force.

Mnr. In and out, to and fro, bully my boykin, we shall carry the World afore us, I vow, by my Worship, when I am Knighted, we'll take the King napping, if he stand on their part.

Act. This Night we few in High-gate will repose,
With the first Cock we'll rise and arm our selves,
To be in Ficker-field by break of Day,
And there expect our General.

Mnr. Sir John Oldcastle, what if he comes not?

Bourn. Yet our Acton stands.
Sir Roger Acton may supply his Place.

Mnr. True, Mr. Bourne, but who shall make me Knight?

Bourn. He that hath Pow'r to be our General.

Act. Talk not of trifles, come let us away,
Our Friends of London long till it be Day. [Exeunt.

Enter Priest and Doll.

Doll. By my troth, thou art as jealous a Man as lives.

Priest. Can't thou blame me, Doll, thou art my Lands.

K. 7
my Goods, my Jewels, my Wealth, my Purse, none
walks within forty Miles of London, but a plies thee as
truly, as the Parish does the poor man’s Box.

Doll. I am as true to thee, as the Stone is in the Wall,
and thou know’st well enough, I was in as good doing,
when I came to thee, as any Wench need to be; and
therefore thou hast tried me, that thou hast; and I will
not be kept as I ha bin, that I will not.

Priest. Doll, if this Blade hold, there’s not a Pedlar
walks with a Pack, but thou shalt as boldly chuse of his
Wares, as with thy ready Money in a Merchant’s Shop,
we’ll have as good Silver as the King coins any.

Doll. What, is all the Gold spent you took the last
Day from the Courtier?

Priest. ’Tis gone Doll, ’tis flown; merrily come, mer-
rily gone; he comes a Horse-back that must pay for all;
we’ll have as good Meat as Money can get, and as good
Gowns as can be bought for Gold, be merry Wench,
the Maltman comes on Monday.

Doll. You might have left me at Cobham, until you
had been better provided for.

Priest. No, sweet Doll, no, I like not that, yon old
Ruffian is not for the Priest, I do not like a new Clerk
should come in the old Belfrey.

Doll. Thou art a mad Priest ’faith:

Priest. Come Doll, I’ll see thee safe at some Ale-house
here at Gray, and the next Sheep that comes shall leave
behind his Fleece.

Enter the King, Suffolk, and Butler.

King, in great haste, My Lord of Suffolk post away for
And let our Forces of such Horse and Foot, [life
As can be gather’d up by any means,
Make speedy Rendezvous in Tuttle-fields.
It must be done this Evening, my Lord,
This Night the Rebels mean to draw to Head
Near Iflington, which if your speed prevent not,
If once they should unite their several Forces,
Their Power is almost thought invincible.

Away,
Away, my Lord, I will be with you soon.

Suff. I go, my Sovereign, with all happy speed. [Exit.

King. Make haste, my Lord of Suffolk, as you love us.

Butler. Post you to London with all speed:
Command the Mayor and Sheriffs on their Allegiance,
The City Gates be presently shut up,
And guarded with a strong sufficient Watch,
And not a Man be suffered to pass,
Without a special Warrant from our self.
Command the Postern by the Tower be kept,
And Proclamation on the Pain of Death
That not a Citizen stir from his Doors,
Except such as the Mayor and Sheriffs shall chuse
For their own Guard, and safety of their Persons:

Butler away, have care unto my Charge.

But. I go, my Sovereign.

King. Butler.

But. My Lord.

King. Go down by Greenwich, and command a Boat,
At the Earyso-Bridge attend my coming down.

But. I will, my Lord. [Exit.

King. 'Tis time, I think, to look unto Rebellion,
When Acton doth expect unto his aid,
No less than fifty thousand Londoners.
Well, I'll to Westminster in this Disguise,
To hear what News is stirring in these Brawls.

Enter Priest.

Priest. Stand true Man, says a Thief.

King. Stand Thief says a true Man: how if a Thief?

Priest. Stand Thief too.

King. Then Thief or true Man I must stand and see,
howsoever the World wags, the Trade of Thieving yet will never down. What art thou?

Priest. A good Fellow.

King. So I am too, I see thou dost know me.

Priest. If thou be a good Fellow, play the good Fellow's Part, deliver thy Purse without more ado.

King. I have no Money.

Priest.
King. Is that the plain Truth?

Priest. Sirrah, no more ado; come, come, give me the Money you have. Dispatch, I cannot stand all Day.

King. Well if thou wilt needs have it, there it is; just the Proverb, one Thief robs another. Where the Devil are all my old Thieves? Falstaff that Villain is so fat, he cannot get on’s Horse, but methinks Poins and Peto should be stirring hereabouts.

Priest. How much is there on’t of thy Word?

King. A hundred Pound in Angels, on my Word. The time has been I would have done as much For thee, if thou hadst past this way, as I have now.

Priest. Sirrah, what art thou? thou seem’st a Gentleman?

King. I am no less, yet a poor one now, for thou hast all my Money.

Priest. From whence cam’st thou?

King. From the Court at Eltham.

Priest. Art thou one of the King’s Servants?

King. Yes, that I am, and one of his Chamber.

Priest. I am glad thou’rt no worse; thou may’st the better spare thy Money, and think thou might’st get a poor Thief his Pardon if he should have need.

King. Yes, that I can.

Priest. Wilt thou do so much for me, when I shall have occasion?

King. Yes, faith will I, so it be for no Murder.

Priest. Nay, I am a pitiful Thief, all the hurt I do a Man, I take but his Purse, I’ll kill no Man.

King. Then of my Word I’ll do’t.

Priest. Give me thy Hand of the same.

King. There ‘tis.

Priest. Methinks the King should be good to Thieves, because he has been a Thief himself, altho I think now he be turn’d a true Man.

King. Faith I have heard indeed h’as had an ill Name;
Sir John Oldcastle.

that way in's Youth, but how can't thou tell that he has been a Thief?

Priest. How? because he once robb'd me before I fell to the Trade my self, when that foul villainous Guts, that led him to all that Roguery, was in's Company there, that Falstaff.

King. Well, if he did rob thee then, thou art but even with him now I'll be sworn [Aside]: Thou knowest not the King now I think, if thou sawest him?

Priest. Not I, 'tis faith.

King. So it should seem.

[Aside.] Priest. Well, if old King Harry had liv'd, this King that is now, had made Thieving the best Trade in England.

King. Why so?

Priest. Because he was the chief Warden of our Company, 'tis pity that e'er he should have been a King, he was so brave a Thief. But Sirrah, wilt remember my Pardon if need be?

King. Yes Faith will I.

Priest. Wilt thou? well then, because thou shalt go safe, for thou may'st hap (being so early) be met with again, before thou com'st to Southwark, if any Man when he should bid thee good morrow, bid thee stand, say thou but Sir John, and they will let thee pass.

King. Is that the Word? then let me alone.

Priest. Nay, Sirrah, because I think indeed I shall have some occasion to use thee, and as thou com'st oft this way, I may light on thee another time not knowing thee, here I'll break this Angel, take thou half of it, this is a Token betwixt thee and me.

King. God a mercy. Farewel. [Exit.

Priest. O my fine golden Slaves, here's for thee, Wench, 'tis faith. Now, Doll, we will revel in our Bever, this is a Tythe Pig of my Vicarage. God a mercy Neighbour Shooters-Hill, you ha paid your Tythe honestly. Well, I hear there is a Company of Rebels up against the King, got together in Ficket-field near Holborn, and as it is thought, here in Kent, the King will be there to Night in's own Person: Well, I'll to the King's Camp, and
it shall go hard, if there be any doings, but I'll make some good Boot among them.

Enter King, Suffolk, Huntington, and two with Lights.

King. My Lords of Suffolk and of Huntington,
Who scours it now? or who stand Sentinels?
What Men of Worth? what Lords do walk the round?
Suff. May't please your Highness.
King. Peace, no more of that,
The King's asleep, wake not his Majesty
With Termis nor Titles, he's at rest in Bed.
Kings do not use to watch themselves, they sleep,
And let Rebellion and Conspiracy
Revel and havoc in the Commonwealth.
Is London look'd unto?
Hunt. It is, my Lord,
Your noble Uncle Exeter is there,
Your Brother Gloucester, and my Lord of Warwick,
Who with the Mayor and the Aldermen
Do guard the Gates, and keep good Rule within.
The Earl of Cambridge, and Sir Thomas Gray
Do walk the round, Lord Scroop and Butler scout:
So tho' it please your Majesty to jest,
Were you in Bed, well might you take your Rest.
King. I thank ye Lords; but you do know of old,
That I have been a perfect Night-walker:
London, you say, is safely look'd unto,
Alas, poor Rebels, there your Aid must fall,
And the Lord Cobham, Sir John Oldcastle,
Quiet in Kent; Acton, you are deceiv'd:
Reckon again, you count without your Host.
To Morrow you shall give account to us,
Till when, my Friends, this long cold Winter's Night
How can we spend? King Harry is asleep,
And all his Lords, these Garments tell us so:
All Friends at Foot-Ball, Fellows all in Field,
Harry, and Dick, and George, bring us a Drum,
Give us square Dice, we'll keep this Court of Guard,
For all good Fellows companies that come.
Sir John Oldcastle.

Where’s that mad Priest ye told me was in Arms
To fight, as well as pray, if need requir’d.

Suff. He’s in the Camp, and if he knew of this,
I undertake he would not be long hence.

King. Trip Dick, trip George.

Hunt. I must have the Dice; what do we play at?

Suff. Paffage, if ye please.

Hunt. Set round then; so at all.

King. George, you are out.

Give me the Dice; I pass for twenty Pound,
Here’s to our lucky Passage in France.

Hunt. Harry, you pass indeed, for you sweep all.

Suff. A Sign King Harry shall sweep all in France.

Enter Priest.

Priest. Edge ye good Fellows, take a fresh Gamester in.

King. Master Parson, we play nothing but Gold.

Priest. And, Fellow, I tell thee that the Priest hath
Gold, Gold; what? ye are but beggarly Soldiers to me,
I think I have more Gold than all you three.

Hunt. It may be so, but we believe it not.

King. Set, Priest, set, I pass for all that Gold.

Priest. Ye pass indeed.

King. Priest, haft any more?

Priest. More? what a Question’s that?

I tell thee I have more than all you three.

At these ten Angels.

King. I wonder how thou com’st by all this Gold.

How many Benefices haft thou, Priest?

Priest. Faith, but one; doft wonder how I come by
Gold? I wonder rather how poor Soldiers should have
Gold; for I’ll tell thee, good Fellow, we have every Day
Tythes, Off’rings, Christnings, Weddings, Burials; and
you poor Snakes come seldom to a Booty. I’ll speak a
proud word, I have but one Parsonage Wrotham, ’tis bet-
ter than the Bishoprick of Rochester: there’s ne’er a Hill,
Heath, nor Down in all Kent, but ’tis in my Parish,
Barrham-down, Cobham-down, Gads-hill, Wrotham-hill,
Black-heath, Cocks-heath, Birchen-wood, all pay me Tythe.
Gold quoth a? ye pass not for that.

Suff.
The History of

Suff. Harry ye are out; now, Parson, shake the Dice.
Priest. Set, set, I'll cover ye; at all; A plague on't I am out; the Devil, and Dice, and a Wench, who will trust them?
Suff. Say'ft thou so, Priest? set fair, at all for once.
King. Out, Sir, pay all.
Priest. Sir, pay me Angel Gold,
I'll none of your crack'd French Crowns nor Piastrelets,
Pay me fair Angel Gold, as I pay you.
King. No crack'd French Crowns? I hope to see more
 crack'd French Crowns ere long.
Priest. Thou mean'st of French Mens Crowns, when
the King's in France.
Hunt. Set round, at all.
Priest. Pay all: this is some luck.
King. Give me the Dice, 'tis I must shred the Priest:
At all, Sir John.
Priest. The Devil and all is yours: at that. 'Sdeath, what casting's this?
Suff. Well thrown, Harry, i'faith.
King. I'll cast better yet.
Priest, Then I'll be hang'd. Sirrah, haft thou not
giv'n thy Soul to the Devil for casting?
King. I pass for all.
Priest. Thou passest all that e'er I plaid withal:
Sirrah, doft thou not cog, nor foist, nor flur?
King. Set, Parson, set, the Dice die in my Hand,
When, Parson, when? what, can ye find no more?
Already dry? was't you brag'd of your Store?
Priest. All's gone but that.
Hunt. What? half a broken Angel.
King. Yea, and I'll cover it.
Priest. The Devil give you good on't, I am blind; you
have blown me up.
King. Nay, tarry, Priest, you shall not leave us yet.
Do not these Pieces fit each other well?
Priest. What if they do?
King. Thereby begins a Tale:
There was a Thief, in Face much like Sir John,
Sir John Oldcastle.

But 'twas not he. That Thief was all in green, Met me last Day, on Black-heath, near the Park, With him a Woman. I was all alone And Weapons, my Boy had all my Tools, And was before providing me a Boat. Short Tale to make, Sir John, the Thief I mean, Took a just hundred Pound in Gold from me. I form'd at it, and swore to be reveng'd If e'er we met: he like a lusty Thief, Brake with his Teeth this Angel just in two, To be a Token at our meeting next; Provided I should charge no Officer To apprehend him, but at Weapons Point Recover that, and what he had beside. Well met, Sir John, betake ye to your Tools By Torch-light, for, Master Parson, you are he That had my Gold.

Priest. Zounds I won't in play, in fair square Play, of the Keeper of Eltham-Park, and that I will maintain with this poor Whyniard; be you two honest Men to stand and look upon's, and let's alone, and neither part. King. Agreed, I charge ye do not budge a Foot. Sir John, have at ye. Priest. Soldier, ware your Sconce.

As they proffer, Enter Butler, and draws his Sword to part them.

But. Hold, Villain, hold; my Lords, what d'ye mean, To see a Traitor draw against the King. Priest. The King? Gods will, I am in a proper pickle. King. Butler, what News? why dost thou trouble us? But. Please your Majesty, 'tis break of Day, And as I scouted near to Islington, The gray ey'd Morning gave me glimmering, Of armed Men coming down High-gate-hill, Who by their Course are coasting hitherward. King. Let us withdraw, my Lords, prepare our Troops, To charge the Rebels if there be such Cause: For this lend Priest, this devilish Hypocrite,
The History of

That is a Thief, a Gamester, and what not,
Let him be hang'd up for Example sake,

Priest. Not so, my gracious Soveraign, I confess I am
a frail Man, Flesh and Blood as other are; but set my
Imperfections aside, ye have not a taller Man, nor a
truer Subject to the Crown and State, than Sir John of
Wrotham is.

King. Will a true Subject rob his King? [Lieber.

Priest. Alas! 'twas ignorance and want, my gracious

King. 'Twas want of Grace. Why, you should be as
To season others with good document,

Salt Your Lives as Lamps to give the People Light,
As Shepherds, not as Wolves to spoil the Flock;
Go hang him, Butler.

But. Didst thou not rob me?

Priest. I must confess I saw some of your Gold, but,
my dread Lord, I am in no humour for Death; God
will that Sinners live, do not you cause me to die. Once
in their Lives the best may go astray, and if the World
say true, your self, my Liege, have been a Thief.

King. I confess I have,

But I repent and have reclaim'd my self.

Priest. So will I do if you will give me time!

King. Wilt thou? my Lords, will ye be his Sureties?

Hunt. That when he robs again he shall be hang'd.

Priest. I ask no more.

King. And we will grant thee that,

Live and repent, and prove an honest Man,
Which when I hear, and safe return from France,
I'll give thee Living. Till when, take thy Gold,
But spend it better than in Cards or Wine.
For better Virtues fit that Coat of thine.

Priest. Vivat Rex, & currat Lex. My Liege, if ye have
cause of Battle, ye shall see Sir John better himself in
your Quarrel.

An Alarum. Enter King, Suffolk, Huntington, Sir John
bringing forth Acton, Beverly, and Murly, Prisoners.

King. Bring in those Traitors, whose aspiring Minds
Thought to have triumph'd in our Overthrow:

But
Sir John Oldcastle.

But now ye see, base Villains, what Success
Attends ill Actions wrongfully attempted.
Sir Roger Abbot, thou retainst the Name
Of Knight, and shouldst be more discreetly temper'd
Than join with Peasants, Gentry is Divine,
But thou hast made it more than popular.

Act. Pardon, my Lord, my Conscience urg'd me
to it.

King. Thy Conscience! then Conscience is corrupt,
For in thy Conscience thou art bound to us,
And in thy Conscience thou shouldst love thy Country,
Else what's the difference 'twixt a Christian,
And the uncivil Manners of the Turk?

Btv. We meant no hurt unto your Majesty,
But Reformation of Religion.

King. Reform Religion? was it that you sought?
I pray who gave you that Authority?
Belike then we do hold the Scepter up,
And fit within the Throne but for a Cipher.
Time was, good Subjects would make known their
Grief,
And pray Amendment, not enforce the same,
Unless their King were Tyrant, which I hope
You cannot justly say that Harry is.
What is that other?

Suf. A Malt-Man, my Lord,
And dwelling in Dunstable, as he says.

King. Sirrah, what made you leave your Barley-
broth,
To come in Armour thus against your King?

Mur. Fie, paltry, paltry, to and fro, in and out up.
on occasion, What a World is this? Knighthood, my
Liege, 'twas Knighthood brought me hither, they told
me I had Wealth enough to make my Wife a Lady.

King. And so you brought these Horses which we
saw
Trapt all in costly Furniture, and meant
To wear these Spurs when you were Knighted once?

Mur.
The History of

MUR. In and out upon Occasion I did.

KING. In and out upon Occasion, therefore you shall
he hang'd, and in the stead of wearing those Spurs up-
on your Heels, about your Neck they shall bewray
your Folly to the World.

PRIEST. In and out upon Occasion, that goes hard.

MUR. Fie, paltry, paltry, to and fro; good my Liege,
a Pardon, I am sorry for my Fault.

KING. That comes too late; but tell me, went there
none beside Sir Roger ACTON, upon whom
You did depend to be your Governour?

MUR. None, my Lord, but Sir John Oldcastle.

Enter Bishop of Rochester.

KING. Bears he a part in this Conspiracy?

ATT. We look'd, my Lord, that he would meet us
here.

KING. But did he promise you that he would come?

ATT. Such Letter we received forth of Kent.

ROCH. Where is my Lord the King? Health to your
Grace.

Examining, my Lord, some of these Rebels,
It is a general Voice among them all,
That they had never come into this Place,
But to have met their valiant General,
The good Lord COBBHAM, as they title him:
Whereby, my Lord, your Grace may now perceive,
His Treason is apparent, which before
He sought to colour by his Flattery,

KING. Now by my Royalty I would have sworn,
But for his Conscience, which I bear withal,
There had not liv'd a more true-hearted Subject.

ROCH. It is but counterfeit, my gracious Lord,
And therefore may it please your Majesty,
To set your Hand unto this Precept here,
By which we'll cause him forthwith to appear,
And answer this by order of the Law.

KING. Not only that, but take Commission
To search, attach, imprison, and condemn

This
Sir John Oldcastle.

This most notorious Traitor as you please.

Roch. It shall be done my Lord, without delay:
So now I hold, Lord Cobham, in my Hand,
That which shall finish thy disdained Life.

King. I think the Iron Age begins but now,
Which learned Poets have to often taught,
Wherein there is no credit to be given
To either Words, or Looks, or solemn Oaths,
For if he were, how often hath he sworn,
How gently tun'd the Musick of his Tongue,
And with that amiable Face beheld he me,
When all, God knows, was but Hypocrisy.

Enter Lord Cobham.

Cob. Long Life and prosperous Reign unto my Lord.

King. Ah, Villain, canst thou with Prosperity,
Whose Heart includeth nought but Treachery?
I do arrest thee here my self, false Knight,
Of Treason capital against the State.

Cob. Of Treason, mighty Prince? your Grace mistakes,
I hope it is but in the way of Mirth.

King. Thy Neck shall feel it is in earnest shortly.
Darst thou intrude into my Presence, knowing
How heinous thou hast offended us?
But this is thy accustom'd deceit,
Now thou perceiv'st thy Purpose is in vain,
With some Excuse or other thou wilt come
To clear thy self of this Rebellion.

Cob. Rebellion, good my Lord, I know of none.

King. If you deny it, here is Evidence.
See you these Men; you never counselled,
Nor offered them assistance in their Wars?

Cob. Speak, Sirs, not one but all, I crave no favour.
Have ever I been conversant with you?
Or written Letters to incourage you?
Or kindled by the least or smallest part
Of this your late unnatural Rebellion?

Speak,
The History of

Speak, for I dare the uttermost you can.

Mur. In and out upon Occasion, I know you not.

King. No, didst thou not say, that Sir John Oldcastle
Was one with whom you propos'd to have met?

Mur. True, I did say so, but in what respect,
Because I heard it was reported so.

King. Was there no other Argument but that?

Act. I must confess we have no other Ground
But only Rumour to accuse this Lord,
Which now I see was merely fabulous.

King. The more pernicious you to taint him then,
Whom you know was not faulty, yea or no.

Cob. Let this, my Lord, which I present your Grace
Speak for my Loyalty, read these Articles,
And then give Sentence of my Life or Death.

King. Earl Cambridge, Scroop and Gray corrupted
With Bribes from Charles of France, either to win
My Crown from me, or secretly contrive
My Death by Treason? Is't possible?

Cob. There is the Platform, and their Hands, my
Lord,
Each severally subscribed to the same.

King. Oh never heard of base Ingratitude!
Even those I hug within my Bosom most,
Are readiest evermore to sting my Heart.
Pardon me, Cobham, I have done thee wrong,
Hereafter I will live to make amends.
Is then their time of meeting so near hand?
We'll meet with them but little for their case,
If God permit. Go take these Rebels hence,
Let them have Martial Law: but as for thee,
Friend to thy King and Country, still be free. [Exit.

Mur. Be it more or less, what a World is this?
Would I have continued still of the Order of Knaves,
And ne'er sought Knighthood, since it costs
So dear: Sir Roger, I may thank you for all.

Act. Now 'tis too late to have it remedied,
I prithee, Murley, do not urge me with it.

Hunt. Will you away, and make no more to do?

Mur.
Sir John Oldcastle.

Mur. Fie, paltry, paltry, to and fro, as Occasion serves,
If you be so hasty, take my place.
Hunt. No, good Sir Knight, e’en take’t your self.
Mur. I could be glad to give my betters place.

[Exeunt.

Enter Bishop of Rochester, Lord Warden, Cromer the Sheriff, Lady Cobham and Attendants.

Roch. I tell ye, Lady, it’s impossible
But you should know where he conveys himself,
And you have hid him in some secret Place.
L. Cob. My Lord, believe me, as I love my Soul,
I know not where my Lord my Husband is.
Roch. Go to, go to, ye are an Heretick,
And will be forc’d by Torture to confess,
If fair means will not serve to make you tell.
L. Cob. My Husband is a Noble Gentleman,
And need not hide himself for any Fact
That e’er I heard of, therefore wrong him not.
Roch. Your Husband is a dangerous Schismatrick,
Traitor to God, the King, and Commonwealth,
And therefore, Mr. Cromer, Sheriff of Kent,
I charge you to take her to your Custody,
And seize the Goods of Sir John Oldcastle
To the King’s use; let her go in no more,
To fetch so much as her Apparel out,
There is your Warrant from his Majesty.
War. Good my Lord Bishop, pacify your wrath
Against the Lady.
Roch. Then let her confess
Where Oldcastle her Husband is conceal’d.
War. I dare engage my Honour and my Life,
Poor Gentlewoman, she is ignorant
And innocent of all his Practices,
If any Evil by him be practis’d.
Roch. If my Lord Warden? Nay then I charge you,
That all Cinque-Ports whereof you are chief,
Be laid forthwith, that he escapes us not.

Shew
The History of

Shew him his Highness's warrant, Mr. Sheriff.

War. I am sorry for the noble Gentleman.

Roch. Peace, he comes here, now do your Office.

Enter Harpool and Lord Cobham.

Cob. Harpool, what Business have we here in hand?

What makes the Bishop and the Sheriff here?

I fear my coming home is dangerous,

I would I had not made such haste to Cobham.

Har. Be of good cheer my Lord, if they be foes,

we'll scramble shrewdly with them: if they are Friends

they are welcome.

Sher. Sir John Oldcastle Lord Cobham, in the King's

Name, I arrest ye of High Treason:

Cob. Treason, Mr. Cromer?

Har. Treason, Mr. Sheriff, what Treason?

Cob. Harpool, I charge thee stir not, but be quiet.

Do ye arrest me of High Treason, Mr. Sheriff?

Roch. Yea, of High Treason, Traitor, Heretick.

Cob. Defiance in his Face that calls me so,

I am as true a Loyal Gentleman

Unto his Highness, as my proudest Enemy,

The King shall witness my late faithfull Service,

For safety of his Sacred Majesty.

Roch. What thou art, the King's Hand shall testify,

Shew him, Lord Warden.

Cob. Jesu defend me,

Is't possible your Cunning could so temper

The Princeely disposition of his Mind,

To sign the damage of a Loyal Subject?

Well, the best is, it bears an antedate,

Procured by my absence and your malice,

But I, since that, have shew'd my self as true,

As any Churchman that dare challenge me.

Let me be brought before his Majesty,

If he acquit me not, then do your worst.

Roch. We are not bound to do kind Offices

For any Traitor, Schismatick, nor Heretick:

The King's Hand is our Warrant for our Work,
Sir John Oldcastle.

Who is departed on his way for France,
And at Southampton doth repose this Night.

Har. O that thou and I were within twenty Miles of
it, on Salisbury Plain! I would lose my Head if thou
broughtst thy Head hither again. [Aside.
Cob. My Lord Warden o' th' Cinque-ports, and Lord
of Rochester, ye are joint Commissioners, favour me
so much on my expence, to bring me to the King.

Roch. What, to Southampton?

Cob. Thither, my good Lord,
And if he do not clear me of all Guilt,
And all suspicion of Conspiracy;
Pawing his Princely warrant for my Truth,
I ask no Favour, but extreamest Torture.
Bring me, or send me to him, good my Lord,
Good my Lord Warden, Mr. Sheriff entreat.

[They both entreat for him.

Come hither, Lady, nay, sweet Wife, forbear
To heap one Sorrow on another's Neck:
'Tis grief enough fallshly to be accus'd,
And not permitted to acquit my self.
Do not thou with thy kind respective Tears,
Torment thy Husband's Heart that bleeds for thee:
But be of Comfort, God hath help in store
For those that put assured trust in him.
Dear Wife, if they commit me to the Tower,
Come up to London, to your Sister's House:
That being near me, you may comfort me.
One solace find I settled in my Soul,
That I am free from Treason's very thought:
Only my Conscience for the Gospel's sake,
Is cause of all the Troubles I sustain.

L. Cob. O my dear Lord, what shall betide of us?
You to the Tower, and I turn'd out of Doors,
Our Substance seiz'd unto his Highness' use,
Ever to the Garments longing to our Backs.

Har. Patience, good Madam, things at worst will
mend,
And if they do not, yet our Lives may end.
The History of

Roch. Urge it no more, for if an Angel spake,
I swear by sweet St. Peter’s blessed Keys.
First goes he to the Tower, then to the Stake.
Sher. But by your leave, this Warrant doth not stretch
To Imprison her.
Roch. No, turn her out of Doors,
Even as she is, and lead him to the Tower,
With Guard enough, for fear of rescuing.
L. Cob. O God requite thee, thou blood-thirsty Man.
Cob. May it not be, my Lord of Rochester?
Wherein have I incurred your hate so far,
That my Appeal unto the King’s deny’d?
Roch. No Hate of mine, but Pow’r of Holy Church,
Forbids all Favour to false Hereticks.
Cob. Your private Malice more than publick Pow’r,
Strikes most at me, but with my Life it ends.
Har. aside.] O that I had the Bishop in that fear
That once I had his Sunner by our selves.
Sher. My Lord, yet grant one Suit unto us all,
That this same antient Servingman may wait
Upon my Lord his Master in the Tower.
Roch. This old Iniquity, this Heretick?
That in contempt of our Church Discipline,
Compell’d my Sunner to devour his Process?
Old Ruffian past Grace, upstart Schismatick,
Had not the King pray’d us to pardon ye,
Ye had fried for’r, ye grizzled Heretick.
Har. ’Sblood, my Lord Bishop, ye wrong me, I am
neither Heretick nor Puritan, but of the Old Church;
I’ll swear, drink Ale, kiss a Wench, go to Mass, eat
Fish all Lent, and fast Fridays with Cakes and Wine,
Fruit and Spicery, thrive me of my old Sins afore Easter,
and begin new before Whitsonside.
Sher. A merry mad conceited Knave, my Lord.
Har. That Knave was simply put upon the Bishop.
Roch. Well, God forgive him, and I pardon him:
Let him attend his Master in the Tower,
For I in Charity with his Soul no hurt.
Cob. God bless my Soul from such cold Charity.
Roch.
Sir John Oldcastle.

Roch. To th' Tower with him, and when my leisure serves,
I will examine him of Articles;
Look my Lord Warden, as you have in charge,
The Sheriff perform his Office.
War. Ay, my Lord.

Enter Sumner with Books.

Roch. What bring'st thou there? what, Books of Here!
Sum. Yea, my Lord, here's not a Latin Book,
No not so much as our Lady's Psalter:
Here's the Bible, the Testament, the Psalms in metre,
The Sick Man's Salve, the Treasure of Gladness,
All English, no not so much but the Almanack's English.

Roch. Away with them, to th' Fire with them, Clun,
Now set upon these upstart Hereticks.
All English, burn them, burn them quickly, Clun.
War. But do not, Sumner, as you'll answer it; for I have there English Books, my Lord, that I'll not part withal for your Bishoprick, Bevis of Hampton, Owlglass, The Friar and the Boy, Ellen of Rummington, Robin Hood, and other such godly Stories, which if you burn, by this Flesh I'll make ye drink their Ashes in St. Margaret's Ale.

[Exeunt.

Enter the Bishop of Rochester, with his Men in Livery Coats.

1 Ser. Is it your Honour's pleasure we shall stay.
Or come back in the Afternoon to fetch you.
Roch. Now have ye brought me here unto the Tower,
You may go back unto the Porter's Lodge,
Where, if I have occasion to employ you,
I'll send some Officer to call you to me.
Into the City go not, I command you,
Perhaps I may have present need to use you.

2 Ser. We will attend your Honour here without.
The History of

3 Ser. Come, we may have a Quart of Wine at the Rose at Barking, and come back an hour before he'll go.

1 Ser. We must hie us then.
3 Ser. Let's away. [Exeunt.
Roch. Ho, Mr. Lieutenant.
Lieu. Who calls there?
Roch. A Friend of yours.
Lieu. My Lord of Rochester? your Honour's welcome.
Roch. Sir, here's my Warrant from the Council, For Conference with Sir John Oldcastle, Upon some matter of great Consequence.
Lieu. Ho, Sir John.
Har. Who calls there?
Lieu. Harpool, tell Sir John, that my Lord of Rochester
Comes from the Council to confer with him.
I think you may as safe without suspicion
As any Man in England as I hear,
For it was you most labour'd his Commitment.
Roch. I did, Sir, and nothing repent it, I assure you.

Enter Lord Cobham and Harpool.

Mr. Lieutenant, I pray you give us leave,
I must confer here with Sir John a little.
Lieu. With all my Heart, my Lord. [Exit.
Har. [aside.] My Lord, be rul'd by me, take this occasion while it is offered, on my Life your Lordship will escape.
Cob. No more I say, peace left he should suspect it.
Roch. Sir John, I am come to you from the Lords of the Council, to know if you do recant your Errors.
Cob. My Lord of Rochester, on good advice, I see my Error; but yet understand me, I mean not Error in the Faith I hold, But Error in Submitting to your Pleasure. Therefore your Lordship without more to do,
Sir John Oldcastle.

Must be a means to help me to escape.
Roch. What means, thou Heretick?
Dar'ft thou but lift thy Hand against my Calling?
Cob. No, not to hurt you, for a thousand Pound.
Har. Nothing but to borrow your upper Garment a little; not a word more, peace for waking the Children: There, put on, dispatch, my Lord, the Window that goes out into the Leads is sure enough; but for you, I'll bind you surely in the inner Room.
Cob. This is well begun, God send us happy speed, Hard shift you see Men make in time of need.

Enter Servingmen again.

1 Ser. I marvel that my Lord should stay so long.
2 Ser. He hath sent to seek us, I dare lay my Life.
3 Ser. We come in good time, see where he is coming.
Har. I beseech you, good my Lord of Rochester, be favourable to my Lord and Master.
Cob. The inner Rooms be very hot and close, I do not like this Air here in the Tower.
Har. His case is hard, my Lord; you shall safely get out of the Tower, but I will down upon them: In which time get you away. Hard under Islington wait you my coming, I will bring my Lady ready with Horses to get hence.
Cob. Fellow, go back again unto my Lord, and counsel him.
Har. Nay, my good Lord of Rochester, I'll bring you to St. Albans thro' the Woods I warrant you.
Cob. Villain away.
Har. Nay since I am past the Tower's Liberty, You part not so.

[He draws.
Cob. Clubs, Clubs, Clubs.
1 Ser. Murther, Murther, Murther.
2 Ser. Down with him.
Har. Out you cowardly Rogues. [Cobham escapes.
Enter Lieutenant and his Men.

Lieu. Who is so bold to dare to draw a Sword
So near unto the entrance of the Tower?
1 Ser. This Russian, Servant to Sir John Oldcastle,
was like to have slain my Lord.
Lieu. Lay hold on him.
Har. Stand off, if you love your Puddings.

[Bishop of Rochester calls within.

Roch. Help, help, help, Mr. Lieutenant help.
Lieu. Who's that within? Some Treason in the Tower, on my life, look in, who's that which calls?

Enter Bishop of Rochester bound.

Lieu. Without your Cloak, my Lord of Rochester?
Har. There, now it works; then let me speed,
For now's the fittest time to scape away. [Exit.
Lieu. Why do you look so ghastly and affrighted?
Roch. Oldcastle that Traitor, and his Man,
When you had left me to confer with him,
Took, bound, and stript me, as you see,
And left me lying in this inner Chamber,
And so departed, and I—
Lieu. And you! Ne'er say that, the Lord Cobham's Man
Did here set on you like to murther you.
1 Ser. And so he did.
Roch. It was upon his Master then he did,
That in the brawl the Traitor might escape.
Lieu. Where is this Harpool?
2 Ser. Here he was even now.
Lieu. Where, can you tell? they are both escap'd.
Since it so happens that he is escap'd,
I glad you are a witness of the same:
It might have else been laid unto my Charge,
That I had been consenting to the Fact.
Roch. Come,
Search shall be made for him with expedition,
The Haven's laid that he shall not escape,  
And hue and cry continue thro' England,  
To find this damned, dangerous Heretick.  

[Exeunt.

Enter Cambridge, Scroop, and Gray, as in a Chamber;  
and set down at a Table, consulting about their Treason, King Harry and Suffolk listening at the Door.

Cam. In mine Opinion, Scroop hath well advis'd,  
Poison will be the only aptest mean,  
And fittest for our purpose to dispatch him.

Gray. But yet there may be doubt in their delivery,  
Harry is wise, and therefore, Earl of Cambridge,  
I judge that way not so convenient.

Scroop. What think ye then of this? I am his Bedfellow,  
And unsuspected nightly sleep with him.  
What if I venture in those silent hours,  
When Sleep hath sealed up all mortal Eyes,  
Tomurth him in Bed? how like ye that?

Cam. Herein consists no safety for your self,  
And you disclos'd, what shall become of us?  
But this Day, as ye know, he will aboard,  
The Wind's so fair, and set away for France,  
If as he goes, or entring in the Ship,  
It might be done, then were it excellent.

Gray. Why any of these, or if you will,  
I'll cause a present sitting of the Council,  
Wherein I will pretend some matter of such weight,  
As needs must have his Royal Company,  
And so dispatch him in his Council Chamber.

Cam. Truth, yet I hear not any thing to purpose:  
I wonder the Lord Cobham stays so long,  
His Council in this Case would much avail us.

[The King steps in upon them with his Lords.  

Scroop. What, shall we rise thus, and determine no-thing?

King. That were a shame indeed: No, fit again,  
And you shall have my Counsel in this case:  
If you can find no way to kill the King,

L 4
Then you shall see how I can furnish ye;
Scroop's way by Poison was indifferent,
But yet being Bed-fellow to the King,
And unsuspected, sleeping in his Bosom,
In mine Opinion that's the likelier way.
For such false Friends are able to do much,
And silent Night is Treason's fittest Friend.
Now, Cambridge, in his setting hence from France,
Or by the way, or as he goes aboard
To do the deed, that was indifferent too,
But somewhat doubtful.
Marry, Lord Gray came very near the point,
To have the King at Council, and there murder him,
As Cæsar was among his dearest Friends.
Tell me, oh tell me, you bright Honour's Stains,
For which of all my Kindnesses to you,
Are ye become thus Traitors to the King?
And France must have the Spoil of Harry's Life.

All. Oh pardon us, dread Lord.

King. How, pardon ye? that were a Sin indeed.
Drag them to Death, which justly they deserve:
And France shall dearly buy this Villany,
So soon as we set footing on her Breast,
God have the praise for our Deliverance,
And next our Thanks, Lord Cobham, is to thee.
True perfect Mirror of Nobility. [Exeunt.

Enter Priest and Doll.

Priest. Come Doll, come, be merry, Wench.
Farewel Kent, we are not for thee.
Be lusty my Lass, come for Lancashire,
We must nip the Boung for these Crowns.

Doll. Why, is all the Gold spent already, that you had the other Day?

Priest. Gone, Doll, gone; flown, spent, vanish'd,
the Devil, Drink, and Dice, has devoured all.

Doll. You might have left me in Kent, till you had been better provided.

Priest. No, Doll, no, Kent's too hot, Doll, Kent's too hot; the Weathercock of Wrotham will crow no longer, we
we have pluckt him; he has lost his Feathers, I have
prun'd him bare, left him thrice, is moulted, moulted,
Wench.

Doll. I might have gone to Service again: old Mr.
Harpool told me he would provide me a Mistress.

Priest. Peace, Doll, Peace; come mad Wench, I'll
make thee an honest Woman, we'll into Lancashire to
our Friends, the truth is, I'll marry thee, we want but
a little Money, and Money we will have I warrant thee;
stay, who comes here? Some Irish Villain methinks that
hath slain a Man, and now he is rifling on him; stand
close, Doll, we'll see the end.

Enter the Irishman with his dead Master, and rifles him.

Irish. Alas poe Master, Sir Richard Lee, be St. Pat-
rick, is rob and cut thy troite, for de flain, and dy
Mony, and dy Gold Ring, be me truly is love de well,
but now dow be kill de, be shitten Knave.

Priest. Stand, Sirrah, what art thou?

Irish. Be St. Patrick Master, is poor Irishman, is a
leusfer.

Priest. Sirrah, Sirrah, you’re a damn’d Rogue, you
have kill’d a Man here, and rifled him of all that he
has; ’sblood you Rogue deliver, or I’ll not leave you
so much as a Hair above your Shoulders, you whore-
son Irish Dog.

[Rob's him.

Irish. We’s me, St. Patrick, Is kill my Master for
flain and his Ring, and now’s be rob of all, me’s undo.

Priest. Avant, you Rascal; go, Sirrah, be walking.
Come, Doll, the Devil laughs when one Thief robs an-
other; come Wench, we’ll go to St. Albans, and revel
in our Bower, my brave Girl.

Doll. O thou art old Sir John when all’s done it faith.

[Exit.

Enter the Irishman with the Host of the House.

Irish. Be me tro Master is poor Irishman, is want judg-
ing, is have no Mony, is starve and cold, good Master
give her some Meat, is famifie and tye.

Host.
The History of

Hoft. Faith fellow I have no lodging, but what I keep for my guests; as for meat, thou shalt have as much as there is, and if thou wilt lie in the barn, there's fair straw, and room enough.

Irish. I thank my master heartily.

Hoft. Ho, Robin.

Rob. Who calls?

Hoft. Shew this poor Irishman to the barn, go sirrah.

Enter Carrier and Kate.

Club. Who's within here? who looks to the horses? Uds hat, here's fine work, the hens in the manger, and the hogs in the litter, a bots found you all, here's a house well lookt to 't faith.

Kate. Mas Goff Club, Ise very cawd.

Club. Get in, Kate, get in to the fire and warm thee.

John Osler?

Hoft. What, Gaffer Club, welcome to St. Albans, how do's all our friends in Lancashire?

Club. Well, God a mercy John, how do's Tom, where is he?

Osler. Tom's gone from hence, he's at the three horse-loaves at Stony Stratford: how do's old Dick Dun?

Club. Uds hat, old Dun is moyr'd in a slough in Brickhill-lane; a plague found it, yonders such abomination weather as was never seen.

Osler. Uds hat Thief, have one half Peck of Pease and Oats more for that, as I am John Osler, he has been ever as a good jade as ever travelled.

Club. Faith well said, old Jack, thou art the old lad still.

Osler. Come, Gaffer Club, unload, unload, and get to supper.

Enter the Hoft, Lord Cobham, and Harpool.

Hoft. Sir, you're welcome to this house, to such as is here with all my heart; but I fear your lodging will be the worst. I have but two beds, and they are both in a chamber, and the carrier and his daughter lies in
in the one, and you and your Wife must lie in the other.

Cob. Faith, Sir, for my self I do not greatly pass.
My Wife is weary, and would be at rest,
For we have travell'd very far to day.
We must be content with such as you have.

Hoft. But I cannot tell how to do with your Marr.

Har. What? hast thou never an empty Room in thy House for me?

Hoft. Not a Bed in troth. There came a poor Irishman, and I lodg'd him in the Barn, where he has fair straw, altho' he have nothing else.

Har. Well, mine Hoft, I prithee help me to a pair of clean Sheets, and I'll go lodge with him.

Hoft. By the Mass that thou shalt, a good pair of hempen Sheets were ne'er lain in: come.  [Exeunt:

Enter Constable, Mayor and Watch.

Mayor. What? have you searcht the Town?

Con. All the Town, Sir, we have not left a House unsearcht that uses to lodge.

Mayor. Surely my Lord of Rochester was then deceiv'd,
Or ill inform'd of Sir John Oldcastle;
Or if he came this way, he's past the Town,
He could not else have escap'd you in the Search.

Con. The privy Watch hath been abroad all Night,
And not a Stranger lodgeth in the Town
But he is known, only a lusty Priest
We found a-Bed with a pretty Wench,
That says she is his Wife, yonder at the Shears;
But we have charg'd the Hoft with his forth coming
To morrow Morning.

Mayor. What think you best to do?

Con. Faith, Mr. Mayor, here's a few straggling Houses beyond the Bridge, and a little Inn where Carriers use to lodge, altho' I think surely he would ne'er lodge there, but we'll go search, and the rather because there came Notice to the Town the last Night of an Irishman,
that had done a Murder, whom we are to make search for.

Mayor. Come I pray you and be circumspect. [Exeunt.

Con. First beset the House, before you begin to search.

Off. Content, every Man take a several place.

[ A Noise within.

Keep, keep, strike him down there, down with him.

Enter Constable with the Irishman in Harpool's Apparel.

Con. Come you villainous Heretick, tell us where your Master is.

Irish. Vat Meester?

Mayor. Vat Meester? you counterfeit Rebel? This shall not serve your turn,

Irish. Be Sent Patrick I ha no Meester.

Con. Where's the Lord Cobham, Sir John Oldcastle, that lately escap'd out of the Tower?

Irish. Vat Lord Cobham?

Mayor. You Counterfeit, this shall not serve you, we'll torture you, we'll make you confess where that arch Heretick is. Come bind him fast.

Irish. Ahone, ahone, ahone, a Cree.

Con. Ahone, you crafty Rascal? [Exeunt.

Lord Cobham comes out stealing, in his Gown.

Cob, Harpool, Harpool, I hear a marvellous Noise about the House, God warrant us, I fear we are pursu'd; what, Harpool?

Har. within.] Who calls there?

Cob. 'Tis I, dost thou not hear a Noise about the House?

Har. Yes marry do I, 'zounds I cannot find my Hose; this Irish Rascal that lodg'd with me all Night, hath stolen my Apparel, and has left me nothing but a lousy Mantle, and a pair of Broags. Get up, get up, and if the Carrier and his Wench be asleep, change you with him as he hath done with me, and see if he can scape.

Noise
Noisè heard about the House a pretty while, then enter the Constable meeting Harpool in the Irishman's Apparel.

Con. Stand close, here comes the Irishman that did the Murther, by all Tokens this is he.

Mayor. And perceiving the House beset; would get away; stand, Sirrah.

Har. What art thou that bidst me stand?

Con. I am the Officer, and am come to search for an Irishman, such a Villain as thy self, thou hast murther'd a Man this last Night by the high-way.

Har. 'Sblood, Constable art thou mad? am I an Irishman?

Mayor. Sirrah, we'll find you an Irishman before we part;

Lay hold upon him.

Con. Make him fast, O thou bloody Rogue!

Enter Lord Cobham and his Lady, in the Carrier and Wench's Apparel.

Cob. What will these Officers sleep all Day?

Good morrow, good morrow, come Wench, come;

Saddle, Saddle, now afore God two fair Days, ha?

Con. Who goes there?

Mayor. O'tis Lancashire Carrier, let them pass.

Cob. What, will no body ope the Gates here?

Come, let's int' Stable to look for our Capons.

[Exit Cobham and his Lady.]

Club. Hoft, why Officer?

Zwooks here's such abomination Company of Boys:

A Pox of this Pigity at the House end,

It fills all the House full of Fleas: Officer, Officer

Off. Who calls there? what would you have?

Club. Zwooks, do you rob your Guests?

Do you lodge Rogues, and Slaves, and Scoundrels, ha?

They ha' stol'n our Clothes here? why Officer?

Off. A murren choak you, what a bawling you keep.

Hoft. How now? what would the Carrier have?

Look up there.
The History of

Oft. They say the Man and the Woman that lay by
them, have stolen their Clothes.

Host. What are the strange Folks up yet that came in
Yester Night?

Con. What mine Host, up so early?

Host. What Mr. Mayor, and Mr. Constable?

Mayor. We are come to seek for some suspected Per-
sions, and such as here we found have apprehended.

Enter Carrier and Kate, in Cobham and Lady’s Apparel.

Cob. Who comes here?

Club. Who comes here? A plague found one, you
bawl quoth a, ods hat I’ll forswear your House; you
lodg’d a Fellow and his Wife by us, that ha’ run away
with our Parrel, and left us such Gew-Gaws here; come
Kate, come to me, thowse dizeard y’faith.

Mayor. Mine Host, know you this Man?

Host. Yes Master Mayor, I’ll give my word for him,
why Neighbour Club, how comes this gear about?

Kate. Now a foul on’t, I cannot make this Gew-
gaw stand on my Head.

Con. How come this Man and Woman thus attired?

Host. Here came a Man and Woman hither this last
Night, which I did take for Substantial People, and
lodg’d all in one Chamber by these Folks; methinks
have been so bold to change Apparel, and gone away
this Morning ere they rose.

Mayor. That was that Traitor Oldcastle that thus escap-
us; make hue and cry after him, keep fast the Traite-
rous Rebel his Servant there; farewell mine Host.

Car. Come Kate Owdham, thou and Ise trimly dizeard.

Kate. I’faith neam Club, Ise wot ne’er what to do.
Ise be so flouted and so shouted at; and by th’ Mels Ise
c’ly.

[Exeunt.

Enter Cobham and his Lady disguis’d.

Cob. Come, Madam, happily escap’d, here let us sit,
This Place is far remote from any Path,
And here a while our weary Limbs may rest

To
Sir John Oldcastle.

To take refreshing, free from the pursuit
Of envious Rochester.

L. Cob. But where, my Lord,
Shall we find rest for our disquiet Minds?
There dwell untamed Thoughts that hardly stoop
To such abasement of disdained Rags:
We were not wont to travel thus by Night,
Especially on Foot.

Cob. No matter, Love, extremities admit no better
choice:
And were it not for thee, say froward time
Impos'd a great Task, I would esteem it
As lightly as the Wind that blows upon us;
But in thy sufferance I am doubly taskt;
Thou wast not wont to have the Earth thy Stool,
Nor the moist dewy Grass thy Pillow, nor
Thy Chamber to be the wide Horizon.

L. Cob. How can it seem a trouble, having you
A Partner with me, in the worst I feel?
No, gentle Lord, your Presence would give ease
To Death itself, should he now seize upon me.

Here's Bread and Cheese, and a Bottle:
Behold what my foresight hath undertaken
For fear we faint, they are but homely Cates,
Yet saw'nd with Hunger, they may seem as sweet
As greater Dainties we are wont to taste.

Cob. Praise be to him, whose plenty sends both this
And all things else our Mortal Bodies need:
Nor scorn we this poor feeding, nor the State
We now are in, for what is it on Earth,
Nay under Heav'n, continues at a stay?
Ebb's not the Sea, when it hath overflowed?
Follows not Darkness, when the Day is gone?
And see we not sometimes the Eye of Heav'n
Din'd with o'er-flying Clouds? There's not that work
Of careful Nature, or of cunning Art,
How strong, how beauteous, or how rich it be,
But falls in time to ruin. Here, gentle Madam,
In this one Draught I wash my Sorrow down. [Drinks.

L. Cob. And I, encourag'd with your cheerful Speech,
Will do the like.

Cob.
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Cob. Pray God poor Harpool come,
If he should fall into the Bishop's Hands,
Or not remember where we bad him meet us,
It were the thing of all things else, that now
Could breed revolt in this new peace of Mind.

L. Cob. Fear not my Lord, he's witty to devise,
And strong to execute a present shift.

Cob. That Power be still his Guide hath guided us,
My drowsy Eyes wax heavy; early rising,
Together with the Travel we have had,
Makes me that I could take a Nap,
Were I persuaded we might be secure.

L. Cob. Let that depend on me, whilst you do sleep,
I'll watch that no Misfortune happen us.

Cob. I shall, dear Wife, be too much trouble to thee.

L. Cob. Urge not that,
My Duty binds me, and your Love commands,
I would I had the skill with tuned Voice
To draw on Sleep with some sweet Melody.
But imperfection and unaptness too
Are both repugnant; Fear infects the one,
The other Nature hath denied me use.
But what talk I of means, to purchase that,
Is freely happen'd? Sleep with gentle Hand,
Hath shut his Eye-lids. O victorious Labour,
How soon thy Pow'r can charm the Body's Sense?
And now thou likewise climb'st unto my Brain,
Making my heavy Temples stoop to thee,
Great God of Heaven from Danger keep us free.

[Falls asleep.

Enter Sir Richard Lee, and his Men.

Lee. A Murther closely done, and in my Ground?
Search carefully, if any where it were,
This obscure Thicket is the likeliest place.

Ser. Sir, I found the Body stiff with cold,
And mangled cruelly with many Wounds.

Lee. Look if thou know'st him, turn his Body up:
Alack, it is my Son, my Son and Heir,

[Whom
Sir John Oldcastle.

Whom two Years since I sent to Ireland,
To practice there the Discipline of War,
And coming home, for so he wrote to me,
Some savage Heart, some bloody devilish Hand,
Either in hate, or thrilling for his Coin,
Hath here fluc’d out his Blood. Unhappy hour,
A cursed Place, but most unconstant Fate,
That hadst reserv’d him from the Bullets Fire,
And suffer’d him to scape the Wood-kerns Fury.
Didst here ordain the Treasure of his Life,
Even here within the Arms of tender Peace,
To be consum’d by Treason’s wasteful hand?
And which is most afflicting to my Soul,
That this his Death and Murder should be wrought
Without the Knowledge by whose means ’twas done.

2 Ser. Not so, Sir, I have found the Authors of it,
See where they sit, and in their bloody Fists
The fatal Instruments of Death and Sin.

Lee. Just Judgment of that Power, whose gracious Eye,
Loathing the sight of such a heinous Fact,
Dazling their Senses with benumming Sleep,
Till their unhallowed Treachery was known.
Awake, ye Monsters, Murthers, awake,
Tremble for Horror, blush you cannot chuse,
Beholding this unhuman Deed of yours.

Cob. What mean you, Sir, to trouble weary Souls,
And interrupt us of our quiet Sleep?

Lee. O devilish! can you boast unto your selves
Of quiet Sleep, having within your Hearts
The guilt of Murder waking, that which cries,
Deafs the loud Thunder, and sollicits Heav’n
With more than Mandrakes Shrieks for you Offence?


Lee. Can you deny the Fact? See you not here
The Body of my Son, by you misdone?
Look on his wounds, look on his Purple hue:
Do we not find you where the Deed was done?
Were not your Knives fast closed in your hands?
Is not this Cloth an Argument beside,

Thus.
Thus stained and spotted with his innocent Blood?
These speaking Characters, were there nothing else
To plead against ye, would convict you both.
To Hartford with them, where the Sizes now are kept;
Their Lives shall answer for my Son's lost Life.
Cob. As we are innocent, so may we speed.
Lee. As I am wrong'd, so may the Law proceed.

[Exeunt.

Enter Bishop of Rochester, Constable of St. Albans, with
Priest, Doll, and the Irishman in Harpool's Apparel.

Roch. What intricate Confusion have we here?
Not two hours since we apprehended one
In Habit Irish, but in Speech not so;
And now you bring another, that in Speech is Irish,
But in Habit English: Yea, and more than so,
The Servant of that Heretick Lord Cobham.
Irish. Fait me be no Servant of de Lort Cobham,
Me be Mack Chane of Ulster.
Roch. Otherwise call'd Harpool of Kent: go to, Sir,
You cannot blind us with your broken Irish.
Priest. Trust me, said Bishop, whether Irish or En-
glish,
Harpool or not Harpool, that I leave to the Trial:
But sure I am, this Man by Face and Speech,
Is he that murder'd young Sir Richard Lee:
I met him presently upon the Face,
And that he flew his Master for that Gold,
Those Jewels, and that Chain I took from him.
Roch. Well, our Affairs do call us back to London,
So that we cannot prosecute the Cause.
As we desire to do, therefore we leave
The Charge with you, to see they are convey'd
To Hartford Size: Both this Counterfeit,
And you, Sir John of Wrotham, and your Wench,
For you are culpable as well as they,
Tho not for Murder, yet for Felony.
But since you are the means to bring to light
This graceless Murder, ye shall bear with you
Sir John Oldcastle.

Our Letters to the Judges of the Bench,
To be your Friends in what they lawful may.

Priest. I thank your Lordship. [Exeunt.

Enter Goaler bringing forth Lord Cobham.

Goal. Bring forth the Prisoners, see the Court prepar'd,
The Justices are coming to the Bench:
So, let him stand, away and fetch the rest. [Exit.

Cob. O give me Patience to endure this Scourge,
Thou that art Fountain of that virtuous Stream,
And the Contempt of Witness, and Reproach
Hang on these Iron Gyves, to press my Life
As low as Earth, yet strengthen me with Faith,
That I may mount in Spirit above the Clouds.

Enter Goaler, bringing in Lady Cobham and Harpool.

Here comes my Lady, Sorrow 'tis for her,
Thy Wound is grievous, else I scoff at thee.
What and poor Harpool! art thou i'th'Briars too?

Har. P'faith, my Lord, I am in, get out how I can.

L. Cob. Say, gentle Lord, for now we are alone,
And may confer, shall we confess in brief,
Of whence and what we are, and so prevent
The Accusation is commenc'd again. it us!

Cob. What will that help us? Being known, sweet
Love,
We shall for Heresy be put to Death,
For so they term the Religion we profess.
No, if we die, let this our Comfort be,
That of the Guilt impos'd our Souls are free.

Har. Ay, ay, my Lord, Harpool is so resolv'd,
I wreak of Death, the less in that I die
Not by the Sentence of that envious Priest.

L. Cob. Well, be it then according as Heavens please.
Enter Lord Judge, Justices, Mayor of St. Albans, Lord Powis, and his Lady, old Sir Richard Lee: The Judge and Justices take their Places.

Judge. Now, Master Mayor, what Gentleman is that You bring with you upon the Bench?
Mayor. The Lord Powis, if it like your Honour, And this his Lady, travelling toward Wales; Who, for they lodg'd last Night within my House, And my Lord Bishop did lay wait for such, Were very willing to come on with me, Left for their sake, suspicion we might wrong.
Judge. We cry your Honour mercy, good my Lord, Will't please you take your place. Madam, your Ladyship
May here, or where you will, repose your self, Until this business now in hand be past.
L. Pow. I will withdraw into some other Room, So that your Lordship and the rest be pleas'd.
Judge. With all our Hearts: Attend the Lady there.
Pow. Wife, I have ey'd yon Pris'ners all this while, And my Conceit doth tell me, 'tis our Friend The noble Cobham, and his virtuous Lady.
L. Pow. I think no less, are they suspected for this Murder?
Pow. What it means I cannot tell, but we shall know anon.
Mean time as you pass by them, ask the question,
But do it secretly you be not seen,
And make some sign, that I know your Mind.

[As she passes over the Stage by them.
L. Pow. My Lord Cobham! Madam?
Cob. No Cobham now, nor Madam, as you love us,
But John of Lancashire, and Joan his Wife.
L. Pow. O tell, what is it that our love can do
To pleasure you, for we are bound to you?
Cob. Nothing but this; that you conceal our Names;
So, gentle Lady, pass for being spied.

L. Pow.
Sir John Oldcastle.

L. Pow. My Heart I leave, to bear part of your Grief.

[Exit.

Judge. Call the Prisoners to the Bar: Sir Richard Lee.

What Evidence can you bring against those People,
To prove them guilty of the Murder done?

Lee. This bloody Towel, and these naked Knives:
Beside, we found 'em sitting by the Place,
Where the dead Body lay within a Bush.

Judge. What answer you why Law should not proceed

According to this Evidence given in,
To tax ye with the Penalty of Death?

Cob. That we are free from Murder's very thought,
And know not how the Gentleman was slain.

1 Jusf. How came this Linnen-cloth so bloody then?

L. Cob. My Husband, hot with travelling, my Lord,
His Nose gush'd out a bleeding, that was it.

2 Jusf. But how came your sharp-edg'd Knives unheath'd?

L. Cob. To cut such simple Victual as we had.

Judge. Say we admit this Answer to those Articles,
What made you in so private a dark Nook,
So far remote from any common Path,
As was the Thicket where the dead Corps was thrown?

Cob. Journeying, my Lord, from London, from the Term,
Down into Lancashire, where we do dwell;
And what with Age, and Travel being faint,
We gladly sought a place where we might rest,
Free from resort of other Passengers,
And so we stray'd into that secret Corner.

Judge. These are but amburse to drive off time,
And linger Justice from her purpos'd end.
But who are these?

Enter Constable with the Irishman, Priest, and Doll.

Con. Stay Judgment, and release those Innocents,
For here is he whose Hand hath done the Deed,
The History of
For which they stand indited at the Bar;
This savage Villain, this rude Irish Slave,
His tongue already hath confessed the Fact,
And here is witness to confirm as much.

Priest. Yes, my good Lord, no sooner had he slain
His loving Master for the Wealth he had,
But I upon the instant met with him:
And what he purchased with the loss of Blood,
With strokes I presently bereav'd him of,
Some of the which is spent, the rest remaining,
I willingly surrender to the Hands
Of old Sir Richard Lee, as being his;
Beside, my Lord Judge, I greet your Honour
With Letters from my Lord of Rochester.

[Delivers them,

Lee. Is this the Wolf, whose thirsty Throat did drink
My dear Son's Blood? Art thou the Snake
He cherish'd, yet with envious piercing Sting
Affair'dst him mortally? Weren't not that the Law
Stands ready to revenge thy Cruelty,
Traitor to God, thy Master, and to me,
These Hands should be thy Executioner.

Judge. Patience, Sir Richard Lee, you shall have Ju-

tice.

The Fact is odious, therefore take him hence,
And being hang'd until the Wretch be dead,
His Body after shall be hang'd in Chains,
Near to the Place where he did act the Murder.

Irish. Prethee, Lord Shudge, let me have mine own
Cloths, my Strokes there, and let me be hang'd in a
Wythe after my Country the Irish Fashion. [Exit.

Judge. Go to, away with him. And now, Sir John,
Altho' by you this Murder came to light,
Yet upright Law will not hold you excus'd,
For you did rob the Irishman, by which
You stand attained here of Felony:
Beside, you have been lead, and many Years
Led a lascivious, unbecoming Life.

Priest. O but, my Lord, Sir John repents, and he
will mend.
Sir John Oldcastle.

Judge. In hope thereof, together with the favour
My Lord of Rochester intreats for you,
We are content you shall be proved.
Prior. I thank your Lordship.
Judge. These falsely here accus'd, and brought
In Peril wrongfully, we in like sort do set at liberty.
Lee. And for amends,
Touching the wrong unwittingly I have done,
I give these few Crowns.
Judge. Your kindness merits Praise, Sir Richard Lee,
So let us hence. [Exeunt all but Powis and Cobham.
Powis. But Powis still must stay,
There yet remains a part of that true Love,
He owes his noble Friend, unsatisfied
And unperform'd, which first of all doth bind me
To granulate your Lordship's safe delivery:
And then intreat, that since unlook'd for thus
We here are met, your Honour would vouchsafe
To ride with me to Wales, where tho my Power,
(Tho not to quittance those great Benefits
I have receiv'd of you) yet both my House,
My Pursue, my Servants, and what else I have
Are all at your Command. Deny me not,
I know the Bishop's Hate pursues ye so,
As there's no safety in abiding here.
Cob. 'Tis true, my Lord, and God forgive him for it;
Pow. Then let us hence, you shall be straight provided
Of lusty Geldings: And once entred Wales,
Well may the Bishop hunt, but spight his Face,
He never more shall have the Game in Chace. [Exeunt.
THE

PURITAN:

OR, THE

WIDOW

OF

WATLING-STREET.

Printed in the YEAR MDCCXXXVIII.
Dramatis Personæ.

Master Edmund, Son to the Widow Plus.
George Pye-boord, a Scholar and a Citizen.
Sir Oliver Muck-hill, a Suiter to the Lady Plus.
Sir John Penny-Dub, a Suiter to Moll.
Sir Andrew Tipstaff, a Suiter to Frances.
The Sheriff of London.
Captain Idle, a Highway-man.
Putlock and Two of the Sheriff's Serjeants.
Ravenshaw
Dogson, a Yeoman.
Corporal Oath, a vain-glorious Fellow.
Nicholas St. Antlings, Serving-Men to the Lady Plus.
Simon St. Mary Overies, Serving-Men to the Lady Plus.
Frailty,
Peter Skirmish, an old Soldier.
A Nobleman.
A Gentleman Citizen.
Officers.

Lady Plus, a Citizen's Widow.
Frances, and her two Daughters.
Moll,

SCENE LONDON.

THE
THE PURITAN:
OR, THE WIDOW OF Watling-street.

ACT I. SCENE I.

Enter the Lady Widow Plus, Frances and Moll, Sir Godfrey with Edmund, all in Mourning. The Widow wringing her Hands, and bursting out into Passion, as newly come from the Burial of her Husband.

WIDOW.
Oh, that ever I was born, that ever I was born!
Sir God. Nay, good Sister, dear Sister, sweet Sister, be of good Comfort, shew your self a Woman, now or never.
Wid. Oh, I have lost the dearest Man, I have buried the sweetest Husband that ever lay by Woman.
Sir God. Nay, give him his due, he was indeed an honest, virtuous, discreet, wise Man,—he was my Brother, as right, as right.
Wid. O, I shall never forget him, never forget him, he was a Man so well given to a Woman—oh!

Sir God. Nay, but kind Sister, I could weep as much as any Woman, but alas, our Tears cannot call him again: methinks you are well read, Sister, and know that Death is as common as Homo, a common Nameto all Men;—a Man shall be taken when he's making water.—Nay, did not the learned Parson, Master Pigman, tell us e'en now, that all Flesh is frail, we are born to die, Man has but a time; with such like deep and profound Perswaotions, as he is a rare Fellow, you know, and an excellent Reader: and for Example, (as there are Examples abundance) did not Sir Humphrey Bubble die t'other Day, there's a lusty Widow, why she cry'd not above half an Hour—for shame, for shame: Then follow'd him old Master Fulsome the Usurer, there's a wife Widow, why she cry'd a ne'er a whit at all.

Wid. O rank not me with those wicked Women, I had a Husband out-shin'd them all.

Sir God. Ay that he did, i'faith, he out-shin'd 'em all.

Wid. Doft thou stand there and see us all weep, and not once shed a Tear for thy Father's Death? oh thou ungracious Son and Heir thou?

Edm. Troth, Mother, I should not weep I'm sure; I am past a Child I hope, to make all my old School-fellows laugh at me; I should be mockt, so I should; pray let one of my Sisters weep for me, I'll laugh as much for her another time.

Wid. O thou past-Grace thou, out of my sight thou graceless Imp, thou grieveft me more than the Death of thy Father: O thou stubborn only Son: hadst thou such an honest Man to thy Father—that would deceive all the World to get Riches for thee, and canst thou not afford a little Salt-Water! He that so wisely did quire o-verthrow the right Heir of those Lands, which now you respect not; up every Morning betwixt four and five, so duly at Westminster-Hall every Term-time, with all his Cards and Writings, for thee thou wicked Absalon—
Widow of Watling-street.

O dear Husband!

Edm. Weep, quotha? I protest I am glad he's Churched; for now he's gone, I shall spend in quiet.

Fran. Dear Mother, pray cease, half your Tears suf-

fice,
'Tis time for you to take truce with your Eyes,
Let me weep now.

Wid. O such a dear Knight, such a sweet Husband have I lost, have I lost!—if blessed be the Coarse the Rain rains upon, he had it, pouring down.

Sir God. Sister, be of good cheer, we are all mort-
tal our selves, I come upon you freshly, I ne'er speak without comfort, hear me what I shall say,—my Bro-
ther has left you wealthy, you're rich.

Wid. O!

Sir God. I say you're rich: you are also fair.

Wid. O!

Sir God. Go to, you're fair, you cannot smother it, Beauty will come to light; nor are your Years so far enter'd with you, but that you will be sought after, and may very well answer another Husband; the World is full of fine Gallants, choice enow, Sister,—for what should we do with all our Knights, I pray? but to mar-
ry rich Widows, wealthy Citizens Widows, lusty fair-
brow'd Ladies. Go to, be of good comfort, I say, leave snobbing and weeping,—yet my Brother was a kind-hearted Man,—I would not have the Elf see me now,—come, pluck up a Woman's Heart,—
here stand your Daughters, who be well Estanted, and at maturity will also be inquir'd after with good Husbands, so all these Tears shall be soon dry'd up, and a better World than ever,—what, Woman? you must not weep still? he's dead, he's buried—yet I cannot chuse but weep for him.

Wid. Marry again! no, let me be buried quick then! And that same part of Quire whereon I tread
To such intent, O, may it be my Grave:
And that the Priest may turn his Wedding-Prayers,
Even with a breath, to Funeral dust and ashes;
O, out of a Million of Millions, I should ne'er find such
The Puritan: or, The

a Husband; he was unmatchable—unmatchable; nothing was so hot, nor too dear for me, I could not speak of that one thing that I had not, beside, I had Keys of all, kept all, receiv'd all, had Money in my Purse, spent what I would, went abroad when I would, came home when I would, and did all that I would: O—my sweet Husband; I shall never have the like.

Sir God. Sister, ne'er say so, he was an honest Brother of mine, and so, and you may light upon one as honest again, or one as honest again may light upon you; that's the properer phrase indeed.

Wid. Never: O if you love me urge it not.

O may I be the by-word of the World,
The common talk at Table, in the Mouth
Of every Groom and Waiter, if e'er more
I entertain the carnal suit of Man. [Kneels]

Moll. I must kneel down for fashion too.

Fran. And I, whom never Man as yet hath scal'd,
E'en in this depth of general Sorrow, vow
Never to marry, to sustain such loss,
As a dear Husband seems to be, once Dead.

Moll. I lov'd my Father well too; but to say,
Nay, vow, I would not marry for his Death,
Sure I should speak false Latin, should I not?
I'd as soon vow never to come in Bed.
Tut, Women must live by th' quick, and not by th' dead.

Wid. Dear Copy of my Husband, O let me kiss thee:
[Drawing out her Husband's Picture.

How like him is their Model; their brief Picture
Quickens my Tears: my sorrows are renew'd
At their fresh sight.

Sir God. Sister——

Wid. Away,

All honesty with him is turn'd to Clay.

O my sweet Husband, O——

Fran. My dear Father! [Exeunt Wid. and Fran.

Moll. Here's a puling indeed! I think my Mother weeps for all the Women that ever buried Husbands; for it from time to time all the Widows Tears in England
Widow of Watling-street.

Land had been Bottled up, I do not think all would have
fill'd a three-half-penny Bottle: alas, a small matter
bucks a Handkerchief,—and sometimes the Spittle stands
too nigh Saint Thomas a Watring's. Well, I can mourn
in good sober fort as well as another; but where I
spend one Tear for a dead Father, I cou'd give twenty
Kisses for a quick Husband. [Exit Moll.

Sir God. Well, go thy ways old Sir Godfrey, and thou
may'st be proud on't, thou hast a kind loving Sister-in-
Law. How constant? how passionate? how full of
April the poor Soul's Eyes are. Well, I would my
Brother knew on't, he should then know what a kind
Wife he had left behind him. Truth, and 'twere not
for shame that the Neighbours at the next Garden should
hear me, betwixt Joy and Grief, I should e'en cry out-
right. [Exit Sir Godfrey.

Edm. So, a fair riddance, my Father's laid in Dust,
his Coffin and he is like a whole Meat-Pye, and the
Worms will cut him up shortly: Farewel old Dad,
farewel; I'll be curb'd in no more: I perceive a
Son and Heir may quickly be made a Fool, an he
will be one, but I'll take another order:—Now
she would have me weep for him forsooth, and why;
because he cozen'd the right Heir, being a Fool,
and bestowed those Lands on me his eldest Son;
and therefore I must weep for him, ha, ha: why, all
the world knows, as long as 'twas his Pleasure to
get me, 'twas his Duty to get for me: I know
the Law in that Point, no Attorney can gull me.
Well, my Uncle is an old Afs, and an admirable
Coxcomb, I'll rule the Roast my self. I'll be kept
under no more. I know what I may do well e-
nough by my Father's Copy: the Law's in mine
own Hands now: Nay, I know my strength,
I'll be strong enough for my Mother I warrant you.

[Exit.

M. 4.

Enter
Enter George Pye-boord, and Peter Skirmish.

Pye. What's to be done now, old Lad of War, thou that were wont to be as hot as a Turn-spit, as nimble as a Fencer, and as louzy as a School-master; now thou art put to silence like a Sextary.—War sits now like a Justice of Peace, and does nothing; where be your Muskets, Calivers and Hot-shots? in Long-lane, at pawn, at pawn?—Now Keys are our only Guns, Key-guns, Key-guns, and Bawds the Gunners—who are your Sentinels in Peace, and stand ready charg'd to give warning; with hems, hums, and pocky coughs; only your Chambers are licent to play upon you, and Drabs enow to give Fire to 'em.

Skir. Well, I cannot tell, but I am sure it goes wrong with me, for since the Ceasure of the Wars, I have spent above a hundred Crowns out of Purse: I have been a Soldier any time this forty Years, and now I perceive an old Soldier, and an old Courtier have both one Destiny; and in the end turn both into Hob-nails.

Pye. Pretty Mystery for a Beggar, for indeed a Hob-nail is the true Emblem of a Beggar's Shoe-soal.

Skir. I will not say but that War is a Blood-sucker, and so; but in my Conscience, (as there is no Soldier but has a piece of one, tho it be full of holes, like a shot Ancient, no matter, 'twill serve to swear by) in my Conscience, I think some kind of Peace has more hidden Oppressions, and violent heady Sins, (tho looking of a gentle Nature) than a profess War.

Pye. Troth, and for mine own part, I am a poor Gentleman, and a Scholar, I have been matriculated in the University, wore out six Gowns there, seen some Fools, and some Scholars, some of the City, and some of the Country, kept Order, went bare-headed over the Quadrangle, eat my Commons with a good Stomach, and battled with Discretion; at last, having done many flights and tricks to maintain my Wit in
use (as my Brain would never endure me to be Idle) I was expell'd the University, only for stealing a Cheese out of Jesus College.

Sir. Is't possible?

Pye. O! there was one Welsman (God forgive him) pursued it hard, and never left, till I turn'd my Staff toward London, where when I came, all my Friends were pit-hold'd, gone to Graves, (as indeed there was but a few left before) then was I turn'd to my Wits, to shift in the World, to towre among Sons and Heirs, and Fools, and Gulls, and Ladies eldest Sons, to work upon nothing, to feed out of Flint, and ever since has my Belly been much beholden to my Brain. But now to return to you old Skirmish, I say as you say, and for my part with a Turbulency in the World, for I have nothing in the World, but my Wits, and I think they are as mad as they will be: and to strengthen your Argument the more, I say an honest War is better than a bawdy Peace. As touching my Profession, the multiplicity of Scholars, hatchet and nourish'd in the idle Calms of Peace, makes 'em like Fishes, one devour another; and the Community of Learning has so phaid upon Affections, that thereby almost Religion is come about to Phantasy, and discredited by being too much spoken of—in so many and mean Mouths. I my self being a Scholar and a Graduate, have no other comfort by my Learning, but the Affection of my words, to know how Scholar-like to name what I want, and can call my self a Beggar both in Greek and Latin, and therefore not to cog with Peace, I'll not be afraid to say, 'tis a great Breeder, but a bad Nourisher, a great Getter of Children, which must either be Thieves or rich Men, Knaves or Beggars.

Stir. Well, would I had been born a Knave then, when I was born a Beggar; for if the truth was known, I think I was begot when my Father had never a Penny in his Purse.

Pye. Puh, faint not, old Skirmish, let this warrant thee, Facilis Descensus Averni, 'tis an easy Journey to a Knave, thou mayst be a Knave when thou wilt; and
The Puritan: or, The

Peace is a good Madam to all other Professions; and an arrant Drab to us; let us handle her accordingly; and by our Wits thrive in despight of her; for the Law lives by Quarrels, the Courtier by smooth Good-morrows, and every Profession makes it self greater by Imperfections; why not we then by Shifts, Wiles, and Forgeries? And seeing our Brains are the only Patrimonies, let’s spend with Judgment, not like a desperate Son and Heir, but like a sober and discreet Templer—one that will never march beyond the Bounds of his Allowance, and for our thriving means, thus, I my self will put on the Deceit of a Fortune-teller, a Fortune-teller.

Skir. Very proper.

Pye. And you a Figure-caster, or a Conjurer.

Skir. A Conjurer?

Pye. Let me alone, I’ll instruct you, and teach you to deceive all Eyes but the Devil’s.

Skir. O ay, for I would not deceive him, and I could chuse, of all others.

Pye. Fear not, I warrant you; and so by these means we shall help one another to Patients, as the Condition of the Age affords Creatures now for cunning to work upon.

Skir. O wondrous, new Fools and fresh Asses.

Pye. O, fit, fit, excellent.

Skir. What in the name of Conjuring?

Pye. My Memory greets me happily with an admirable Subject to graze upon. The Lady-Widow, who of late I saw weeping in her Garden, for the Death of her Husband, sure she’s but a watriff Soul, and half on’t by this time is dropt out of her Eyes: Device well manag’d may do good upon her: it stands firm, my first practice shall be there.

Skir. You have my Voice, George.

Pyr. Sh’as a grey Gull to her Brother, a Fool to her only Son, and an Ape to her youngest Daughter;—I over-heard ’em severally, and from their words I’ll drive my device; and thou, old Peter Skirmish, shalt be my second in all flights.

Skir.
Widow of Watling-street.

Skit. Ne'er doubt me, George Pye-Boord,—only you must teach me to conjure.

Enter Captain Idle pinion'd, and with a Guard of Officers passeth over the Stage.

Pye. Puh, I'll perfect thee, Peter: How now! what's he?

Skit. O George! this sight kills me, 'Tis my sworn Brother, Captain Idle.

Pye. Captain Idle.

Skit. Apprehended for some felonious Act or other, he has started out, has made a Night on't, lacks Silver; I cannot but commend his Resolution; he would not pawn his Buff-Jerkin, I would either some of us were employ'd, or might pitch our Tents at Surfers Doors, to kill the Slaves as they peep out at the Wicket.

Pye. Indeed, those are our antient Enemies; they keep our Money in their Hands, and make us to be hang'd for robbing of 'em; but come let's follow after to the Prison, and know the nature of his Offence, and what we can stead him in, he shall be sure of; and I'll uphold it still, that a charitable Knave is better than a soothing Puritan.

[Exeunt.

Enter at one Door Corporal Oath, and at the other three of the Widow Purtian's Serving-Men, Nicholas St. Antlings, Simon St. Mary Overies, and Frailty, in black Scourvy Mourning Coats, and Books at their Girdles, as coming from Church. They meet.

Nich. What, Corporal Oath? I am sorry we have met with you; next our Hearts; you are the Man that we are forbidden to keep company withal, we must not swear I can tell you, and you have the Name for-Swearing.

Sim. Ay, Corporal Oath, I would you would do so much as forfake us, we cannot abide you, we must not be seen in your Company.

Fraile.
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Frail. There is none of us, I can tell you, but shall be soundly whipt for Swearing.

Corp. Why how now? we three? Puritanical Scrape-shoes, Flesh a Good-Fridays; a Hand.

All. Oh.

Corp. Why Nicholas St. Antlings, Simon St. Mary-Overy's, has the De'il possett you, that you swear no better, you Half-Chriften'd Katomites, you Un-godmother'd Varlets, does the first Lesson teach you to be Proud, and the second to be Coxcombs? proud Coxcombs, not once to do Duty to a Man of Mark.

Frail. A Man of Mark, quotha, I do not think he can shew a Beggar's Noble.

Corp. A Corporal, a Commander, one of Spirit, that is able to blow you up all dry with your Books at your Girdles.

Sim. We are not taught to believe that, Sir, for we know the Breath of Man is weak.

[Corporal breathes on Frailty.

Frail. Foh, you lie, Nicholas; for here's one strong enough; blow us up, quotha, he may well blow me above twelve-score off on him: I warrant, if the Wind flood right, a Man might smell him from the top of Newgate, to the Leads of Ludgate.

Corp. Sirrah, thou hollow Book of Wax-candle.

Nich. Ay, you may say what you will, so you swear not.

Corp. I swear by the—

Nich. Hold, hold, good Corporal Oath; but if you swear once, we shall fall down in a Swoon presently.

Corp. I must and will swear: you quivering Coxcombs, my Captain is imprison'd, and by Vulcan's Leather Codpiece point—

Nich. O Simon, what an Oath was there?

Frail. If he should chance to break it, the poor Man's Breeches would fall down about his Heels, for Venus allows but one Point to his Hose.

Corp. With these, my Bully-Fleet, I will thump ope the Prison Doors, and brain the Keeper with the Begging-Box, but I'll set my honest sweet Captain Ille at liberty.

Nich:
Widow of Watling-street.


Corp. Ay, thou Church-peeling, thou Holy-paring, Religious our-side thou; if thou hadst any grace in thee, thou wouldst visit him, relieve him, swear to get him out.

Nich. Assure you, Corporal, indeed-la, 'tis the first time I heard on't.

Corp. Why don't now then, Marmaset; bring forth thy yearly Wages, let not a Commander perish.

Sim. But if he be one of the wicked, he shall perish.

Nich. Well, Corporal, I'll e'en along with you, to visit my Kinsman, if I can do him any good, I will—but I have nothing for him: Simon St. Mary Overies and Friality, pray make a Lie for me to the Knight, my Master, old Sir Godfrey.

Corp. A Lie? may you lie then?

Fri. O ay, we may lie, but we must not swear.

Sim. True, we may lie with our Neighbour's Wife, but we must not swear we did so.

Corp. O an excellent Tag of Religion.

Nich. O, Simon, I have thought upon a sound Excuse, it will go currant; say that I am gone to a Fast.

Sim. To a Fast? very good.

Nich. Ay, to a Fast, say, with Master Full-belly the Minister.

Sim. Master Full-belly? an honest Man: He feeds the Flock well, for he's an excellent Feeder.

[Exeunt Corporal and Nicholas.

Fri. O I, I have seen him eat a whole Pig, and afterward fall to the Pettitoes. [Exeunt Simon and Friality.

The Marshalsea Prison. Enter Captain Idle at one Door, and an old Soldier at the other.

Pye. Pray turn the Key. [Speaking within.

Skir. Turn the Key, I pray.

Capt. Who should these be? I almost know their Voices: O my Friends! [Entering.

You're welcome to a smeling Room here; you newly took leave of the Air, is't not a strange Savour?

Pye.
Pye. As all Prisons have smells of sundry Wretches; who tho departed, leave their Scents behind 'em.
By Gold, Captain, I am sincerely sorry for thee.
Capt. By my troth, George, I thank thee; but, pish—what must be, must be.
Skir. Captain, what do you lie in for? is't great? what's your Offence?
Capt. Faith my Offence is ordinary—common, a Highway, and I fear me my Penalty will be ordinary and common too, a Halter.

Pye. Nay, Prophecy not so ill, it shall go hard, but I'll shift for thy Life.
Capt. Whether I live or die, thou'rt an honest George. I'll tell you—Silver flow'd not with me, as it had done, for now the Tide runs to Bawds and Flatterers, I had a start out, and by chance set upon a fat Steward, thinking his Purse had been as pursy as his Body; and the Slave had about him but the poor purchase of ten Groats: Notwithstanding being descried, pursued, and taken, I know the Law is so grim, in respect of many desperate, unsettled Soldiers, that I fear me I shall dance after their Pipe for't.

Skir. I am twice sorry for you, Captain; first, that your Purchase was so small, and now that your Danger is so great.
Capt. Push, the worst is but Death—ha' you a Pipe of Tobacco about you?
Skir. I think I have thereabouts about me.

[Captain blows a Pipe.

Capt. Here's a clean Gentleman too, to receive.
Pye. Well, I must cast about some happy flight: Work, Brain, that ever didst thy Master right.

[Corporal and Nicholas within.

Corp. Keeper, let the Key be turn'd.

Nich. Ay, ay, pray, Master Keeper, give's a call of your Office.
Capt. How now? more Visitants?—what, Corporal Oath?

Widow of Watling-street.

Corp. In Prison, honest Captain? this must not be.
Nich. How do you, Captain Kinsman?
Capt. Good Coxcomb, what makes that pure—

Nich. You see, Kinsman, I am somewhat bold to
call in, and see how you do: I heard you were safe e-

Capt. This is a double torture now, — this Fool

by th'Book doth vex me more than my Imprisonment.
What meant you, Corporal, to hook him hither ?

Corp. Who, he ? he shall relieve thee, and supply
thee, I'll make him do't.

Capt. Ey, what vain Breath you spend :
He supply? I'll sooner expect Mercy from an Usurer
when my Bond's forfeited, sooner Kindness from a
Lawyer when my Money's spent; nay, sooner Charity
from the Devil, than Good from a Puritan. I'll look
for Relief from him when Lucifer is restor'd to his Blood,
and in Heav'n again.

Nich. I warrant my Kinsman's talking of me, for
my left Ear burns most tyrannically.

Pye. Captain Idle, what's he there? he looks like a
Monkey upward, and a Crane downward.

Capt. Pshaw; a foolish Cousin of mine. I must thank
God for him.

Pye. Why, the better Subject to work a scrape upon;
thon shalt e'en change Clothes with him, and leave him
here, and so——

Capt. Push, I publish'd him e'en now to my Corpo-
ral, he will be damn'd ere he do me so much good;
why, I know a more proper, a more handsome Device
than that, if the Slave would be sociable, —— now
Goodman Fleersface ?

Nich. O, my Cousin begins to speak to me now, I
shall be acquainted with him again, I hope.

Pye. Look! what ridiculous Raptures take hold of
his Wrinkles.

Pye. Then what say you to this Device, a happy one
Captain?
Cap. Speak low, George; Prison Rats have wider Ears than those in Malt-lofts.

Nich. Cousin, if it lay in my power, as they say, —

do

Cap. 'Twould do me an exceeding pleasure indeed, that never talk further on't, the Fool will be hang'd ere he do.

Corp. Pox, I'll thump 'im to't.

Pye. Why, do but try the Fopster, and break it to him bluntly.

Cap. And so my Disgrace will dwell in his Jaws, and the Slave slaver out our Purpose to his Master; for would I were but as sure on't, as I am sure he will deny to do't.

Nich. I would be heartily glad, Cousin, if any of my Friendships, as they say, might—stand, ha——

Pye. Why, you see he offers his Friendship foolishly to you already.

Cap. Ay, that's the Hell on't, I would he would offer it wisely.

Nich. Verily, and indeed la, Cousin——

Cap. I have took note of thy Fleers a good while, if thou art minded to do me good, as thou gav'st upon me comfortably, and giv'st me charitable Faces; which indeed is but a Fashion in you all that are Puritans, wilt soon at Night steal me thy Master's Chain?

Nich. Oh, I shall sowne!

Pye. Corporal, he starts already?

Cap. I know it to be worth three hundred Crowns, and with the half of that, I can buy my Life at a Broker's, at second hand, which now lies in pawn to the Law; if this thou refuse to do, being easy and nothing dangerous in that thou art held in good Opinion of thy Master, why 'tis a palpable Argument thou holdest my Life at no Price, and these thy broken and unjointed Offers are but only created in thy Lip, now born, and now buried, foolish Breath only: what, wouldst do't? Shall I look for Happiness in thy Answer?

Nich. Steal my Master's Chain, quoth he? no, it shall ne'er
ne'er be said, that Nicholas St. Antlings committed Bird-
lime!

Capt. Nay, I told you as much, did I not? tho he
be a Puritan, yet he will be a true Man.

Nich. Why Cousin, you know 'tis written, Thou
shalt not steal.

Capt. Why, and Fool, thou shalt love thy Neighbour,
and help him in Extremities.

Nich. Mass, I think it be indeed; in what Chapter's
that, Cousin?

Capt. Why in the first of Charity, the second Verse.

Nich. The first of Charity, quoth a, that's a good Jest,
there's no such Chapter in my Book!

Capt. No, I know 'twas torn out of thy Book, and
that makes it so little in thy Heart.

Pye. Come, let me tell you, you're too unkind a
Kinsman i'faith; the Captain loving you so dearly, ay,
like the Pomwater of his Eye, and you to be so uncom-
fortable, fy, fy.

Nich. Pray do not wish me to be hang'd, any thing
else that I can do; had it been to rob, I would ha'
don't, but I must not steal; that's the word, the literal,
Thou shalt not steal; and would you wish me to steal
then?

Pye. No Faith, that were too much, to speak truth;
why wilt thou nim it from him?

Nich. That I will.

Pye. Why enough, Bully; he will be content with
that or he shall ha' none; let me alone with him now.
Captain, I ha' dealt with your Kinsman in a Corner;
a good —— kind-natur'd Fellow, methinks: Go to,
you shall not have all your own asking, you shall bate
somewhat on't; he is not contented absolutely, as you
would say, to steal the Chain from him, but to do you
a pleasure, he will nim it from him.

Nich. Ay, that I will, Cousin.

Capt. Well, seeing he will do no more, as far as I
see, I must be contented with that.

Corp. Here's no notable Gallery?
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Pye. Nay, I'll come nearer to you, Gentlemen, because we'll have only but a Help and a Mirth on't, the Knight shall not lose his Chain neither, but be only laid out of the way some one or two days.

Nich. Ah, that would be good indeed, Kinsman.

Pye. For I have a farther reach, to profit us better, by the missing on't only, than if we had it outright; as my Discourse shall make it known to you:—when thou hast the Chain, do but convey it out at a Back-door into the Garden, and there hang it close in the Rosemary Bank, but for a small Season; and by that harmless Device, I know how to wind Captain Idle out of Prison, the Knight thy Master shall get his Pardon, and release him, and he satisfy thy Master with his own Chain, and wondrous thanks on both hands.

Nich. That were rare indeed la; Pray let me know how.

Pye. Nay, 'tis very necessary thou should'st know, because thou must be employ'd as an Actor.

Nich. An Actor? O no, that's a Player, and our Parson rails against Players mightily, I can tell you, because they brought him drunk upo'th'Stage once,—as he will be horribly drunk.

Corps. Mais, I cannot blame him then, Poor Church Spout.

Pye. Why as an Intermedler then?

Nich. Ay, that, that.

Pye. Give me Audience then; when the old Knight thy Master has rag'd his fill for the loss of the Chain, tell him thou hast a Kinsman in Prison, of such exquisite Art, that the Devil himself is French Lackey to him, and runs bare headed by his Horse—Belly, when he has one; whom he will cause, with most Irish Dexterity, to fetch his Chain, tho' twere hid under a Mine of Sea-coal, and ne'er make Spade or Pick-Axe his Instruments; tell him but this, with farther Instructions thou shalt receive from me, and thou shewest thy self a Kinsman indeed.

Corps. A dainty Bully.

Skir. An honest—Book-keeper.
Widow of Watling-street.

Capt. And my three times thrice honey Cousin.

Nich. Nay, grace of God I'll rob him on't suddenly, and hang it in the Rosemary Bank, but I bear that Mind, Cousin, I would not steal any thing, methinks, for mine own Father.

Skir. He bears a good Mind in that, Captain.

Pye. Why, well said,

He begins to be an honest Fellow, faith.

Corp. In truth he does.

Nich. You see, Cousin, I am willing to do you any kindness, always saving my self harmless.

[Exit Nicholas.

Capt. Why I thank thee, fare-thee-well, I shall re-
quite it.

Corp. 'Twill be good for thee, Captain, that thou haft such an egregious Afs to thy Cousin.

Capt. Ay, is not that a fine Fool, Corporal?

But, George, thou talk'ft of Art and Conjuring,

How shall that be?

Pye. Puh, be't not in your care,

Leave that to me and my Directions;

Well, Captain, doubt not thy Delivery now,

E'en with the vantage, Man, to gain by Prison,

As my Thoughts prompt me: Hold on Brain and Plot,

I aim at many cunning far Events,

All which I doubt not to hit at length;

I'll to the Widow with a quaint Assault:

Captain, be merry.


Pye. Oh, I am happy in more flights, and one will

knit strong in another—Corporal Oath.

Corp. Ho! Bully!

Pye. And thou, old Peter Skirmish, I have a neces-

fary task for you both.

Skir. Lay't upon, George Pye-board.

Corp. What e'er it be, we'll manage it.

Pye. I would have you two maintain a Quarrel before the Lady Widow's Door, and draw your Swords i' th'edge of the Evening: Clash a little, clash, clash.

Corp. Fuh!

Let
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Let us alone to make our Blades ring Noon,
Tho' it be after Supper.

Pye. I know you can;
And out of that false Fire, I doubt not but to raise
Strange belief—and, Captain, to countenance my De-
vice the better, and grace my Words to the Widow, I
have a good plain Sattin Suit, that I had of a young
Reveller t'other Night, for words pass not regarded
now-adays, unless they come from a good Suit of
Clothes, which the Fates and my Wits had bestowed
upon me. Well, Captain Idle, if I did not highly love
thee, I would ne'er be seen within twelve score of a
Prison, for I protest at this instant, I walk in great dan-
ger of small Debts. I owe Money to several Hoftesles,
and you know such Jilts will quickly be upon a Man's
Jack.

Capt. True, George.
Pye. Fare-thee-well, Captain. Come Corporal and
Ancient, thou shalt hear more News next time we greet
thee.

Corp. More News? Ay by yon Bear at Bridge-Foot
in Heav’n shalt thou.

Capt. Enough; my Friends, farewell,
This Prison shews as if Ghosts did part in Hell.

ACT II.

Enter Moll, youngest Daughter to the Widow, alone.

Moll. NOT marry? foreswear Marriage? why all
Women know 'tis as honourable a thing as
to lie with a Man; and I, to spight my Sister’s vow the
more, have entertain’d a Suiter already, a fine gallant
Knight of the last Feather, he says he will Coach me
too, and well appoint me, allow me Money to Dice
withal,
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withal, and many such pleasing Protestations he sticks upon my Lips: Indeed his short-winded Father i'th' Country is wondrous wealthy, a most abominable Farmer, and therefore he may dote in time; troth I'll venture upon him; Women are not without ways enough to help themselves: If he prove wise and good as his word, why I shall love him, and use him kindly; and if he prove an Ass, why in a quarter of an Hour's warning I can transform him into an Ox; — there comes in my Relief again.

Enter Frailty.

Moll. How now? what's the News?
Frail. The Knight your Suiter, Sir John Penny-Dub.
Moll. Sir John Penny-Dub? where? where?
Frail. He's walking in the Gallery.
Moll. Has my Mother seen him yet?
Frail. O no, she's — —spitting in the Kitchin.
Moll. Direct him hither softly, good Frailty.
I'll meet him half way.

Frail. That's just like running a Tilt; but I hope he'll break nothing this time.

Enter Sir John Penny-Dub.

Moll. 'Tis Happiness my Mother saw him not.
O welcome, good Sir John.

Dub. I thank you faith——Nay you must stand me till I kiss you: 'Tis the Fashion every where i'th' faith, and I came from Court e'now.

Moll. Nay, the Fates foresend that I shou'd anger the Fashion.

Dub. Then not forgetting the sweet of new Ceremonies, I first fall back, then recovering my self, make my Honour to your Lips thus; and then accept it.

Moll. Trust me, very pretty and moving, you're worthy on't, Sir.
O my Mother, my Mother, now she's here.

Kissing.
Kissing. Enter Widow and Sir Godfrey.

We'll steal into the Gallery.

Sir God. Nay, Sister, let Reason rule you, do not play the Fool, stand not in your own Light, you have wealthy Offers, large Tendrings, do not withstand your good Fortune: who comes a wooing to you I pray? no small Fool, a rich Knight o' th' City, Sir Oliver Muck-hill, no small Fool, I can tell you; and furthermore, as I heard late by your Maid-servants, as your Maid-servants will say to me any thing, I thank 'em, both your Daughters are not without Suiters, ay, and worthy ones too; one a brisk Courtier, Sir Andrew Tipstaff, Suiter a far off to your eldest Daughter, and the third a huge wealthy Farmer's Son, a fine young Country Knight, they call him Sir John Penny-Dub, a good Name marry, he may have it coin'd when he lacks Money; what Blessings are these, Sister?

Wid. Tempt me not, Satan.


Wid. You wound my Senses, Brother, when you name A Suiter to me—oh I cannot abide it, I take in Poison when I hear one nam'd.

Enter Simon.

How now, Simon? where's my Son Edmund?

Sim. Verily, Madam, he is at vain Exercise, dripping in the Tennis-Court.

Wid. At Tennis-Court? oh, now his Father's gone, I shall have no rule with him; oh wicked Edmund, I might well compare this with the Prophecy in the Chronicle, tho' far inferior, as Harry of Monmouth won all, and Harry of Windsor lost all; so Edmund of Brislow, that was the Father, got all, and Edmund of London, that's his Son now, will spend all.

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Sir God. Peace, Sister, we'll have him reform'd, there's hope on him yet, tho' it be but a little.

Enter Frailty.

Frail. Forsooth, Madam; there are two or three Archers at Door would very gladly speak with your Ladyship.

Wid. Archers?

Sir God. Your Husband's Fletcher I warrant.

Wid. Oh,

Let them come near, they bring home things of his, Troth I should ha' forgot em. How now? Villain, which be thofe Archers?

Enter the Suiters, Sir Andrew Tipstaff, Sir Oliver Mucklehill, and Penny-Dub.

Frail. Why, do not you see 'em before you? are not these Archers, what do you call 'em Shooters? Shooters and Archers are all one, I hope.

Wid. Out, ignorant Slave.

Muck. Nay, pray be patient Lady,
We come in way of honourable Love.

Tipstaff. Dub. We do.

Muck. To you.

Tipstaff. Dub. And to your Daughters.

Wid. O why will you offer me this, Gentlemen? in deed I will not look upon you; when the Tears are scarce out of mine Eyes, not yet wash'd off from my Cheeks, and my dear Husband's Body scarce so cold as the Coffin, what reason have you to offer it? I am not like some of your Widows that will bury one in the Evening, and be sure to another ere Morning, pray away, pray take your Answers, good Knights, and you be sweet Knights, I have vow'd never to marry——— and so have my Daughters too!

Dub. Ay, two of you have, but the third's a good Wench!

Muck.
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Muck. Lady, a shrewd Answer marry; the best is 'tis but the first, and he's a blunt Wooer, that will leave for one sharp Answer.

Tip'd. Where be your Daughters, Lady, I hope they'll give us better Encouragement?

Wid. Indeed they'll answer you so, take't a my word, they'll give you the very same Answer Verbatim, truly la.

Dub. Mum: Moll's a good Wench still, I know what she'll do.

Muck. Well, Lady, for this time we'll take our leaves, hoping for better comfort.

Wid. Onever, never; and I live these thousand Years; and you be good Knights, do not hope; 'twill be all vain, vain, —— look you put off all your Suits, and you come to me again.

Frail. Put off all their Suits, quotha? ay, that's the best wocioing of a Widow indeed, when a Man's non-

futed, that is, when he's a-bed with her.

[Going out Muckhil and Sir Godfrey.

Muck. Sir Godfrey, here's twenty Angels more, work hard for me; there's life in't yet. [Exit Muckhil.

Sir God. Fear not, Sir Oliver Muckhil, I'll stick close for you, leave all with me.

Enter George Pye-boord the Scholar.

Pye. By your leave, Lady Widow.

Wid. What another Suiter now?

Pye. A Suiter, no; I protest, Lady, if you'd give me your self, I'd not be troubled with you.

Wid. Say you so, Sir, then you're the better wel-

come, Sir.

Pye. Nay, Heav'n bless me from a Widow, unless I were sure to bury her speedily!

Wid. Good bluntness; well, your Business, Sir?

Pye. Very needful, if we were in private once.

Wid. Needfri? Brother, pray leave us; and you, Sir.

Frail. I should laugh now, if this blunt Fellow should put
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put 'em all beside the Sturrop, and vault into the Saddle himself, I have seen as mad a Trick. [Exit Frailty.

Enter Daughters.

Wid. Now, Sir? —— here's none but we ——— Daughters forbear.

Pye. O no, pray let 'em stay, for what I have to speak importeth equally to them as you.

Wid. Then you may stay.

Pye. I pray befall on me a serious Ear, For what I speak is full of weight and fear.

Wid. Fear!

Pye. Ay, if't pass unregarded, and uneffect'd, Else Peace and Joy; —— I pray Attention.
Widow, I have been a meer Stranger for these Parts that you live in, nor did I ever know the Husband of you, and Father of them, but I truly know by certain Spiritual Intelligence, that he is in Purgatory.

Wid. Purgatory? tuh; that word deserves to be spit upon; I wonder that a Man of sober Tongue, as you seem to be, should have the Folly to believe there's such a place.

Pye. Well, Lady, in cold Blood I speak it, I assure you that there is a Purgatory, in which place I know your Husband to reside, and wherein he is like to remain, till the Dissolution of the World, till the last general Bonfire; when all the Earth shall melt into nothing, and the Seas scald their finny Labourers; so long is his abidance, unless you alter the property of your Purpose, together with each of your Daughters theirs, that is, the purpose of single Life in your self and your eldest Daughter, and the speedy determination of Marriage in your youngest.

Moll. How knows he that? what, has some Devil told him?

Wid. Strange he should know our Thoughts: ——
Why, but Daughter, have you purpos'd speedy Marriage?

Pye. You see she tells you ay, she says nothing.
Nay, give me credit as you please, I am a Stranger to you, and yet you see I know your Determinations.

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which must come to me metaphysically, and by a supernatural Intelligence.

***Wid.*** This puts Amazement on me.

***Fran.*** Know our Secrets?

***Moll.*** I'd thought to steal a Marriage, would his Tongue

Had dropt out when he blab'd it.

***Wid.*** But, Sir, my Husband was too honest a dealing Man, to be now in any Purgatories——

***Pye.*** O do not load your Conscience with untruths, 'Tis but meer folly now to gild 'em o'er;

That has past but for Copper; Praises here,

Cannot unbend him there: confess but truth,

I know he got his Wealth with a hard gripe:

Oh hardly, hardly.

***Wid.*** This is the most strange of all, how knows he that?

***Pye.*** He would eat Fools and ignorant Heirs clean up;

And had his Drink from many a poor Man's Brow,

Even as their Labour brew'd it.

He would scrape Riches to him most unjustly;

The very Dirt between his Nails was ill got,

And not his own———oh

I groan to speak on't, the Thought makes me shudder!———

Shudder!

***Wid.*** It quakes me too, now I think on't—Sir, I am much griev'd, that you a Stranger should so deeply wrong my dead Husband!

***Pye.*** Oh!

***Wid.*** A Man that would keep Church so duly; rise early before his Servants, and e'en for religious haufe,

go ungarter'd, unbutton'd, nay Sir Reverence untrust,
to Morning Prayer!

***Pye.*** Oh uff.

***Wid.*** Dine quickly upon High-days, and when I had great Guests, would e'en shame me, and rise from the Table, to get a good Seat at an Afternoon Sermon!

***Pye.*** There's the Devil, there's the Devil; true, he thought it Sanctity enough, if he had kill'd a Man, so't'ad been
Widow of Watling-street.

been done in a Pue, or undone his Neighbour, so'tad been near enough to the Preacher. Oh—a Sermon's a fine short Cloak of an Hour long, and will hide the upper part of a Difsembler. Church, ay, he seem'd all Church, and his Conscience was as hard as the Pulpit.

Wid. I can no more endure this.

Pye. Nor I, Widow, endure to flatter.

Wid. Is this all your Business with me?

Pye. No, Lady, 'tis but the induction to't,
You may believe my strains, I strike all true.
And if your Conscience would leap up to your Tongue,
your self would affirm it, and that you shall perceive I know of things to come, as well as I do of what is present, a Brother of your Husband's shall shortly have a loss.

Wid. A loss? marry Heaven forefend, Sir Godfrey, my Brother!

Pye. Nay, keep in your wonders, 'till I have told you the Fortunes of you all; which are more fearful, if not happily prevented;—for your part and your Daughters, if there be not once this Day some Bloodshed before your Door, whereof the human Creature dies, of you two the eldest shall run mad.

Wid. and Fran. Oh!

Moll. That's not I yet.

Pye. And with most impudent Prostitution, show your naked Bodies to the View of all Beholders.

Wid. Our naked Bodies? fie for shame.

Pye. Attend me,
And your younger Daughter be stricken dumb.

Moll. Dumb? our, alas; 'tis the worst pain of all for a Woman, I'd rather be mad; or run naked, or any thing: Dumb?

Pye. Give ear: Ere the Evening fall upon Hill, Bog, and Meadow, this my Speech shall have past Probation, and then shall I be believ'd accordingly.

Wid. If this be true, we are all sham'd, all undone.

Moll. Dumb? I'll speak as much as I can possible before Evening.
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Pye. But if it so come to pass (as for your fair sakes I wish it may) that this Presage of your strange Fortunes be prevented by that Accident of Death and Bloodshedding, which I before told you of; take heed upon your Lives, that two of you which have vow’d never to marry, seek out Husbands with all present Speed, and you the third, that have such a desire to out-strip Chastity, look you meddle not with a Husband.

Moll. A double Torment.

Pye. The breach of this keeps your Father in Purgatory, and the punishements that shall follow you in this World, would with horror kill the Ear should hear ‘em related.

Wid. Marry? Why I vow’d never to marry.

Fran. And so did I.

Moll. And I vow’d never to be such an Afs, but to marry. What a cross Fortune’s this?

Pye. Ladies, tho I be a Fortune-teller, I cannot better Fortunes, you have ’em from me as they are reveal’d to me: I would they were to your Tempers, and Fellows with your Bloods; that’s all the bitterness I would you.

Wid. O! ’tis a just Vengeance, for my Husband’s hard Purchases.

Pye. I wish you to bethink your selves, and leave ’em.

Wid. I’ll to Sir Godfrey, my Brother, and acquaint him with these fearful presages.

Fran. For, Mother, they portend losses to him.

Wid. O ay, they do, they do.

If any happy issue crown thy Words,
I will reward thy cunning. [Exit Wid. and Fran.

Pye. ’Tis enough, Lady, I wish no higher.

Moll. Dumb? and not marry? worse,
Neither to speak, nor kiss, a double curse. [Exit.

Pye. So, all this comes well about yet, I play the Fortune-teller, as well as if I had had a Witch to my Grandnam: for by good happiness, being in my Hoftesse Garden, which neighbours the Orchard of the Widow, I laid the hole of mine Ear to a hole in the Wall, and heard
Widow of Watling-street.

heard 'em make these Vows, and speak those Words, upon which I wrought these Advantages; and to encourage my Forgery the more, I may now perceive in 'em a natural simplicity which will easily swallow an abuse, if any covering be over it: and to confirm my former Preface to the Widow, I have advis'd old Peter Skirmish the Soldier, to hurt Corporal Oath upon the Leg, and in that hurry I'll rush amongst 'em, and instead of giving the Corporal some Cordial to comfort him, I'll pour into his Mouth a Potion of a sleepy Nature, and make him seem as dead; for which the old Soldier being apprehended, and ready to be borne to Execution, I'll step in, and take upon me the Cure of the dead Man, upon Pain of dying the Condemned's Death; the Corporal will awake at his Minute, when the sleepy Force hath wrought it self, and so shall I get my self into a most admir'd Opinion, and under the pretext of that Cunning, beguile as I see occasion: and if that foolish Nicholas St. Antlings keep true time with the Chain, my Plot will be found, the Captain deliver'd, and my Wits applauded amongst Scholars and Soldiers for ever.

[Exit Pyeboord.

Enter Nicholas St. Antlings, with the Chain.

Nich. O, I have found an excellent advantage to take away the Chain, my Master put it off e'en now, to 'lay on a new Doubler, and I sneak'd it away by little and little, most puritanically! we shall have good sport anon when he has miss'd it, about my Cousin the Conjurer; the World shall see I'm an honest Man of my Word, for now I'm going to hang it between Heaven and Earth among the Rosemary Branches.

[Exit Nich.
ACT III.

Enter Simon St. Mary Overies, and Frailty.

Frail. Sirrah, Simon St. Mary-Overies, my Mistress sends away all her Suiters, and puts Fleas in their Ears.

Sim. Frailty, she does like an honest, chaste, and virtuous Woman; for Widows ought not to wallow in the puddle of Iniquity.

Frail. Yet, Simon, many Widows will do't, whatsoever comes on't.

Sim. True, Frailty, their filthy Flesh desires a Conjunction Copulative; what Strangers are within, Frailty?

Frail. There’s none, Simon; but Master Pilfer the Taylor: he’s above with Sir Godfrey, praising of a Doublet: and I must trudge anon to fetch Master Suds the Barber.

Sim. Master Sud’s a good Man, he washes the Sins of the Beard clean.

Enter old Skirmish the Soldier.

Skir. How now, Creatures? what’s a Clock?

Frail. Why, do you take us to be Jack at the Clock-House?

Skir. I say again to you, what’s a Clock?

Sim. Truly la, we go by the Clock of our Conscience, all worldly Clocks we know go false, and are set by drunken Sextons.

Skir. Then what’s a Clock in your Conscience? — O, I must break off, here comes the Corporal — hum, hum: — What’s a Clock?
Enter Corporal.

Corp. A Clock? why past seventeen.

Frai. Past seventeen? nay, h'as met with his Match now, Corporal Oath will fit him.

Skir. Thou dost not bawl nor baffle me, dost thou? I am a Soldier——past seventeen?

Corp. Ay, thou art not angry with the Figures, art thou? I will prove it unto thee, 12 and 1 is thirteen, I hope 2 fourteen, 3 fifteen, 4 sixteen, and 5 seventeen, then past seventeen, I will take the Dial's part in a just Cause.

Skir. I say 'tis but past five then.

Corp. I'll swear 'tis past seventeen then: dost thou not know Numbers? canst thou not cast?

Skir. Cast? dost thou speak of my casting 'th' Street?

[Draw.

Corp. Ay, and in the Market-place.

Sim. Clubs, Clubs, Clubs. [Simon runs in.

Frai. Ay, I knew by their fluffing Clubs would be Trump: Mass here's the Knave, and he can do any good upon 'em: Clubs, Clubs, Clubs.

Enter Pye-board.

Corp. O Villain, thou hast open'd a Vein in my Leg:

Pye. How now? for shame, for shame, put up, put up.

Corp. By yon blue Welkin, 'twas out of my part, George, to be hurt on the Leg.

Enter Officers.

Pye. Oh, peace now——I have a Cordial here to comfort thee.

Offi. Down with 'em, down with 'em, lay Hands upon the Villain.

Skir. Lay Hands on me?

Pye. I'll not be seen among 'em now.

[Corps.

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Corp. I'm hurt, and had more need have Surgeons
Lay Hands upon me, than rough Officers.

Off. Go carry him to be dress'd then:
This mutinous Soldier shall along with me to Prison.

Skir. To Prison? where's George?

Off. Away with him. [Exeunt with Skir.

Pye. So,
All lights as I would wish; the amaz'd Widow
Will plant me strongly now in her belief,
And wonder at the virtue of my words:
For the Event turns these Prefages from 'em,
Of being mad and dumb, and begets Joy
Mingled with Admirations: these empty Creatures,
Soldier and Corporal, were but ordain'd
As instruments for me to work upon.
Now to my Patient, here's his Potion.

[Exit Pye-boord.

Enter the Widow with her two Daughters.

Wid. O wondrous Happiness, beyond our Thoughts!
O lucky fair Event! I think our Fortunes
Were blest e'en in our Cradles: we are quitted
Of all those shameful violent Prefages
By this rash bleeding chance: go, Frailty, run; and
know
Whether he be yet living, or yet dead,
That here before my Door receiv'd his hurt.

Frail. Madam, he was carried to the Superior, but
if he had no Money when he came there, I warrant he's
dead by this time. [Exit Frailty.

Fran. Sure that Man is a rare Fortune-teller, never
look'd upon our Hands, nor upon any Mark about us, a
wondrous Fellow surely.

Moll. I am glad I have the use of my Tongue yet,
tho of nothing else. I shall find the way to marry too,
I hope, shortly.

Wid. O where's my Brother Sir Godfrey, I would he
were here, that I might relate to him how prophetically
the cunning Gentleman spoke in all things.

Enter
Enter Sir Godfrey in a rage.

Sir God. O my Chain, my Chain, I have lost my Chain, where be these Villains, Varlets?

Wid. Oh, he’as lost his Chain.

Sir God. My Chain, my Chain.

Wid. Brother, be patient, hear me speak, you know I told you that a Cunning-man told me, that you should have a Loss, and he has prophesy’d so true.

Sir God. Out, he’s a Villain to prophesy of the loss of my Chain, ’twas worth above three hundred Crowns, besides ’twas my Father’s, my Father’s Father’s, my Grandfather’s huge Grandfather’s: I had as lief ha lost my Neck, as the Chain that hung about it. O my Chain, my Chain.

Wid. Oh, Brother, who can be against a Misfortune; ’tis happy ’twas no more.

Sir God. No more! O goodly godly Sister, would you had me lost more? my best Gown too, with the Cloth of Gold-Lace? my Holiday Gafoins, and my Jerkin set with Pearl? no more!

Wid. Oh, Brother, you can read——

Sir God. But I cannot read where my Chain is: What Strangers have been here? you let in Strangers, Thieves, and Catch-poles: how comes it gone; there was none above with me but my Taylor, and my Taylor will not steal I hope?

Moll. No, he’s afraid of a Chain.

Enter Fraity.

Wid. How now, Sirrah? the News?

Frait. O, Mistress, he may well be call’d a Corporal now, for his Corps are as dead as a cold Capon’s.

Wid. More happiness.

Sir God. Sirrah, what’s this to my Chain? where’s my Chain, Knave?

Frait. Your Chain, Sir?

Sir God. My Chain is lost, Villain.

Frait.
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Frail. I would he were hang’d in Chains that has it then for me: Alas, Sir, I saw none of your Chain since you were hung with it your self.

Sir God. Out Varlet; it had full three thousand Links, I have oft told it over at my Prayers, Over and over, full three thousand Links.

Frail. Had it so, Sir? sure it cannot be lost then; I’ll put you in that comfort.

Sir God. Why? why?

Frail. Why if your Chain had so many Links, it can not chuse but come to light.

Enter Nicholas.

Sir God. Delusion. Now, long Nicholas, where is my Chain?

Nich. Why about your Neck, is’t not, Sir?

Sir God. About my Neck, Varlet? my Chain is lost, 'Tis roll’n away, I’m robb’d.

Wid. Nay, Brother, show your self a Man.

Nich. If it be lost or stole, if he would be patient, Mistres, I could bring him to a cunning Kinsman of mine that would fetch it again with a Sefarara.

Sir God. Canst thou? I will be patient, say, where dwells he?

Nich. Marry he dwells now, Sir, where he would not dwell, an he could chuse, in the Marshalsea, Sir; but he’s an excellent Fellow if he were out: h’as travell’d all the World o’er, he, and been in the seven and twenty Provinces: why, he would make it be fetch’d, Sir, if it were rid a thousand Miles out of Town.

Sir God. An admirable Fellow, what lies he for?

Nich. Why, he did but rob a Steward of ten Great r’other Night, as any Man would ha’done, and there he lies for’t.

Sir God. I’ll make his peace, A trifle, I’ll get his pardon, Besides a bountiful Reward; I’ll about it: But see the Clerks, the Justice will do much; I will about it strait, good Sister pardon me,
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All will be well I hope, and turn to good,
The Name of Conjurer has laid my Blood.  [Exeunt.

Enter Puttocck and Ravenshaw, two Serjeants, with Yeo-

man Dogson, to arrest George Pye-boord.

Put. His Hoftefs where he lies will trust him no lon-
ger, she hath fee’d me to arrest him; if you will accom-
pany me, because I know not of what Nature the Schol-
ar is, whether desperate or swift, you shall share with
me, Serjeant Ravenshaw, I have the good Angel to ar-
rest him.

Rav. Troth I’ll take part with thee then, Serjeant;
not for the sake of the Money so much, as for the hate
I bear to a Scholar. Why, Serjeant, ’tis natural in us
you know to hate Scholars: natural, besides, they will
publish our Imperfections, Knaveries, and Conveyances
upon Scaffolds and Stages.

Put. Ay, and spightfully too; troth I have wondered
how the Slaves could see into our Breasts so much, when
our Doublets are button’d with Pewter.

Rav. Ay, and so close without yielding: Oh, they’re
parlous Fellows, they will search more with their Wits
than a Constable with his Officers.

Put. Whift, whift, whift, Yeoman Dogson, Yeoman
Dogson.

Dog. Ha? what says Serjeant?

Put. Is he in the ’Pothecary’s Shop still?

Dog. Ay, ay.

Put. Have an Eye, have an Eye.

Rav. The best is, Serjeant, if he be a true Scholar;
he wears no Weapon I think.

Put. No, no, he wears no Weapon.

Rav. Mass, I am right glad of that; ’thas put me in
better Heart; nay, if I clutch him once, let me alone
to drag him if he be stiff-necked; I have been one of
the fix my self; that has dragg’d as tall Men of their
Hands, when their Weapons have been gone, as ever
battinado’d a Serjeant——I have done I can tell
you.

Dog.
The Puritan: or, The

Put. Hoh.
Dog. He's coming out single.
Put. Peace, peace, be not too greedy, let him play a little, let him play a little, we'll jerk him up of a sudden: I ha' fish'd in my time.
Rav. Ay, and caught many a Fool, Serjeant.

Enter Pye-boord.

Pye. I parted now from Nicholas; the Chair's couch'd, And the old Knight has spent his Rage upon't, The Widow holds me in great Admiration For cunning Art: 'mongst Joys I'm e'en lost, For my Device can no way now be croft, And now I must to Prison to the Captain, and there—
Put. I arrest you, Sir.
Pye. Oh——I spoke truer than I was aware, I must to Prison indeed.
Put. They say you're a Scholar, nay Sir——Yeoman Dogson, have care to his Arms——you'll rail against Serjeants, and stage 'em, you tickle their Vices.
Pye. Nay, use me like a Gentleman,——I'm little less.
Put. You a Gentleman? that's a good Jest i'faith; can a Scholar be a Gentleman——when a Gentleman will not be a Scholar;——look upon your wealthy Citizens Sons, whether they be Scholars or no, that are Gentlemen by their Father's Trades; a Scholar a Gentleman!
Pye. Nay, let Fortune drive all her Stings into me, she cannot hurt that in me, a Gentleman Accidens inseparable to my Blood.
Rav. A rablement, nay, you shall have a bloody rablement upon you I warrant you.
Put. Go, Yeoman Dogson, before, and enter the Admission i' th' Counter.
[Exit Dog.
Pye. Pray do not handle me cruelly, I'll go Whither you please to have me.
Put. Oh, he's tame, let him loose Serjeant.
Pye.
Widow of Watling-street.

Pye. Pray at whose Suit is this?

Put. Why, at your Hoffe's Suit where you lie, Mrs. Cunnibarrow, for Bed and Board, the Sum four Pound five Shillings and five Pence.

Pye. I know the Sum too true, yet I presum'd Upon a farther Day; well, 'tis my Stars: And I must bear it now, tho' never harder. I swear now my Device is crost indeed. Captain must lie by't: this is Deceit's Seed.

Put. Come, come away.

Pye. Pray give me so much time as to knit my Garter; and I'll away with you.

Put. Well, we must be paid for this waiting upon you, this is no pains to attend thus.

[Making to tie his Garter.

Pye. I am now wretched and miserable, I shall ne'er recover of this Disease: hot Iron gnaw their Pits: they have struck a Fever into my Shoulder, which I shall ne'er shake out again I fear me, till with a true Habeas Corpus the Sexton remove me? oh if I take Prison once, I shall be press'd to Death with Actions, but not so happy as speedily; perhaps I may be forty Years a pressing, till I be a thin old Man, that looking thro' the Grates, Men may look thro' me: all my Means is confounded, what shall I do? has my Wits served me so long, and now give me the slip (like a Strain'd Servant) when I have most need of 'em: no Device to keep my poor Carcase from those Puttocks? — yes, Happiness, have I a Paper about me now? yes too, I'll try it, it may hit, Extremity is Touch-stone unto Wit, ay, ay.

Put. 'Sfoot how many Yards are in thy Garters, that thou art so long a tying on them? come away, Sir.

Pye. Troth, Serjeant, I protest, you could never ha took me at a worse time, for now at this instant I have no lawful Picture about me.

Put. 'Slid, how shall we come by our Fees then?

Rav. We must have Fees, Sirrah.

Pye. I could have with'd it'faith, that you had took me half an Hour hence for your own sake, for I protest if you
you had not crost'd me, I was going in great Joy to receive five Pound of a Gentleman, for the Device of a Mask here, drawn in this Paper, but now, come, I must be contented, 'tis but so much lost, and answerable to the rest of my Fortunes.

Put. Why, how far hence dwells that Gentleman?

Rav. Ay, well said Serjeant, 'tis good to cast about for Money.

Put. Speak, if it be not far—

Pye. We are but a little past it, the next Street behind us.

Put. 'Slid we have waited upon you grievously already, if you'll say you'll be liberal when you ha't, give us double Fees, and spend upon's, why we'll show you that kindness, and go along with you to the Gentleman.

Rav. Ay, well said still, Serjeant, urge that.

Pye. Troth if it will suffice, it shall all be among you, for my part I'll not pocket a Penny, my Hostels shall have her four Pound five Shillings, and bate me the five Pence, and the other fifteen Shillings I'll spend upon you.

Rav. Why, now thou art a good Scholar.

Put. An excellent Scholar 'tis faith; has proceeded very well alate; come, we'll along with you.

[Exeunt with him; passing in, they knock at the Door with a Knocker withinside.

Ser. Who knocks, who's at Door? we had need of a Porter.

Pye. A few Friends here,—pray is the Gentleman your Master within?

Ser. Yes, is your Business to him?

Pye. Ay, he knows it when he sees me: I pray you have you forgot me?

Ser. Ay, by my troth, Sir, pray come near, I'll in and tell him of you, please you to walk here in the Gallery till he comes.

Pye. We will attend his Worship, — Worship I think, for so much the Poets at this Door should signify, and the far coming in, and the Wicket, else I neither knew
Widow of Watling-street.

knew him nor his Worship, but 'tis happiness he is within Doors, whatsoe'er he be; if he be not too much a formal Citizen, he may do me good: Serjeant and Yeoman, how do you like this House, is't not most wholly plotted?

Rav. Troth, Prisoner, an exceeding fine House.

Pye. Yet I wonder how he should forget me, for he ne'er knew me; no matter, what is forgot in you, will be remembred in your Master.

A pretty comfortable Room this methinks?

You have no such Rooms in Prison now?

Put. Oh, Dog-holes to't.

Pye. Dog-holes indeed—I can tell you I have great hope to have my Chamber here shortly, nay, and dies too, for he's the most free-hearted Gentleman where he takes: you would little think it. And what a fine Gallery were here for me to walk and study, and make Verses?

Put. O it stands pleasantly for a Scholar.

Enter Gentleman.

Pye. Look what Maps, and Pictures, and Devices, and things, neatly, delicately? Maps here he comes, he should be a Gentleman, I like his Beard well: —— All happiness to your Worship.

Gent. You're kindly welcome, Sir.

Put. A simple Salutation.

Rav. Maps, it seems the Gentleman makes great account of him.

Gent. I have the thing here for you, Sir.

Pye. I beseech you conceal me, Sir, I'm undone else. —— I have the Mask here for you, Sir, look you, Sir, —— I beseech your Worship, first pardon my rudeness, for my Extremes make me bolder than I would be: I am a poor Gentleman, and a Scholar, and now most unfortunately fall'n into the Hands of unmerciful Officers, arrested for Debt, which, tho' small, I am not able to compass, by reason I'm destitute of Lands, Money, and Friends, so that if I fall into the hungry swallow of the
the Prison, I am like utterly to perish, and with Fears
and Extortions be pinch’d clean to the Bone: Now, if
ever pity had interest in the Blood of a Gentleman, I
befeech you vouchsafe but to favour that means of my
Escape; which I have already thought upon.

Gent. Go forward.

Put. I warrant he likes it rarely.

Pye. In the plunge of my Extremities, being giddy,
and doubtful what to do; at last it was put in my la-
bouring thoughts to make a happy use of this Paper,
and to blear their unletter’d Eyes, I told them there was
a Device for a Mask drawn in’t, and that (but for their
interception) I was going to a Gentleman to receive
my reward for’t; they greedy at this word, and hoping
to make purchase of me, offer’d their attendance to go
along with me, my hap was to make bold with your
Door, Sir, which my thoughts shew’d me the most fairest
and comfortablest Entrance, and I hope I have hap-
pened right upon Understanding and Pity: may it please
your good Worship then but to behold my Device,
which is to let one of your Men put me out at a Back-
door, and I shall be bound to your Worship for ever.

Gent. By my troth an excellent Device.

Put. An excellent Device, he says; he likes it won-
derfully.

Gent. A my faith, I never heard a better.

Rav. Hark, he swears he never heard a better, Ser-
jeant.

Put. O, there’s no talk on’t, he’s an excellent Scho-
lar, and especially for a Mask.

Gent. Give me your Paper, your Device; I was never
better pleas’d in all my Life: good Wit, brave Wit,
finely wrought, come in, Sir, and receive your Money,
Sir.

Pye. I’ll follow your good Worship,—
You heard how he lik’d it now?

Put. Puh, we know he could not chuse but like it: go
thy ways, thou art a fine witty Fellow i’faith, thou shalt
discourse it to us at the Tavern anon, wilt thou?

Pye.
Widow of Watling-street. 305

Pye. Ay, ay, that I will,—look, Serjeants, here are Maps, and pretty Toys, be doing in the mean time, I shall quickly have told out the Money, you know.

Put. Go, go, little Villain, fetch thy Chink, I begin to love thee, I'll be drunk to Night in thy Company.

Pye. This Gentleman I may well call a part Of my Salvation, in these earthly Evils, For he has sav'd me from three hungry Devils.

[Exit Pye.

Put. Sirrah, Serjeant, these Maps are pretty painted things, but I could ne'er fancy them yet, methinks they're too busy, and full of Circles and Conjurations; they say all the World's in one of them, but I could ne'er find the Counter in the Poultry.

Rav. I think so: how could you find it? for you know it stands behind the Houses.

Dog. Mass, that's true, then we must look o' back-side for't; 'sfoot here's nothing, all's bare.

Rav. I warrant thee that stands for the Counter, for you know there's a Company of bare Fellows there.

Put. Faith like enough, Serjeant, I never mark'd so much before. Sirrah Serjeant, and Yeoman, I should love these Maps out a cry now, if we could see Men peep out of Door in 'em, oh, we might have 'em in a Morning to our Breakfast so finely, and ne'er knock our Heels to the Ground a whole Day for 'em.

Rav. Ay marry Sir, I'd buy one my self. But this talk is by the way, where shall's sup to Night: Five Pound receiv'd, let's talk of that. I have a Trick worth all, you two shall bear him to the Tavern, whilst I go close with his Hostels, and work out of her: I know she would be glad of the Sum, to finger Money; because she knows 'tis but a desperate Debt, and full of hazard: what will you say if I bring it to pafs, that the Hostels shall be contented with one half for all, and we to share t'other fifty Shillings, Bul-lines?

Put. Why, I would call thee King of Serjeants, and thou should'st be chronicled in the Counter-Book for ever.

Rav.
The Puritan: or, The

Rav. Well, put it to me, we'll make a Night on 't, i'faith.

Dog. 'Sfoot, I think he receives more Money, he flaps so long.

Put. He tarryes long indeed, may be, I can tell you upon the good liking on't the Gentleman may prove more bountiful.

Rav. That would be rare, we'll search him.

Put. Nay, be sure of it, we'll search him, and make him light enough.

Enter the Gentleman.

Rav. Oh, here comes the Gentleman —— By your leave, Sir.

Gent. God you good den Sirs, —— would you speak with me?

Put. No, not with your Worship, Sir; only we are bold to stay for a Friend of ours that went with your Worship.

Gent. Who? not the Scholar?

Put. Yes, e'en he, an it please your Worship.

Gent. Did he make you stay for him? he did you wrong then; why, I can assure you he's gone above an Hour ago.

Rav. How, Sir?

Gent. I paid him his Money, and my Man told me he went out at Back-door.

Put. Back-door?

Gent. Why, what's the matter?

Put. He was our Prisoner, Sir, we did arrest him.

Gent. What he was not? you the Sheriff's Officers— You were to blame then, Why did not you make known to me as much? I could have kept him for you, I protest, He receiv'd all of me in Britain Gold, Of the last coining.

Rav. Vengeance dog him with't.

Put. 'Sfoot has he gull'd us so?
Widow of Watling-street.

Dog. Where shall we sup now, Serjeants?

Pur. Sup, Simon, now, eat Porridge for a Month.

Well, we cannot impute it to any lack of Good-will in your Worship——you did but as another would have done, 'twas our hard Fortunes to miss the Purchase, but if e'er we clutch him again, the Counter shall charm him.

Rav. The Hole shall rot him.


Gent. So,

Vex our your Lungs without Doors, I am proud.

It was my hap to help him, it fell fit.

He went not empty neither for his Wit:

Alas, poor Wretch, I could not blame his Brain,

To labour his Delivery, to be free

From their unpitying fangs——I'm glad it stood

Within my Power to do a Scholar good. [Exit.

Enter in the Prison, meeting, Pye-board and Captain,

Pye-board coming in muffled.

Capt. How now, who's that? what are you?

Pye. The fame that I should be, Captain.

Capt. George Pye-board, honest George? why can't thou in half-fac'd, muffed so?

Pye. Oh Captain, I thought we should ne'er ha laugh'd again, never spent frolick Hour again.

Capt. Why? why?

Pye. I coming to prepare thee, and with News

As happy as thy quick Delivery,

Was trap'd out by the Scent, arrested Captain.

Capt. Arrested, George?

Pye. Arrested; guess, guess, how many Dogs do you think I'd upon me?

Capt. Dogs? I say, I know not.

Pye. Almost as many as George Stone the Bear:

Three at once, three at once.

Capt. How didst thou shake 'em off then?

Pye. The time is busy, and calls upon our Wits, let it suffice,

Here I stand safe, 'scap'd by Miracle:

Some
The Puritan: or, The

Some other Hour shall tell thee, when we'll steep Our Eyes in laughter: Captain my device Leans to thy Happiness, for e'er the Day Be spent to th' Girdle, thou shalt be free:
The Corporal's in's first sleep, the Chain is miss'd, Thy Kinsman has express thee, and the old Knight With Palsey-hams now labours thy Release. What rests is all in thee, to conjure, Captain.

Cap. Conjure? 'sfoot, George, you know, the Devil a conjuring I can conjure.

Pye. The Devil of conjuring? nay by my fay, I'd not have thee do so much, Captain, as the Devil a conjuring; look here, I ha brought thee a Circle ready Charaftered and all.

Cap. 'Sfoot, George, art in thy right Wits, dost know what thou sayst? why dost talk to a Captain a conjuring? didn't thou ever hear of a Captain conjure in thy Life? dost call't a Circle, 'tis too wide a thing, methinks; had it been a lesser Circle, then I knew what to have done.

Pye. Why every Fool knows that, Captain, nay then I'll not cog with you, Captain, if you'll stay and hang the next Sessions you may.

Cap. No, by my Faith, George, come, come, let's to conjuring.

Pye. But if you look to be released, as my Wits have took pain to work it, and all means wrought to further it, besides to put Crowns in your Purse, to make you a Man of better hopes, and whereas before you were a Captain or poor Soldier, to make you now a Commannder of rich Fools, which is truly the only best purchase Peace can allow you, safer than High-ways, Heaths or Cony-groves, and yet a far better Booty; for your greatest Thieves are never hang'd, never hang'd; for why? they're wise, and cheat within Doors: and we geld Fools of more Money in one Night, than your false-tail'd Gelding will purchasing in a Twelve-Months running, which confirms the old Beldam's saying, He's wisest that keeps himself warmest, that is, he that robs by a good Fire.

Cap
Widow of Watling-street.

Cap. Well opened i’faith, George, thou hast pull’d that
saying out of the Husk.

Pye. Captain Idle, ’tis no time now to delude or de-
lay, the old Knight will be here suddenly, I’ll perfec-
you, direct you, tell you the trick on’t: ’tis nothing.

Cap. ’Sfoot, George, I know not what to say to’t;
conjure? I shall be hang’d ere I conjure.

Pye. Nay, tell not me of that, Captain, you’ll ne’er
conjure after you are hang’d, I warrant you; look you,
Sir, a parlous Matter, sure, first to spread your Circle
upon the Ground, then with a little conjuring Cer-
emony, as I’ll have an Hackney-man’s Wand silver’d
o’er a purpose for you, then arriving in the Circle,
with a huge Word, and a great Trample, as for in-
stance, have you never seen a stalking, stamping Play-
er, that will raiﬀe a Tempest with his Tongue, and
Thunders with his Heels?

Cap. O yes, yes, yes; often.

Pye. Why be like such a one; for any thing will
blear the old Knight’s Eyes; for you must note, that
he’ll ne’er dare to venture into the Room, only per-
haps peep fearfully thro’ the Key-hole, to see how the
Play goes forward.

Cap. Well, I may go about it when I will, but
mark the end on’t, I shall but shame my self i’faith,
George, speak big words, and stamp and stare, and he
look in at the Key-hole, why the very thought of that
would make me laugh outright, and spoil all; nay I’ll
tell thee, George, when I apprehend a thing once, I
am of such a laxative Laughter, that if the Devil him-
sel ﬂood by, I should laugh in his Face.

Pye. Puh, that’s but the Babe of a Man, and may
easily be huﬀ’d, as to think upon some Disaﬅer, some
sad Misfortune, as the Death of thy Father i’th’
Country.

Cap. ’Sfoot, that would be the more to drive me
into such an extasy, that I should ne’er lin laughing
else.

Pye. Why then think upon going to hanging.
The Puritan: or, The

Cap. Mast that's well remembred, now I'll do well, I warrant thee, ne'er fear me now; but how shall I do, George, for boisterous Words, and horrible Names?

Pye. Puh, any suflian Invocations, Captain, will serve as well as the best, so you rant them out well; or you may go to a 'Pothecary's Shop, and take all the words from the Boxes.

Cap. Troth, and you say true, George, there's strange words enow to raise a hundred Quack-salvers, tho they be ne'er so poor when they begin; but here lyes the fear on't, how if in this falso Conjuration, a true Devil should pop up indeed.

Pye. A true Devil, Captain? why there was ne'er such a one, nay faith he that has this Place, is as falso a Knave as our last Church-warden.

Cap. Then he's falso enough a Conscience 'faith, George.

[The Cry at Marshallsea.

Enter Sir Godfrey, Mr. Edmund, and Nicholas.

Cry Prisoners. Good Gentlemen over the way, send your Relief:
Good Gentlemen over the way;—Good Sir Godfrey.

Pye. He's come, he's come.


[They salute; and Pye boord salutes Master Edmund.

Sir God. Now my Friend.

Pye. May I partake your Name, Sir?

Edm. My Name is Master Edmund.

Pye. Master Edmund,——are you not a Welshman, Sir?

Edm. A Welshman? why?

Pye. Because Master is your Christen Name, and Edmund your Sir-name.
Widow of Watling-Street.

Edm. O no: I have more Names at home, Master Edmund Plus is my full Name at length.

Pye. O cry you mercy, Sir. [Whispering.

Capt. I understand that you are my Kinsman's good Master, and in regard of that, the best of my Skill is at your Service; but had you fortun'd a mere Stranger, and made no means to be by acquaintance, I should have utterly denied to have been the Man; both by reason of the Act of Parliament against Conjurers and Witches, as also because I would not have my Art vulgar, trite, and common.

Sir God. I much commend your care there, good Captain Conjurer, and that I will be sure to have it private enough, you shall do't in my Sister's House—mine own House I may call it, for both our charges therein are proportion'd.

Capt. Very good, Sir,—what may I call your loss, Sir?

Sir. God. O you may call't a great Loss, a grievous Loss, Sir, as goodly a Chain of Gold, tho I say it, that wore it, how say'st thou, Nicholas?

Nich. O 'twas as delicious a Chain of Gold, Kinsman, you know—

Sir God. You know, did you know't, Captain?

Capt. Trust a Fool with secrets?—Sir, he may say I know; his meaning is, because my Art is such, that by it I may gather a knowledge of all Things—

Sir God. Ay, very true.

Capt. A Pox of all Fools—the excuse stuck upon my Tongue like Ship-pitch upon a Mariner's Gown, not to come off in haste—ber-lady, Knight, to lose such a fair Chain of Gold, were a foul loss; Well, I can put you in this good comfort on't, if it be between Heaven and Earth, Knight, I'll ha't for you.

Sir God. A wonderful Conjurer—O I, 'tis between Heav'n and Earth, I warrant you, it cannot go out of the Realm.—I know 'tis somewhere about the Earth.

Capt. Ay, neither the Earth than thou woul'ft on.

Sir.
The Puritan: or, The

Sir God. For first, my Chain was rich, and no rich thing shall enter into Heav'n, you know.

Nich. And as for the Devil, Master, he has no need on't, for you know he has a great Chain of his own.

Sir God. Thou say'st true, Nicholas, but he has put off that now, that lies by him.

Capt. Faith, Knight, in few words, I presume so much upon the Power of my Art, that I could warrant your Chain again.

Sir God. O dainty Captain!

Capt. Marry, it will cost me much sweat, I were better go to sixteen Hot-noses.

Sir God. Ay good Man, I warrant thee.

Capt. Beside great Vexation of Kidney and Liver.

Nich. O, 'twill tickle you hereabouts, Cousin, because you have not been us'd to't.

Sir God. No? have you not been us'd to't, Captain?

Capt. Plague of all Fools still; indeed, Knight, I have not us'd it a good while, and therefore 'twill strain me so much the more, you know.

Sir God. O it will, it will.

Capt. What plunges he puts me to? Were not this Knight a Fool, I had been twice spoil'd now; that Captain's worse than accurst that has an Ass to his Kind man; 'sfoot, I fear he will drivel't out before I come to't.—Now, Sir,—to come to the point indeed,—you see I stick here in the Jaw of the Marshalsea, and cannot do't.

Sir God. Tut, tut, I know thy meaning, thou would'st say thou'ret a Prisoner, I tell thee thou'ret none.

Capt. How, none? why is not this the Marshalsea?

Sir God. Will't hear me speak? I heard of thy name Conjuring:

My Chain was lost, I sweat for thy Release,

As thou shalt do the like at home for me:

Keeper.
Enter Keeper.

**Keep.** Sir.

**Sir God.** Speak, is not this Man free?

**Keep.** Yes, at his Pleasure, Sir, the Fees discharg'd.

**Sir God.** Go, go, I'll discharge them, I.

**Keep.** I thank your Worship. [Exit Keeper.]

**Capt.** Now trust me, you're a dear Knight; kindness unexpected! O there's nothing to a free Gentleman—I will conjure for you, Sir, till Froth come thro' my Buff-Jerkin.

**Sir God.** Nay, then thou shalt not pass with so little a Bounty, for at the first sight of my Chain again,—forty five Angels shall appear unto thee.

**Capt.** 'Twill be a glorious show 'faith, Knight, a very fine show; but are all these of your own House? are you sure of that, Sir?

**Sir God.** Ay, ay; no, no; what's he yonder talking with my wild Nephew, pray Heav'n he give him good Counsel.

**Capt.** Who, he? he's a rare Friend of mine, an admirable Fellow, Knight, the finest Fortune-teller.

**Sir God.** O! 'tis he indeed, that came to my Lady Sister, and foretold the los' of my Chain; I am not angry with him now, for I see 'twas my Fortune to lose it: By your leave, Mr. Fortune-teller, I had a glimpse of you at home, at my Sister's the Widow's, there you prophesied of the los' of a Chain;—simply, tho I stand here, I was he that lost it.

**Pye.** Was it you, Sir?

**Edm.** A my troth, Nuncle, he's the rarest Fellow, has told me my Fortune so right; I find it so right to my nature.

**Sir God.** What is't, God send it a good one.

**Edm.** O, 'tis a passing good one, Nuncle; for he says I shall prove such an excellent Gamester in my time, that I shall spend all faster than my Father got it.

**Sir God.** There's a Fortune indeed.

**Edm.** Nay, it hits my Humour so pat.
The Puritan: or, The

Sir God. Ay, that will be the end on't; will the Curse of the Beggar prevail so much, that the Son shall consume that foolishly, which the Father got craftily, ay, ay, ay; 'twill, 'twill, 'twill.

Pye. Stay, stay, stay.

[Pye-board with an Almanack, and the Captain.

Capt. Turn over, George.

Pye. June, July; here, July, that's the Month, Sunday thirteen, Yesterday fourteen, to Day fifteen.

Capt. Look quickly for the fifteenth Day,—if within the compass of these two Days there would be some boisterous Storm or other, it would be the best, I'd defer him off till then; some Tempest, and it be thy will.

Pye. Here's the fifteenth Day—hot and fair.

Capt. Puh, would 'ad been hot and foul.

Pye. The sixteenth Day, that's to morrow; the Morning for the most part, fair and pleasant.

Capt. No luck.

Pye. But about high-noon, Lightning and Thunder.

Capt. Lightning and Thunder? admirable! best of all! I'll conjure to morrow just at high-noon, George.

Pye. Happen but true to morrow, Almanack, and I'll give thee leave to lye all the Year after.

Capt. Sir, I must crave your Patience, to bellow this Day upon me, that I may furnish my self strongly,—I sent a Spirit into Lancashire t'other Day, to fetch back a Knave-Drover, and I look for his return this Evening—to morrow Morning, my Friend here and I will come and breakfast with you.

Sir God. O, you shall be most welcome.

Capt. And about Noon, without fail, I purpose to conjure.

Sir God. Mid-noon will be a fit time for you.

Edm. Conjuring? do you mean to conjure at our House to morrow, Sir?

Capt. Marry do I, Sir; 'tis my intent, young Gentleman.

Edm. By my troth, I'll love you while I live for't: O rare! Nicholas, we shall have Conjuring to morrow.

Nich.
Widow of Watling-street.

Nich. Puh I, I could ha' told you of that.

Capt. Law, he could ha' told him of that, Fool, Coxcomb, could ye?

Edm. Do ye hear me, Sir, I desire more Acquaintance on you, you shall earn some Mony of me, now I know you can conjure; but can you fetch any that is lost?

Capt. Oh, anything that's lost.

Edm. Why look you, Sir, I tell't you as a Friend and a Conjurer; I should marry a Pothecary's Daughter, and 'twas told me she lost her Maiden-head at Stony Stratford: Now if you'll do but so much as conjure for't, and make all whole again——

Capt. That I will, Sir.

Edm. By my troth I thank you, la.

Capt. A little merry with your Sister's Son, Sir.

Sir God. Oh, a simple young Man, very simple; come Captain, and you, Sir; we'll e'en part with a Gallon of Wine till to morrow Break-fast.

Capt. Troth, agreed, Sir.


Pye. Why now thou art a good Knave, worth a hundred Brownshirts.

Nich. Am I indeed, la; I thank you heartily, la.

[Exeunt.

ACT IV.

Enter Moll, and Sir John Penny-Dub.

Dub. But I hope you will not serve a Knight so, Gentlewoman, will you? to cacheer him, and cast him off at your Pleasure; what do you think I was dubb'd for nothing, no by my Faith, Lady's Daughter.

Moll. Pray Sir John Penny-Dub, let it be deser'd a while, I have a Heart to marry as you can have; but as the Fortune-teller told me.

Dub. Pax o'th' Fortune-teller, would Derrick had been his Fortune seven Years ago, to cross my Love thus.
The Puritan: or, The

thus; did he know what case I was in? why this is able to make a Man drown himself in's Father's Fifth-Pond.

Moll. And then he told me moreover, Sir John, that the Breach of it kept my Father in Purgatory.

Dub. In Purgatory? why let him purge out his Heart there, what have we to do with that? there's Physicians enough there to cast his Water, is that any Matter to us? how can he hinder our Love? why let him be hang'd now he's dead?—Well, have I rid Post Day and Night, to bring you merry News of my Father's Death, and now—

Moll. Thy Father's Death? is the old Farmer dead?

Dub. As dead as his Barn-Door, Moll.

Moll. And you'll keep your Word with me now, Sir John, that I shall have my Coach and my Coachman?

Dub. Ay faith.

Moll. And two white Horses with black Feathers to draw it?

Dub. Too;

Moll. A guarded Lackey to run before't, and py'd Liveries to come trailing after't?

Dub. Thou shalt, Moll.

Moll. And to let me have Mony in my Purse to go whither I will?

Dub. All this.

Moll. Then come, whatsoe'er comes on't, we'll be made sure together before the Maids o' th' Kitchen.

[Exeunt.

Enter Widow, Frances and Frailty.

Wid. How now? where's my Brother Sir Godfrey?

Wid. Went he forth this Morning?

Frait. O no Madam, he's above at Breakfast, with Sir Reverence a Conjurer.

Wid. A Conjurer? what manner of Fellow is he?

Frait. O, a wondrous rare Fellow, Mistress, very strongly made upward, for he goes in a Buff-Jerkin; he says he will fetch Sir Godfrey's Chain again, if it hang between Heaven and Earth.
Widow of Watling-street.

Wid. What! he will not? then he's an exlent Fellow I warrant, how happy were that Woman to be blest with such a Husband, a Man cunning? how do's he look Frailty? very swartly I warrant, with black Beard, scorcht Cheeks, and smoaky Eye-brows.

Frail. Foh—he's neither smoak-dryed, nor scorcht, nor black, nor nothing, I tell you, Madam, he looks as fair to see as one of us; I do think, but if you saw him once, you'd take him to be a Christian.

Fran. So fair, and yet so cunning, that's to be wondered at, Mother.

Enter Sir Oliver Muckhill, and Sir Andrew Tipstaff.

Muck. Bless you, sweet Lady.
Tip. And you, fair Mistress.

Wid. Coades, what do you mean, Gentlemen? Fie, did I not give you your Answers?
Muck. Sweet Lady?
Wid. Well, I will not stick with you for a Kiss;

Daughter, kiss the Gentleman for once.
Fran. Yes, forsooth.
Tip. I'm proud of such a Favour.
Wid. Truly la, Sir Oliver, you're much to blame to come again when you know my Mind so well delivered—as a Widow could deliver a thing.
Muck. But I expect a farther Comfort, Lady.
Wid. Why la you now, did I not desire you to put off your Suit quite and clean when you came to me again? how say you? did I not?
Muck. But the sincere Love which my Heart bears to you—
Wid. Go to, I'll cut you off; and Sir Oliver, to put you in Comfort, as far off, my Fortune is read me, I must marry again.
Muck. O blest Fortune!
Wid. But not as long as I can chuse; nay, I'll hold out well.
The Puritan: or, The

Enter Frailty.

Frail. O Madam, Madam.

Wid. How now? what's the haste? [In her Ear.

Tip. Faith, Missref's Frances, I'll maintain you gallantly, I'll bring you to Court, wean you among the fair Society of Ladies, poor Kinswomen of mine in Cloth of Silver; beside you shall have your Monkey, your Parrot, your Muskat, and your Pifs, Pifs, Pifs.

Fran. It will do very well.

Wid. What, do's he mean to conjure here then? how shall I do to be rid of these Knights,—please you, Gentlemen, to walk a while 'th' Garden, to gather a Pink, or a Gilly-flower.

Bohb. With all our Hearts, Lady, and count us favour'd.

Sir God. within.] Step in, Nicholas, look, is the Coast clear?

Nich. Oh, as clear as a Carter's Eye, Sir.

Sir God. Then enter Captain Conjurer;—now—how like you our Room, Sir?

Enter Sir Godfrey, Captain, Pye-boord, Edmund, and Nicholas.

Capt. O wonderful convenient.

Edm. I can tell you, Captain, simply tho' it lies here, 'tis the fairest Room in my Mother's House, as dainty a Room to conjure in, methinks—why you may bid, I can't tell how many Devils welcome in't; my Father has had twenty in't at once!

Pye. What, Devils?

Edm. Devils, no, Deputies, and the wealthiest Men he could get.

Sir God. Nay, put by your Chats now, fall to your Business roundly, the Fescue of the Dial is upon the Chris-cross of Noon; but oh, hear me, Captain, a qualm comes o'er my Stomach.

Capt.
Widow of Watling-street.

Capt. Why, what's the matter, Sir?

Sir God. Oh, how if the Devil should prove a Knave, and tear the Hangings?

Capt. Fuh, I warrant you, Sir Godfrey.

Edm. Ay, Nunkle, or spit Fire upo'th' Sealing?

Sir God. Very true too, for 'tis but thin plaistered, and 'twill quickly take hold a'the Laths; and if he chance to spit downward too, he will burn all the Boards.

Capt. My Life for yours, Sir Godfrey.

Sir God. My Sister is very curious and dainty o'er this Room, I can tell you, and therefore if he must needs spit, I pray desire him to spit i'th' Chimney.

Pye. Why, assure you, Sir Godfrey, he shall not be brought up with so little Manners, to spit and sprawl a'th' Floor.

Sir God. Why I thank you, good Captain, pray have a care I——fall to your Circle, we'll not trouble you I warrant you; come, we'll into the next Room, and because we'll be sure to keep him out there, we'll bar up the Door with some of the Godlies zealous Works.

Edm. That will be a fine Device, Nuncle; and because the Ground shall be as holy as the Door, I'll tear two or three Rosaries in pieces, and strew the Pieces about the Chamber; Oh! the Devil already.

[Runs in. Thunders.

Pye, 'Sfoot, Captain, speak somewhat for shame; It Lightens and Thunders before thou wilt begin, why when?

Capt. Pray Peace, George, thou'lt make me laugh anon, and spoil all.

Pye. Oh, now it begins again; now, now, now! Captain.

Capt. Rhumbos ragdayon, pur, pur, colucundrion, Hois-Polis.

Sir God. thro' the Keyhole within.] Oh admirable Conjurer! 'tis fetched Thunder already.

Pye. Hark, hark, again Captain.

Capt. Benjamino, gaspois-kay-gosgothoteron-umbrois.
The Puritan: or, The

Sir God. Oh, I would the Devil would come away quickly, he has no Conscience to put a Man to such Pain.

Pye. Again.

Capt. Flowste kak opumpos-dragone-leloomenos-hodge-podge.

Pye. Well said, Captain.

Sir God. So long a coming? O would I had ne'er begun now, for I fear me these roaring Tempests will destroy all the Fruits of the Earth, and tread upon my Corn—oh, i'th' Country.

Capt. Gog de gog, hobgoblin, huncks, bounflow, hockley te coome park.

Wid. O Brother, Brother, what a Tempest's i'th' Garden, sure there's some Conjunction abroad.

Sir God. 'Tis at home, Sister.

Pye. By and by I'll step in, Captain.

Capt. Nunk Nunck Rip Gascomes, Ips, Drip-Dropite.

Sir God. He drips and drops, poor Man; alas, alas.

Pye. Now, I come.

Capt. O Sulphure Sootface.

Pye. Arch-Conjuror, what wouldst thou with me?

Sir God. O, the Devil, Sister, i'th' Dining-Chamber; sing, Sister, I warrant you that will keep him out; quickly, quickly. [Goes in.

Pye. So, so, so; I'll release thee; enough, Captain, enough; allow us some time to laugh a little: they're shuddering and shaking by this time, as if an Earthquake were in their Kidneys.

Capt. Sirrah George, how was't, how was't? did I do't well enough?

Pye. Would believe me, Captain, better than any Conjurer, for here was no harm in this; and yet their horrible expectation satisfied well; you were much beholden to Thunder and Lightning at this time, it grac'd you well, I can tell you.

Capt. I must needs say so, George. Sirrah if we could ha' convey'd hither cleanly a Cracker, or a Fire-wheel, I'd been admirable.
Widow of Watling-street.

Pye. Blurt, blurt, there's nothing remains to put thee to pain now, Captain.

Capt. Pain? I protest, George, my Heels are fother than a Whifon' Morrise-dancer's.

Pye. All's past now—only to reveal that the Chain's i'th' Garden, where, thou know'st, it has lain these two Days.

Capt. But I fear that Fox Nicholas has reveal'd it already.

Pye. Fear not, Captain, you must put it to th' venture now: Nay 'tis time, call upon 'em, take pity on 'em, for I believe some of 'em are in a pitiful Case by this time.

Capt. Sir Godfrey, Nicholas, Kinsman,—'s foot they're fast at it still; George, Sir Godfrey?

Sir God. Oh, is that the Devil's Voice? how comes he to know my Name?

Capt. Fear not, Sir Godfrey, all's quieted.

Sir God. What, is he laid?

Capt. Laid; and has newly dropt
Your Chain i'th' Garden.

Sir God. I'th' Garden! in our Garden?

Capt. Your Garden.

Sir God. O sweet Conjurer! whereabouts there?

Capt. Look well about a Bank of Rosemary.

Sir God. Sister, the Rosemary-bank, come, come; there's my Chain, he says.

Wid. Oh, happiness! run, run. [Supposeth to go.

Edm. Captain Conjurer? [Edm. at key-hole.

Capt. Who? Master Edmund?

Edm. Ay, Master Edmund; may I come in safely without Danger, think you?

Capt. Puh, long ago, it is all as 'twas at first; Fear nothing, pray come near—how now, Man?

Edm. Oh! this Room's mightily hot; 'tis faith; 'slid, my Shirt sticks to my Belly already; what a steam the Rogue has left behind him? Foh, this Room must be aired, Gentlemen, it smells horribly of Brimstone,—let's open the Windows.

Pye. Faith, Master Edmund, 'tis but your Conceit.

Edm.
Edm. I would you could make me believe that, 'tis faith, why do you think I cannot smell his savour, from another? yet I take it kindly from you, because you would not put me in a fear, 'tis faith; a my troth I shall love you for this the longest day of my life.

Capt. Puh, 'tis nothing, Sir, love me when you see more.

Edm. Mafs, now remember, I'll look whether he has finged the hangings, or no.

Pye. Captain, to entertain a little sport till they come; make him believe, you'll charm him invisible, he's apt to admire any thing, you see, let me alone to give force to't.

Capt. Go retire to yonder end then.

Edm. I protest you are a rare fellow, are you not?

Capt. O Master Edmund, you know but the least part of me yet; why now at this instant I could flourish my wand thrice o'er your head, and charm you invisible.

Edm. What you could not? make me walk invisible, man? I should laugh at that 'tis faith; troth I'll require your kindness, and you'll do it, good captain Conjurer.

Capt. Nay, I should hardly deny you such a small kindness, Master Edmund Pluss, why, look you, Sir, 'tis no more but this, and thus again, and now you are invisible.

Edm. Am I faith? who would think it?

Capt. You see the fortune-teller yonder at farther end o' th' Chamber, go towards him, do what you will with him, he shall never find you.

Edm. Say you so, I'll try that 'tis faith——[Jussles him.

Pye. How now Captain? who's that jussled me?


Edm. Ha, ha, ha——say 'twas a Spirit.

Capt. Shall I?——may be some Spirit that haunts the Circle.

Pye. O my Nose, aghen, pray conjure then, Captain. [Pulls him by the Nose.

Edm. Troth this is extant, I may do any knavery now and never be seen——and now I remember me.
Sir Godfrey, my Uncle, abus'd me t'other Day, and told Tales of me to my Mother—Troth now I'm invisible, I'll hit him a round whirrit a' th'Ea'r, when he comes out a' th'Garden—I may be reveng'd on him now finely.

Enter Sir Godfrey, Widow, Frances, Nicholas with the Chain.

Sir God. I have my Chain again, my Chain's found again. [Edmund strikes him.

O sweet Captain, O admirable Conjurer. O, what mean you by that, Nephew?

Edm. Nephew? I hope you do not know me, Uncle?

Wid. Why did you strike your Uncle, Son?

Edm. Why, Captain, am I not invisible?

Capt. A good jest, George—not now you are not, Sir;

Why did not you see me when I did uncharm you?

Edm. Not I, by my Troth, Captain;

Then pray you pardon me, Uncle, I thought I'd been invisible when I struck you.

Sir God. So, you would do't? go, you're a foolish Boy,

And were I not o'ercome with greater Joy,

I'd make you taste Correction.

Edm. Correction, push—no, neither you nor my Mother, shall think to whip me as you have done.

Sir God. Captain, my Joy is such, I know not how to thank you, let me embrace you. O my sweet Chain, gladness e'en makes me giddy, rare Man; 'twas just i' th' Rosemary-bank, as if one should ha' laid it there,—

O cunning, cunning!

Wid. Well, seeing my Fortune tells me I must marry; let me marry a Man of Wit, a Man of Parts; here's a worthy Captain, and 'tis a fine Title truly la to be a Captain's Wife, a Captain's Wife, it goes very finely, beside all the World knows that a worthy Captain is a fit Companion to any Lord; then why not a sweet Bed-fellow for any Lady.——I'll have it so——
Enter Frailty.

Frai. O Mistress, Gentlemen, there's the bravest Sight coming along this way.

Wid. What brave Sight?

Frai. O, one going to burying, and another going to hanging.

Wid. A rueful Sight.

Pye. 'Sfoot, Captain, I'll pawn my Life the Corporal's coffin'd, and old Skirmish the Soldier going to Execution, and 'tis now about the time of his waking; hold out a little longer, sleepy Potion, and we shall have excellent Admiration; for I'll take upon me the Cure of him.

Enter the Coffin of the Corporal, and the Soldier bound, and led by the Officers, the Sheriff there.

Frai. O here they come, here they come!

Pye. Now must I close secretly with the Soldier, prevent his Impatience, or else all's discovered.

Wid. O lamentable seeing, these were those Brothers, that fought and bled before our door.

Sir God. What, they were not, Sister?

Skir. George, look to't, I'll peach at Tyburn else.

Pye. Mum——Gentles all, vouchsafe me Audience, and you especially, Master Sheriff:

Yon Man is bound to Execution,

Because he wounded this that now lies coffin'd.

Sher. True, true, he shall have the Law——and I know the Law.

Pye. But under Favour, Master Sheriff, if this Man had been cur'd and safe again, he should have been releas'd then?

Sher. Why, make you Question of that, Sir?

Pye. Then I release him freely, and will take upon me the Death that he should die, if within a little Season I do not cure him to his proper Health again.
Widow of Watling-street. 325

Sher. How, Sir? recover a dead Man?
That were most strange of all. [Frances comes to him.
Fran. Sweet Sir, I love you dearly, and could with
my best part yours,—O do not undertake such an im-
possible venture.

Pye. Love you me? then for your sweet sake I'll
do't.
Let me entreat the Corps to be set down.

Sher. Bearers, set down the Coffin,—this is won-
derful, and worthy Stow's Chronicle.

Pye. I pray bestow the freedom of the Air upon our
wholsome Art,—Mass his Cheeks begin to receive na-
tural warmth: Nay, good Corporal, wake betime, or
I shall have a longer Sleep than you,—'sfoot, if he
should prove dead indeed now, he were fully reveng'd
upon me for making a Property on him, yet I had ra-
ther run upon the Ropes, than have a Rope like a Tett-
ner run upon me, O—he flirs—he flirs again—
look, Gentlemen, he recovers, he starts, he rises.

Sher. Oh, oh, defend us—out, alas.

Pye. Nay, pray be still, you'll make him more giddy
else,—he knows no Body yet.

Corp. Zowns; where am I? cover'd with Snow? I
marvel?

Pye. Nay, I knew he would swear the first thing he
did, as soon as he came to Life again.

Corp. 'Sfoot Hostels—some hot Porridge,—oh,
ho, lay on a dozen of Faggots in the Moon Parlour,
there.

Pye. Lady, you must needs take a little pity of him
'faith, and send him in to your Kitchen Fire.

Wid. O, with all my Heart, Sir Nicholas and Frailty,
help to bear him in.

Nich. Bear him in quotha, pray call in the Maids, I
shall ne'er have the Heart to do't, indeed la.

Frailty. Nor I neither, I cannot abide to handle a
Ghost, of all Men,

Corp. 'Sblood, let me see, where was I drunk last
Night? hah——

Wid. O, shall I bid you once again take him away?
Frailty.
The Puritan: or, The

Frat. Why, we're as fearful as you, I warrant you—oh

Wid. Away, Villains, bid the Maids take him a Cawdle presently to settle his Brain—or a Posset of Sack, quickly, quickly.

[Exeunt, pushing in the Corp.

Sher. Sir, whatsoever you are, I do more than admire you.

Wid. O I, if you knew all, Master Sheriff, as you shall do, you would say then, that here were two of the rarest Men within the Walls of Christendom.

Sher. Two of 'em, O wonderfull: Officers, I discharge you, set him free, all's in tune.

Sir God. Ay, and a Banquet ready by this time, Master Sheriff, to which I most cheerfully invite you, and your late Prisoner there. See you this goodly Chain, Sir, mum, no more Words, 'twas lost and is found again; come, my inestimable Bullies, we'll talk of your noble Acts in Sparkling Charnico, and instead of a Jester, we'll ha the Ghost i' th' white Sheet sit at upper end o'th'Table.

Sher. Extent, merry Man, 'tfaith. [Exeunt.

Fran. Well, seeing I am enjoin'd to love, and marry, My foolish Vow thus I casheer to Air Which first begot it—now, Love, play thy part; The Scholar reads his Lecture in my Heart. [Exit.

ACT V. SCENE I.

Enter in haste Mr. Edmund and Frailty.

Edm. THIS is the Marriage-morning for my Mother and my Sister.

Frat. O me, Master Edmund, we shall have rare doings.

Edm.
Widow of Watling-street. 327

Edm. Nay, go, Frailty, run to the Sexton, you know my Mother will be married at St. Anthlings; by thee, 'tis past five, bid them open the Church-door, my Sister is almost ready.

Frail. What already, Master Edmund?

Edm. Nay, go by thee, first run to the Sexton, and run to the Clerk, and then run to Master Pigman the Parson, and then run to the Milliner, and then run home again.

Frail. Here's run, run, run.

Edm. But hark, Frailty.

Frail. What, more yet?

Edm. Have the Maids remembred to strew the way to the Church?

Frail. Foh, an Hour ago, I help'd 'em my self.

Edm. Away, away, away, away then.

Frail. Away, away, away, away then.

[Exit Frailty.

Edm. I shall have a simple Father-in-law, a brave Captain, able to beat all our Street: Captain Idle, now my Lady Mother will be fitted for a delicate Name; my Lady Idle, my Lady Idle, the finest Name that can be for a Woman; and then the Scholar, Master Pye-board for my Sister Frances, that will be Mistress Frances Pye-board, Mistress Frances Pyeboard, they'll keep a noble Table, I warrant you: Now all the Knights Noses are put out of joint, they may go to a Bone-fetter's now.

Enter Captain and Pye-board.

Hark, hark; O who comes here with two Torches before 'em, my sweet Captain, and my fine Scholar? O how bravely they are shot up in one Night, they look like fine Britains now methinks, here's a gallant change! Faith; 'slid, they have hir'd Men and all by the Clock.

Capt. Master Edmund, kind, honest, dainty Master Edmund.

Edm. Foh, sweet Captain Father-in-law, a rare perfume! Faith.

Pye.
The Puritan: or, The

Pye. What, are the Brides stirring? may we feast
upon 'em, think'st thou, Master Edmund?

Edm. Faw, they're e'en upon readiness, I can assure
you; for they were at their Torch e'en now, by the
same token I tumbled down the Stairs.
Pye. Alas, poor Master Edmund.

Enter Musicians.

Capt. O, the Musicians! I prethee, Master Edmund,
call 'em in, and liquor 'em a little.

Edm. That I will, sweet Captain Father-in-law, and
make each of them as drunk as a common Fidler.

[Exeunt.

Enter Sir John Penny-Dub, and Moll above lacing of
Clothes.

Dub. Whewh, Mistres' Moll, Mistrees Moll.
Moll. Who's there?
Dub. 'Tis I.
Moll. Who, Sir John Penny-Dub? O you're an
early Cock i'faith, who would have thought you to be
so rare a stirrer?
Dub. Prethee, Moll, let me come up.
Moll. No by my Faith, Sir John, I'll keep you down,
for you Knights are very dangerous, if once you get a-
bove.
Dub. I'll not stay i'faith.
Moll. I'faith you shall stay; for, Sir John, you must
note the nature of the Climates: Your northern Wench
in her own Country may well hold out till she be fif-
teen, but if she touch the South once, and come up to
London, here the Chimes go presently after Twelve.
Dub. O thou'rt a mad Wench, Moll, but I prethee
make haste, for the Priest is gone before.
Moll. Do you follow him, I'll not be long after.

[Exeunt.
Enter Sir Oliver Muck-hill, Sir Andrew Tipstaff, and old Skirmish talking.

Muck. O monstrous unheard of Forgery!
Tip. Knight, I never heard of such Villany in our own Country, in my Life.
Muck. Why, 'tis impossible, dare you maintain your Words?
Skir. Dare we? e'en to their Wezen Pipes; we know all their Plots, they cannot squander with us, they have knavishly abus'd us, made only Properties on's to advance their selves upon our Shoulders, but they shall rue their Abuses, this Morning they are to be married.
Muck. 'Tis too true, yet if the Widow be not too much befotted on Slichts and Forgeries, the Revelation of their Villanies will make 'em loathsome, and to that end, be it in private to you, I sent late last Night to an honourable Personage, to whom I am much indebted in kindness, as he is to me, and therefore presume upon the payment of his Tongue, and that he will lay out good words for me, and to speak Truth, for such needful Occasions, I only preserve him in Bond, and sometimes he may do me more good here in the City by a free Word of his Mouth, than if he had paid one half in Hand, and took Doomsday for 't'other.
Tip. In Troth, Sir, without soothing be it spoken, you have publish'd much Judgment in these few Words.
Muck. For you know, what such a Man utters will be thought effectual, and to weighty purpose, and therefore into his Mouth we'll put the approved Theme of their Forgeries.
Skir. And I'll maintain it, Knight, if she'll be true.

Enter Servant.

Muck. How now, Fellow?
Serv. May it please you, Sir, my Lord is newly lighted from his Coach.
The Puritan: or, The
Muck. Is my Lord come already? his Honour's early;
You see he loves me well; up before Heav'n,
Trust me, I have found him Night-cap'd at Eleven:
There's good hope yet; come, I'll relate all to him.
[Exeunt.

Enter the two Bridegrooms, Captain and Scholar. After
them, Sir Godfrey and Edmund, Widow chang'd in
Apparel, Mistress Frances led between two Knights:
Sir John Penny-Dub and Moll; there meets them a
Nobleman, Sir Oliver Muck-hill, and Sir Andrew
Tipstaff.

Nob. By your leave, Lady.
Wid. My Lord, your Honour is most chaitly welcome.
Nob. Madam, tho' I came now from Court, I come
not to flatter you; upon whom can I justly cast this Blot,
but upon your own Forehead, that know not Ink from
Milk, such is the blind bestowing in the state of an un-
headed Woman that's a Widow. For it is the Property
of all you that are Widows (a Handful excepted) to hate
those that honestly and carefully love you, to the main-
tenance of Credit, State, and Posterity, and strongly to
doat on those, that only love you to undo you; who re-
gard you least, are best regarded; who hate you most,
are best beloved. And if there be but one Man amongst
ten thousand Millions of Men, that is accurst, disastrous,
and evilly planeted; whom Fortune bears most, whom
God hates most, and all Societies esteem least, that Man
is sure to be a Husband——Such is the peevish Moon
that rules your Bloods. An impudent Fellow best woe
you, a flattering Lip best wins you, or in Mirth, who
talks roughliest, is most sweetest; nor can you distinguish
Truth from Forgeries, Mist from Simplicity; witness
those two deceitful Monsters, that you have entertain'd
for Bridegrooms.
Wid. Deceitful——
Pye. All will out.
Capt. 'Sfoot, who has blabb'd, George? that foolish
Nicholas.

Nob.
Widow of Watling-street.

Nob. For what they have besotted your easy Blood withal, were nought but Forgeries, the Fortune-telling for Husbands, and the Conjuring for the Chain; Sir Godfrey heard the fallhood of all; nothing but meer Knavery, Deceit and Cozenage.

Wid. O wonderful! indeed I wondred that my Husband, with all his Craft, could not keep himself out of Purgatory.

Sir God. And I more wonder, that my Chain should be gone, and my Taylor had none of it.

Nell. And I wondered most of all, that I should be tied from Marriage, having such a Mind to't; come Sir John Penny-Dub, fair Weather on our side, the Moon has chang'd since Yesternight.

Pye. The sting of every evil is within me.

Nob. And that you may perceive I feign not with you, behold their Fellow-actor in those Forgeries, who full of Spleen and Envy at their so sudden Advancements, reveal'd all their Plot in anger.

Pye. Base Soldier, to reveal us.

Wid. Is't possible we should be blinded so, and our Eyes open?

Nob. Widow, will you now believe that false, which too soon you believ'd true?

Wid. O, to my shame, I do.

Sir God. But under Favour, my Lord, my Chain was truly lost, and strangely found again.

Nob. Resolve him of that, Soldier.

Skir. In few words, Knight, then thou wert the Arch-Gull of all.

Sir God. How, Sir?

Sir. Nay I'll prove it: For the Chain was but hid in the Rosemary-bank all this while, and thou got'st him out of Prison to conjure for it, who did it admirably fullianly, for indeed what needed any others, when he knew where it was?

Sir God. O Villany of Villains! but how came my Chain there?

Skir. Where's Truly la, indeed la? he that will not swear
The Puritan: or, The

swear, but lie; he that will not steal, but rob: Pure Nichol Saint Antlings.

Sir God. O Villain! one of our Society.
Deem’d always holy, pure, religious:
A Puritan, a Thief? when was’t ever heard?
Sooner we’ll kill a Man, than steal, thou know’st.
Out Slave, I’ll rend my Lion from thy Back—
With mine own Hands.

Nob. Dear Master, oh.
Nob. Nay Knight, dwell in patience.
And now, Widow, being so near the Church, ’twere
great pity, nay uncharity, to send you home again with-
out a Husband: Draw near, you of true Worship, State
and Credit: That should not stand so far off from a Wi-
dow, and suffer forged Shapes to come between you.
Not that in these I blemish the true Title of a Captain,
or blot the fair Margent of a Scholar, for I honour wor-
thy and deserving parts in the one, and cherish fruitful
Virtues in the other. Come Lady, and you Virgin, be-
flow your Eyes and your purest Affections, upon Men
of Estimation, both in Court and City, that have long
woed you, and both with their Hearts and Wealth sin-
cerely love you.

Sir God. Good Sister, do: Sweet little Frank, these
are men of Reputation, you shall be welcome at Court;
a great Credit for a Citizen, sweet Sister.

Nob. Come, her silence does consent to’t.

Wid. I know not with what Face.

Nob. Pah, pah, with your own Face, they desire no
other.

Wid. Pardon me, worthy Sirs, I and my Daughter
have wrong’d your Loves.

Muck. ’Tis easily pardon’d, Lady,
If you vouchsafe it now.

Wid. With all my Soul.

Fran. And I, with all my Heart.

Moll. And I, Sir John, with Soul, Heart, Lights,
and all.

Sir God. They are all mine, Moll.

Nob.
Widow of Watling-street.

Nob. Now Lady:
What honest Spirit, but will applaud your choice,
And gladly furnish you with Hand and Voice?
A happy change, which makes e'en Heav’n rejoice.
Come, enter in your Joys, you shall not want
For Fathers, now I doubt it not, believe me,
But that you shall have Hands enough to give ye.

[Exeunt omnes.]
Dramatis Personæ.

Husband.  
Master of a College.  
Knight, a Justice of Peace.  
Oliver,  
Ralph, \textcircled{2} Serving-men.  
Samuel, \textcircled{5}

Other Servants, and Officers.

Wife.  
Maid-servant.  
A little Boy.
A YORKSHIRE TRAGEDY.

ACT I. SCENE I.

Enter Oliver, and Ralph, two Serving-men.

OLIVER.

RALPH, my young Mistress is in such a pitiful passionate Humour for the long Absence of her Love.

RALPH. Why, can you blame her? why, Apples hanging longer on the Tree than when they are ripe, makes so many fallings, viz. Mad Wenches, because they are not gathered in time, are fain to drop of themselves, and then 'tis common you know for every Man to take them up.
A Yorkshire Tragedy.

Oliv. Mast thou sayest true, 'tis common indeed, but Sirrah, is neither our young Master return'd, nor our Fellow Sam come from London?

Ralph. Neither of either, as the Puritan Bawd says. 'Slid I hear Sam, Sam's come, here tarry, come i'faith, now my Nose itches for News.

Oliv. And so doth mine Elbow.

Sam calls within. Where are you there?

Enter Sam, furnish'd with things from London.

Sam. Boy, look you walk my Horse with Discretion, I have rid him simply, I warrant his Skin sticks to his Back with very Heat: if he should catch Cold and get the Cough of the Lungs, I were well served, were I not? What, Ralph and Oliver?

Amb. Honest Fellow Sam, welcome i'faith, what Tricks hast thou brought from London?

Sam. You see I am hang'd after the truest Fashion, three Hats, and two Glasses bobbing upon them, two rebato Wyers upon my Breast, a Cap-case by my Side, a Brush at my Back, an Almanack in my Pocket, and three Ballads in my Cudpiece. Nay, I am the true Picture of a common Serving-man.

Oliv. I'll swear thou art, thou may'st set up when thou wilt; there's many a one begins with less, I can tell thee, that proves a rich Man ere he dies; but what's the News from London, Sam?

Ralph. Ay, that's well said, what is the News from London, Sirrah? My young Mistresse keeps such a pulling for her Love.

Sam. Why the more Fool she: ay, the more Ninnymoonyhammer she.

Oliv. Why, Sam, why?

Sam. Why, he is married to another long ago.

Amb. Faith, ye jest.

Sam. Why, did you not know that 'till now? Why, he's married, beats his Wife, and has two or three Children by her. For you must note, that any Woman bears the more when she is beaten.
A Yorkshire Tragedy.

Ralph. Ay, that’s true, for she bears the Blows.

Oliv. Sirrah, Sam, I would not for two Years Wages my young Mistress knew so much, she’d run upon the left hand of her Wit, and ne’er be her own Woman again.

Sam. And I think she was blest in her Cradle, that he never came in her Bed; why he has consum’d all, pawn’d his Lands, and made his University Brother stand in Wax for him: There’s a fine Phrase for a Scrivener! puh, he owes more than his Skin is worth.

Oliv. Is’t possible?

Sam. Nay, I’ll tell you moreover, he calls his Wife Whore, as familiarly as one would call Moll and Doll, and Children Bastards, as naturally as can be——But what have we here? I thought ’twas something pull’d down my Breeches; I quite forgot my two poking Sticks, these came from London, now any thing is good here that comes from London.

Oliv. Ay, far fetch’d you know.

Sam. But speak in your Conscience I’faith, have not we as good poking Sticks i’th’Country as need to be put i’th’Fire? the mind of a thing is all, and as thou said’st even now, far fetch’d are the best things for Ladies.

Oliv. Ay, and for Waiting-Gentlewomen too.

Sam. But Ralph, is our Beer soure this Thunder?

Ralph. No, no, it holds Countenance yet.

Sam. Why then follow me, I’ll teach you the finest Humour to be drunk in, I learn’d it at London last Week.

Amb. Faith let’s hear it, let’s hear it.

Sam. The bravest Humour, ’twould do a Man good to be drunk in it, they call it knighting in London, when they drink upon their Knees.

Amb. Faith that’s excellent.

Sam. Come follow me, I’ll give you all the Degrees of it in order.

[Exeunt.}
Wife. What will become of us? all will away.

My Husband never ceases in Expence,
Both to consume his Credit and his House;
And 'tis set down by Heav'n's just Decree,
That Riot's Child must needs be Beggary.

Are these the Virtues that his Youth did promise?
Dice and voluptuous meetings, midnight Revels,
Taking his Bed with Surfeits; ill beseeming
The antient Honour of his House and Name;
And this not all, but that which kills me most,
When he recounts his Losses and false Fortunes,
The weakness of his State so much dejected,
Not as a Man repentant, but half mad,
His Fortunes cannot answer his Expence,
He sits and sullenly locks up his Arms,
Forgetting Heav'n, looks downward, which makes him
Appear so dreadful, that he frights my Heart;
Walks heavily, as if his Soul were Earth;
Not penitent for those his Sins are past,
But vexed his Money cannot make them last:
A fearful Melancholy, ungodly Sorrow.
Oh yonder he comes, now in despight of Ills
I'll speak to him, and I will hear him speak,
And do my best to drive it from his Heart.

Enter Husband.

Hus. Pox of the last throw, it made
Five hundred Angels vanish from my sight.
I'm damn'd, I'm damn'd, the Angels have forsook me;
Nay, 'tis certainly true; for he that has no Coin,
Is damn'd in this World; he's gone, he's gone.

Wife. Dear Husband.

Hus. Oh! most punishment of all, I have a Wife.

Wife. I do intreat you, as you love your Soul,
Tell me the Cause of this your Discontent.
A Yorkshire Tragedy.

Huf. A Vengeance gird thee naked, thou art Cause,
Effect, Quality, Property, thou, thou, thou. [Exit.

Wife. Bad turn'd to worse;
Both Beggary of the Soul and of the Body,
And so much unlike himself at first,
As if some vexed Spirit had got his form upon him.

Enter Husband again.

He comes again,
He says I am the Cause; I never yet
Spoke less than Words of Duty and of Love.

Huf. If Marriage be honourable, then Cuckolds are
honourable, for they cannot be made without Marriage.
Fool, what meant I to marry to get Beggars!
Now must my eldest Son be a Knave or nothing, he can-
not live but upo' th' Fool, for he will have no Land to
maintain him; that Mortgage suits like a Snaffle upon
mine Inheritance, and makes me chaw upon Iron.
My second Son must be a Promoter, and my third a
Thief, or an Under-puter, a Slave Pander.
Oh Beggary, Beggary, to what base uses doth it put a Man.
I think the Devil scorns to be a Bawd,
He bears himself more proudly,
Has more Care on his Credit.
Base, flavius, abject, filthy Poverty.

Wife. Good Sir, by all our Vows I do beseech you,
Shew me the true Cause of your Discontent.

Huf. Money, Money, Money, and thou must supply me

Wife. Alas, I am the least Cause of your Discontent.
Yet what is mine, either in Rings or Jewels,
Use to your own desire, but I beseech you,
As you are a Gentleman by many Bloods,
Thou my self be out of your Respect,
Think on the State of those three lovely Boys
You have been Father to.

Huf. Puh, Bastards, Bastards, Bastards, begot in tricks,
begot in tricks.

Wife. Heav'n knows how those Words wrong me.
But I'll endure these Griefs among a thousand more:

Oh
342  A Yorkshire Tragedy.
Oh call to mind your Lands already mortgag'd,
Your self wound into Debts, your hopeful Brother
At the University into Bonds for you,
Like to be seiz'd upon. And——

_Hus._ Ha'done, thou Harlot,
Whom tho for Fashion I married,
I never could abide. Think'st thou thy Words
Shall kill my Pleasure? Fall off to thy Friends,
Thou and thy Bastards beg, I will not bate
A whit in Humour: Midnight still I love you,
And revel in your Company; curb'd in?
Shall it be paid in all Societies,
That I broke Custom? that I flag'd in Money?
No, those thy Jewels I will play as freely,
As when my State was fullest.

_Wife._ Be it so.

_Hus._ Nay, I protest, and take that for an Earnest,

[He spurns her.

I will for ever hold thee in Contempt,
And never touch the Sheets that cover thee,
But be divorc'd in Bed, till thou consent
Thy Dowry shall be sold, to give new Life
Unto those Pleasures which I most affect.

_Wife._ Sir, do but turn a gentle Eye on me,
And what the Law shall give me leave to do,
You shall command.

_Hus._ Look it be done, shall I want Dust,
And like a Slave wear nothing in my Pockets,

[Hold his Hands in his Pockets.

But my Hands to fill them up with Nails?
Oh much against my Blood, let it be done,
I was never made to be a Looker-on;
A Bawd to Dice; I'll shake the Drabs my self,
And make them yield; I say, look it be done.

_Wife._ I take my leave, it shall.

[Exit.

_Hus._ Speedily, speedily; I hate the very Hour I chose
a Wife, a Trouble, Trouble; three Children like three
Evils hang upon me, fy, fy, fy, Strumpet and Bastards,
Strumpet and Bastards.

_Enter
Enter three Gentlemen, hearing him.

1 Gent. Still do these loathsome Thoughts jar on your Tongue?
Your self to stain the Honour of your Wife,
Nobly descended; those whom Men call mad,
Endanger others, but he's more than mad
That wounds himself, whose own Words
Do proclaim it is not fit, I pray forsake it.

2 Gent. Good Sir, let Modesty reprove you.

3 Gent. Let honest Kindness sway so much with you.
Huf. God den, I thank you, Sir, how do you?
adieu,
I am glad to see you, farewell Instructions, Admonitions.
[Exeunt Gent.

Enter a Servant.

How now, Sirrah? what would you?
Ser. Only to certify you, Sir, that my Mistress was met by the way, by them who were sent for her up to London by her honourable Uncle, your Worship's late Guardian.

Huf. So, Sir, then she is gone, and so may you be,
But let her look the thing be done she wots of,
Or Hell will stand more pleasant than her House at home.
[Exit Servant.

Enter a Gentleman.

Gent. Well or ill met, I care not.
Huf. No, nor I.

Gent. I am come with Confidence to chide you.
Huf. Who me? chide me? do't finely then, let it not move me; for if thou chid'st me angry, I shall strike.

Gent. Strike thine own Follies, for it is they
Deserve to be well beaten: we are now in private,
There's none but thou and I; thou art fond and peevish,
An unclean Rioted, thy Lands and Credit

P 4
Lie now both sick of a Consumption,
I am sorry for thee; that Man spends with shame,
That with his Riches doth consume his Name;
And such art thou.

_Hus_. Peace.

_Gent_. No, thou shalt hear me farther.

Thy Father's and Forefathers worthy Honours,
Which were our Country Monuments, our Grace,
Follies in thee begin now to deface.
The Spring-time of thy Youth did fairly promise
Such a most fruitful Summer to thy Friends,
It scarce can enter into Mens Beliefs,
Such Dearth's should hang on thee, we that see it
Are sorry to believe it; in thy Change,
This Voice into all places will be hurl'd,
Thou and the Devil has deceiv'd the World.

_Hus_. I'll not endure thee.

_Gent_. But of all the worst,
Thy virtuous Wife, right honourably allied,
Thou hast proclaim'd a Strumpet.

_Hus_. Nay then I know thee,
Thou art her Champion thou, her private Friend,
The Party you wot on.

_Gent_. Oh ignoble Thought,
I am past my patient Blood, shall I stand idle:
And see my Reputation touch'd to death?

_Hus_. This has gall'd you, has it?

_Gent_. No, Monstre, I prove
My Thoughts did only tend to virtuous Love.

_Hus_. Love of her Virtues? there it goes.

_Gent_. Base Spirit, to lay thy hate upon
The fruitful Honour of thine own Bed.

[They fight, and the Husband is hurt.]

_Hus_. Oh.

_Gent_. Wilt thou yield it yet.

_Hus_. Sir, Sir, I have not done with you.

_Gent_. I hope, nor ne'er shall do. [Fight again.

_Hus_. Have you got Tricks? are you in cunning with me?

_Gent_.}
A Yorkshire Tragedy.

Gent. No, plain and right.
He needs no cunning that for Truth doth fight.

[Husband falls down:]

Hus. Hard Fortune, am I levell'd with the Ground?
Gent. Now, Sir, you lie at Mercy.
Hus. Ay, you Slave.
Gent. Alas that hate should bring us to our Grave.
You see, my Sword's not thirsty for your Life,
I am sorrier for your Wound, than you your self:
You're of a virtuous House, shew virtuous Deeds,
'Tis not your Honour, 'tis your Folly bleeds.

Much good has been expected in your Life,
Cancel not all Mens hopes; you have a Wife,
Kind and obedient, heap not wrongful shame
On her and your Posterity; let only Sin be sore,
And by this Fall, rise never to fall more.
And so I leave you. [Exit]

Hus. Has the Dog left me then,
After his Tooth has left me? Oh, my Heart
Would fain leap after him, Revenge I say,
I'm mad to be reveng'd; my Strumpet Wife,
It is thy Quarrel that rips thus my Flesh,
And makes my Breast Spit Blood, but thou shalt bleed;
Vanquish'd? got down? unable e'en to speak?
Surely 'tis want of Money makes Men weak,
Ay, 'twas that o'erthrew me, I'd ne'er been down else.
[Exit]

Enter Wife in a riding Suit, with a Serving-man.

Ser. Faith, Mistress, if it may not be Presumption
In me to tell you so, for his Excuse
You had small Reason, knowing his abuse.

Wife. I grant I had, but alas,
Why should our Faults at home be spread abroad?
'Tis Grief enough within Doors; at first sight
Mine Uncle could run o'er his prodigal Life
As perfectly, as if his serious Eye
Had number'd all his Follies:
Knew of his mortgag'd Lands, his Friends in Bonds,
Himself with'd with Debt; and in that minute
Had I added his Usage and Unkindness,
'Twould have confounded every Thought of good;
Where now, fathering his Riots in his Youth,
Which Time and tame Experience will shake off,
Guessing his Kindness to me (as I smooth'd him
With all the skill I had) tho' his deserts
Are in form uglier than an unshap'd Bear,
He's ready to prefer him to some Office
And Place at Court! A good and sure Relief
To all his stooping Fortunes, 'twill be a means, I hope,
To make new League between us, and redeem
His Virtues with his Lands.

Ser. I should think so: Mistrefs, if he should not now
be kind to you, and love you, and cherish you up, I
should think the Devil himself kept open House in him.

Wife. I doubt not but he will now, prithee leave me,
I think I hear him coming.

Ser. I'm gone. [Exit.

Wife. By this good means I shall preserve my Lands,
And free my Husband out of Usurers Hands;
Now there is no need of Sale, my Uncle's kind,
I hope, if ought, this will content his Mind.
Here comes my Husband.

Enter Husband.

Huf. Now, are you come? where's the Money? Let's
see the Money, is the Rubbish fold? those Wife-akers
your Lands, why then, the Money, where is it? pour
it down, down with it, down with it: I say pour't on
the Ground, let's see it, let's see it.

Wife. Good Sir, keep but in patience, and I hope
My Words shall like you well, I bring you better
Comfort than the sale of my Dowry.

Huf. Ha, what's that?

Wife. Pray do not fright me, Sir, but vouchsafe me
hearing. My Uncle, glad of your Kindness to me and
mild Usage (for so I made it to him) hath in pity of
your
your declining Fortunes, provided a place for you at Court of worth and credit; which so much overjoy'd me——

_Huf._ Out on thee, Filth, over and overjoy'd,
When I'm in Torment. [Spurns her.
Thou politick Whore, subtiller than nine Devils, was this thy Journey to Nunck, to set down the History of me, my State and Fortunes?
Shall I, that dedicated my self to Pleasure, be now confin'd in Service to crouch, and stand, like an old Man i'th'Hams, my Hat off? I that could never abide to uncover my Head i'th'Church, base Slut, this Fruit bears thy Complaints.

_Wife._ Oh, Heav'n knows,
That my Complaints were Praises and best Words
Of you, and your Estate; only my Friends
Knew of your mortgag'd Lands, and were poss'd
Of every Accident before I came.
If you suspect it but a Plot in me
To keep my Dowry, or for mine own good,
Or my poor Children (tho it suits a Mother
To shew a natural care in their Reliefs)
Yet I'll forget my self to calm your Blood;
Consume it, as your Pleasure counsels you,
And all I wish, e'en Clemency affords,
Give me but pleasant Looks, and modest Words.

_Huf._ Money, Whore, Money, or I'll——

[Draws his Dagger.

Enter a Servant hastily.

_What the Devil! How now? thy hasty News?_  
_Ser._ May it please you, Sir.

_Huf._ What, may I not look upon my Dagger?
_Speak, Villain, or I will execute the Point on thee:
Quick, short.

_Ser._ Why, Sir, a Gentleman from the University stays below to speak with you.

_Huf._ From the University? so, University,
That long Word runs thro' me.  

[Exit.

_Wife._
Wife. Was ever Wife so wretchedly beset?
Had not this News step’d in between, the Point
Had offered Violence unto my Breast.
That which some Women call great misery,
Would shew but little here, would scarce be seen.
Among my miseries: I may compare
For wretched Fortunes, with all Wives that are:
Nothing will please him, until all be nothing.
He calls it Slavery to be prefer’d,
A Place of Credit, a base Servitude.
What shall become of me, and my poor Children?
Two here, and one at Nurse, my pretty Beggars,
I see how Ruin with a palsy Hand
Begins to shake the ancient Seat to Dust:
The heavy weight of Sorrow draws my Lids
Over my darkish Eyes: I can scarce see;
Thus Grief will last, it wakes and sleeps with me.

Enter the Husband with the Master of the College.

Hus. Please you draw near, Sir, you’re exceeding welcome.

Mas. That’s my doubt, I fear I come not to be welcome.

Hus. Yes, howsoever.

Mas. ’Tis not my fashion, Sir, to dwell in long Circumstance, but to be plain and effectual; therefore to the Purpose.

The cause of my setting forth was piteous and lamentable; that hopeful young Gentleman your Brother, whose Virtues we all love dearly, thro’ your Default and unnatural Negligence, lies in Bond executed for your Debt, a Prisoner, all his Studies amas’d, his Hope struck dead, and the Pride of his Youth muffled in these dark Clouds of Oppression.

Hus. Hum, hum, hum.

Mas. O, you have kill’d the farthest hope of all our University, wherefore without Repentance and Amendments, expect ponderous and sudden Judgments to fall grievously upon you; your Brother, a Man who profi-
A Yorkshire Tragedy.

Fited in his Divine Employments, and might have made ten thousand Souls fit for Heaven, now by your careless courses cast into Prison, which you must answer for, and assure your Spirit it will come home at length.

Hus. O God, oh.

Mast. Wise Men think ill of you, others speak ill of you, no Man loves you, nay, even those whom Honesty condemns, condemn you; and take this from the virtuous Affection I bear your Brother, never look for prosperous Hour, good Thoughts, quiet Sleep, contented Walks, nor any thing that makes Man perfect, till you redeem him: What is your Answer? how will you bestow him? upon desperate Misery, or better hopes? I suffer till I hear your Answer.

Hus. Sir, you have much wrought with me, I feel you in my Soul, you are your Arts Master.

I never had Sense till now; your Syllables have cleft me, both for your Words and Pains I thank you; I cannot but acknowledge grievous Wrongs done to my Brother, mighty, mighty, mighty, mighty Wrongs. Within there.

Enter a Serving-man.

Hus. Fill me a Bowl of Wine. Alas, poor Brother, Bruis'd with an Execution for my sake.

Mast. A bruise indeed makes many a mortal Sore, Till the Grave cure them.

Enter with Wine.

Hus. Sir, I begin to you, you've chid your welcome.

Mast. I could have wished it better for your sake. I pledge you, Sir, to the kind Man in Prison.

Hus. Let it be so. Now, Sir, if you please to spend but a few Minutes in walking about my Grounds below, my Man shall here attend you; I doubt not but by that time to be furnished
A Yorkshire Tragedy.

of a sufficient answer, and therein my Brother fully satisfied.

Maj. Good Sir, in that the Angels would be pleased, And the World's murmurs calm'd, and I should say, I set forth then upon a lucky Day. [Exit.

Huf. O thou confused Man, thy pleasant Sins have undone thee, thy Damnation has beggar'd thee. That Heav'n should say we must not sin, and yet made Women: Gives our Senses way to find Pleasure, which being found, confounds us, why should we know those things so much misuse us? O would Virtue had been forbidden, we should then have prov'd all virtuous, for 'tis our Blood to love what we are forbidden, what Man would have been forbidden, what Man would have been fool to a Beast, and zany to a Swine, to shew tricks in the mire? what is there in three Dice, to make a Man draw thrice three thousand Acres into the compass of a little round Table, and with the Gentleman's Palsy in the Hand, shake out his Posterity, Thieves or Beggars? 'Tis done, I have don't i'faith: Terrible, horrible Misery,—how well was I left, very well, very well.

My Lands shew'd like a Full Moon about me, but now the Moon's in the last Quarter, waining, waining, and I am mad to think that Moon was mine; mine and my Father's, and my Fore-fathers Generations, Generations, down goes the House of us, down, down it sinks: Now is the name a Beggar, begs in me that Name hundreds of Years has made this Shire famous; in me and my Posterity runs out.

In my Seed five are made miserable beside my self, my Riot is now my Brother's Jaylor, my Wife's fighting, my three Boys penury, and mine own Confusion.

[He tears his Hair.

Why fits my Hairs upon my cursed Head? Will not this Poison scatter them? oh my Brother's In Execution among Devils that stretch him: And make him give; and I in want, Not able for to live, nor to redeem him. Divines and dying Men may talk of Hell,

But
A Yorkshire Tragedy.

But in my Heart her several Torments dwell,
Slavery and Misery. Who in this case
Would not take up Mony upon his Soul,
Pawn his Salvation, live at Interest?
I, that did ever in abundance dwell,
For me to want, exceeds the throes of Hell.

Enter his little Son, with a Top and Scourge.

Son. What ail you, Father, are you not well? I cannot scourge my Top as long as you stand so: You take up all the Room with your wide Legs; puh, you cannot make me afraid with this. I fear no Wizards, nor Bug-bears.

[He Takes up the Child by the Skirts of his long Coat in one Hand, and draws his Dagger with the other.
hus. Up, Sir, for here thou hast no Inheritance left.
Son. Oh what will you do, Father? I am your white Boy.
hus. Thou shalt be my red Boy, take that.
[Strikes him.

Son. Oh, you hurt me, Father.
hus. My eldest Beggar, thou shalt not live to ask an Unurer Bread, to cry at a great Man's Gate, or follow, Good your Honour, by a Coach, no, nor your Brother: 'Tis Charity to brain you.
Son. How shall I learn now my Head's broke?
hus. Bleed, bleed, rather than beg, beg. [Stabs him.
Be not thy Name's Disgrace:
Spurn thou thy Fortunes first, if they be base:
Come view thy second Brother: Fates,
My Childrens Blood shall spin into your Faces.
You shall see,
How confidently we scorn Beggary. [Exit with his Son.

Enter a Maid with a Child in her Arms, the Mother
by her asleep.

Maid. Sleep, sweet Babe, Sorrow makes thy Mother
sleep,
A Yorkshire Tragedy.

It bodes small good when heaviness falls so deep.
Hush, pretty Boy, thy hopes might have been better.
'Tis lost at Dice, what antient Honour won.
Hard when the Father plays away the Son;
Nothing but Misery serves in this House,
Ruin and Desolation; oh.

Enter Husband with a Boy bleeding.

Hus. Whore, give me that Boy,
            [He strives with her for the Child.
Maid. Oh help, help, out alas, murder, murder.
Hus. Are you Goslinging, prating sturdy Quean,
I'll break your Clamour with your Neck,
Down Stairs, tumble, tumble, headlong.
            [He throws her down.
So, the surest way to charm a Woman's Tongue,
Is to break her Neck, a Politician did it.
Son. Mother, Mother, I am kill'd, Mother.
[His Wife awakes, and catcheth up the youngest Child.
Wife. Ha, who's that cry'd? O me, my Children,
Both, both, bloody, bloody.
Hus. Strumpet, let go the Boy, let go the Beggar.
Wife. O my sweet Husband.
Hus. Filth, Harlot.
Wife. Oh, what will you do, dear Husband?
Hus. Give me the Bastard.
Wife. Your own sweet Boy.
Hus. There are too many Beggars.
Wife. Good my Husband.
Hus. Dost thou prevent me still?
Wife. Oh God!
Hus. Have at his Heart.
            [Stabs at the Child in her Arms, and gets it from her.
Wife. Oh my dear Boy.
Hus. Brat, thou shalt not live to shame thy House.
Wife. Oh Heav'n. [She is hurt, and sinks down.
Hus. And perish, now be gone,
There's Whores enough, and Want would make thee one.

Enter
Enter a lusty Servant.

Ser. O Sir, what Deeds are these?

Hus. Base Slave, my Vassal,
Com'ft thou between my fury to question me?

Ser. Were you the Devil, I would hold you, Sir.

Hus. Hold me? Presumption, I'll undo thee for it.

Ser. 'Sblood, you have undone us all, Sir.

Hus. Tug at thy Master?

Ser. Tug at a Monster.

Hus. Have I no Power? shall my Slave fetter me?

Ser. Nay then the Devil wrestles, I am thrown.

[Husband overcomes him.]

Hus. Oh Villain, now I'll tug thee, now I'll tear thee,
Set quick Spurs to my Vassal, bruise him, trample him;
So, I think thou wilt not follow me in haste.

My Horse stands ready faded, away, away,
Now to my Brat at Nurse, my fucking Beggar,
Fates, I'll not leave you one to trample on.

[The Master meets him.]

Mas. How is't with you Sir, methinks you look of a
distraught Colour.

Hus. Who, I Sir? 'tis but your fancy,
Please you walk in, Sir, and I'll soon resolve you,
I want one small part to make up the Sum;
And then my Brother shall rest satisfied,

Mas. I shall be glad to see it, Sir, I'll attend you.

[Exeunt.]

Ser. Oh I am scarce able to heave up my self,
He has so bruised me with his devilish weight,
And torn my Flesh with his Blood-hafty Spur,
A Man before of easy Constitution,
Till now Hell's Power supplied, to his Soul's wrong,
Oh how Damnation can make weak Men strong;

Enter
Enter Master and two Servants.

Ser. Oh the most piteous Deed, Sir, since you came.

Mast. A deadly greeting; hath he summ’d up these
To satisfy his Brother? here’s another,
And by these bleeding Infants, the dead Mother.

Wife. Oh, oh.

Mast. Surgeons, Surgeons, she recovers Life,
One of his Men all faint and bloodied.

Ser. Follow, our murderous Master has took Horse
To kill his Child at Nurse, oh follow quickly.

Mast. I am the readiest, it shall be my charge
To raise the Town upon him.

[Exeunt Master and Servants.

1 Ser. Good Sir follow him.

Wife. Oh my Children.

1 Ser. How is it, my most afflicted Mistresse?

Wife. Why do I now recover? why half live?
To see my Children bleed before mine Eyes,
A sight, able to kill a Mother’s Breast without:
An Executioner, what, art thou mangled too?

1 Ser. I, thinking to prevent what his quick Mischiefs
Had so soon acted, came and rush’d upon him,
We struggled, but a fouler Strength than his
O’erthrew me with his Arms, then he did bruise me,
And rent my Flesh, and robb’d me of my Hair,
Like a Man mad in Execution,
Made me unfit to rife and follow him.

Wife. What is it hath beguil’d him of all Grace,
And stole away Humanity from his Breast?
To slay his Children, purpos’d to kill his Wife,
And spoil his Servants.

Enter two Servants.

Both. Please you leave this accurs’d Place,
A Surgeon waits within.

Wife. Willing to leave it;
’Tis guilty of sweet Blood, innocent Blood,
Murder hath took this Chamber with full Hands,  
And will not out as long as the House stands. [Exeunt.

Enter Husband, as being thrown off his Horse, and falls.

Hus. Oh flumming Jade, the Spavin overtake thee,  
The fifty Diseases stop thee:  
Oh, I am sorely bruis’d, Plague founder thee,  
Thou run’st at ease and pleasure Heart of chance,  
To throw me now, within a flight o’th’ Town,  
In such plain even Ground,  
’Foot, a Man may dice upon it, and throw away the  
Meadows, ah filthy Beast.

Cry within. Follow, follow, follow.

Hus. Ha! I hear sounds of Men, like Hue and Cry,  
Up, up, and struggle to my Horse, make on,  
Dispatch that little Beggar, and all’s done.  
Cry within. Here this way, this way.

Hus. At my Back? oh,  
What Fate have I, my Limbs deny me to go,  
My Will is bated, Beggary claims a part,  
Oh I could here reach to the Infant’s Heart.

Enter Master of the College, three Gentlemen, and others  
with Halberds.

All. Here, here, yonder, yonder.  
Mast. Unnatural, fainty, more than barbarous;  
The Scythians in their marble-hearted Fates,  
Could not have acted more remorseless Deeds  
In their relentless Natures, than these of thine:  
Was this the answer I long waited on,  
The Satisfaction for thy prison’d Brother?  
Hus. He can have no more of us than our Skins,  
And some of them want but flealing.

1 Gent. Great Sins have made him impudent.  
Mast. He’s shed so much Blood, that he cannot blush:  
2 Gent. Away with him, bear him to the Justices;  
A Gentleman of Worship dwells at hand,  
There shall his Deeds be blazed.

Hus.
Huf. Why all the better,
My glory 'tis to have my Action known,
I grieve for nothing, but I mis'd of one.
Maß. There's little of a Father in that Grief:
Bear him away.

Enter a Knight with two or three Gentlemen.

Knight. Endanger'd so his Wife, murder'd his Children?
1 Gent. So the cry goes.
Knight. I am sorry I e'er knew him,
That ever he took Life and natural Being
From such an honour'd Stock, and fair Defcent,
Till this black minute without Stain or Blemish.
1 Gent. Here come the Men.

Enter the Master of the College, and the rest, with the Prisoner.

Knight. The Serpent of his House: I'm sorry for this time, that I am in place of Justice.
Maß. Please you, Sir.
Knight. Do not repeat it twice, I know too much.
Would it had ne'er been thought on.
Sir, I bleed for you.
1 Gent. Your Father's Sorrows are alive in me:
What made you shew such monstrous Cruelty?
Huf. In a word, Sir,
I have consum'd all, plaid away long Acre,
And I thought it the charitablest Deed I could do
To cozen Beggary, and knock my House o'th' Head.
Knight. I do not think but in to-morrow's Judgment,
The Terror will sit closer to your Soul,
When the dread Thought of Death remembers you:
To further which, take this sad Voice from me,
Never was act plaid more unnaturally.
Huf. I thank you, Sir.
Knight. Go lead him to the Jail.
Where Justice claims all, there must Pity fail.
A Yorkshire Tragedy.

Hus. Come, come, away with me. [Exit Prisoner.

Masr. Sir, you deserve the Worship of your place,
Would all did so; in you the Law is Grace.

Knight. It is my wish it should be so;
Ruinous Man, the Defoliation of his House,
The blot upon his Predecessors honour'd Name.
That Man is nearest Shame, that is past Shame. [Exit.

Enter Husband with the Officers, the Master and
Gentlemen, as going by his House.

Hus. I am right against my House, Seat of my Ancestors; I hear my Wife's alive, but much endangered; let me intreat to speak with her before the Prison grieves me.

Enter his Wife, brought in a Chair.

Gent. See she comes of her self.

Wife. O my sweet Husband, my dear distressed Husband,
Now in the Hands of unrelenting Laws,
My greatest Sorrow, my extremest Bleeding;
Ah! my Soul bleeds.

Hus. How now? kind to me?
Did not I wound thee, leave thee for dead?

Wife. Tut, far greater Wounds did my Breast feel,
Unkindness strikes a deeper Wound than Steel,
You have been still unkind to me.

Hus. Faith, and so I think I have;
I did my Murders roughly out of Hand,
Desperate and sudden, but thou hast devis'd
A sure way now to kill me, thou hast given my Eyes
Seven wounds apiece; now glides the Devil from me,
Departs at every joint, heaves up my Nails,
O catch him new Torments, that were ne'er invented,
Bind him one thousand more, you blessed Angels,
In that bottomless Pit, let him not rise
To make Men act unnatural Tragedies,
To spread into a Father, and in fury,
Make him his Childrens Executioner,
Murder his Wife, his Servants, and who not?
For that Man's dark, where Heav'n is quite forgot.
Wife. O my repentant Husband!
Huf. My dear Soul, whom I too much have wrong'd,
For death I die, and for this I have long'd.
Wife. Thou shouldst not, be assur'd, for these Faults
die,
If the Law could forgive as soon as I.

[Children laid out.

Huf. What Sight is yonder?
Wife. O our two bleeding Boys
Laid forth upon the Threshold.
Huf. Here's weight enough to make a Heart-string crack.
O were it lawful that your pretty Souls
Might look from Heav'n into your Father's Eyes,
Then should you see the penitent Glasses melt,
And both your Murders shoot upon my Cheeks.
But you are playing in the Angels Laps,
And will not look on me,
Who void of Grace, kill'd you in beggary:
O that I might my wishes now attain,
I should then wish you living were again,
Tho I did beg with you, which thing I fear'd,
O 'twas the Enemy my Eyes so blear'd.
O would you could pray Heav'n me to forgive,
That will unto my End repentant live.
Wife. It makes me e'en forget all other Sorrows,
And leave part with this.
Off. Come, will you go?
Huf. I'll kiss the Blood I spilt, and then I'll go,
My Soul is bloodied, well may my Lips be so.
Farewel, dear Wife, now thou and I must part,
I of thy wrongs repent, me with my Heart.
Wife. O stay, thou shalt not go.
Huf. That's but in vain, you see it must be so.
Farewel ye bloody Ashes of my Boys,
My Punishments are their eternal Joys.
Let every Father look well into his Deeds,
And then their Heirs may prosper, while mine bleeds.

[Exit Husband with Officers.

Wife. More wretched am I now in this distress,
Than former Sorrow made me.

Mast. O kind Wife, be comforted,
One joy is yet unmurdered,
You have a Boy at Nurse, your Joy's in him.

Wife. Dearer than all is my poor Husband's Life:
Heav'n give my Body strength, which is yet faint
With much expence of Blood, and I will kneel,
Sue for his Life, number up all my Friends
To plead for pardon for my dear Husband's Life.

Mast. Was it in Man to wound so kind a Creature?
I'll ever praise a Woman for thy sake,
I must return with grief, my answer's set,
I shall bring News weighs heavier than the Debt.
Two Brothers; the one in Bond lies overthrown,
This on a deadlier Execution. [Exeunt omnes.]
THE

TRAGEDY

OF

LOCRIE,

THE

ELDEST SON

OF

KING BRUTUS.

Printed in the YEAR MDCCXXXVIII.
Dramatis Personae.

Brutus, King of Britain
Locrine,
Camber, his Sons
Albanaet,
Corineius, Brothers to Brutus
Afarachus,
Thrasimachus, Corineius his Son
Debon, an older Officer
Humber, King of the Scythians
Hubba, his Son
Thrasier, a Scythian Commander
Strumbo,
Trompart, Clowns
Oliver,
William,
Gwendeline, Corineius his Daughter, married to Locrine
Estrid, Humber's Wife
Ate, the Goddess of Revenge

Ghosts of Albanaet, and Corineius.

THE
THE
TRAGEDY
OF
LOCRINE.

ACT I. SCENE I.

Dumb Show.

Enter Ate, with Thunder and Lightning, all in black; with a burning Torch in one Hand, and a bloody Sword in the other Hand; and presently let there come forth a Lion running after a Bear, then come forth an Archer, who must kill the Lion in a dumb Show, and then depart. Remain Ate.

A T E.

In pænam sectatur & Umbra.

Mighty Lion Ruler of the Woods, Of wondrous Strength and great Proportion,
With hideous Noise, scaring the trembling Trees,
With yelling Clamours making all the Earth,
Travers'The Groves, and chase'd the wandring Beasts: 1

Q 2 Long
Long did he range among the shady Trees,
And drave the silly Beasts before his Face;
When suddenly from out a thorny Bush
A dreadful Archer with his Bow ybent,
Wounded the Lion with a dismal Shaft.
So he him strook, that it drew forth the Blood,
And fill'd his furious Heart with fretting Ire;
But all in vain he threateneth Teeth and Paws,
And sparkleth Fire from forth his flaming Eyes,
For the sharp shaft gave him a mortal Wound.
So valiant Brutus, the Terror of the World,
Whose only looks did scare his Enemies,
The Archer Death brought to his latest end.
O what may long abide above this Ground,
In State of Bliss and healthful Happiness!

SCENE II.

Enter Brutus carried in a Chair, Locrine, Camber, Albaniart, Corineius, Guendeline, Assaracus, Debon, and Thrasmachus.

Brut. Most loyal Lords, and faithful Followers,
That have with me, unworthy General,
Passed the greedy Gulf of th' Ocean,
Leaving the Confines of fair Italy,
Behold, your Brutus draweth nigh his end,
And I must leave you, tho against my Will;
My Sinews shrunk, my number'd Senses fail,
A chilling cold posseteth all my Bones,
Black ugly Death with Visage pale and wan,
Presents himself before my dazled Eyes,
And with his Dart prepared is to strike;
These Arms, my Lords, these never-daunted Arms,
That oft have quell'd the Courage of my Foes,
And eke dismayed my Neighbour's Arrogance,
Now yield to Death, o'erlaid with crooked Age,
Devoid of Strength and of their proper Force;
Even as the luyter Cedar worn with Years,

That
That far abroad her dainty Odour throws,
'Mongst all the Daughters of proud Lebanon.
This Heart, my Lords, this ne'er-appalled Heart,
That was a Terror to the bordering Lands,
A doleful Scourge unto my neighbour Kings,
Now by the Weapons of unpartial Death
Is clove asunder, and bereft of Life:
As when the sacred Oak with Thunderbolts,
Sent from the fiery Circuit of the Heav'ns,
Sliding along the Air's celestial Vaults,
Is rent and cloven to the very Roots.
In vain therefore I struggle with this Foe,
Then welcome Death, since God will have it so.

Affair. Alas my Lord, we sorrow at your Case,
And grieve to see your Person vexed thus;
But whatso'er the Fates determin'd have,
It lieth not in us to disannul;
And he that would annihilate his Mind,
Soaring with Icarus too near the Sun,
May catch a fall with young Bellerophon.
For when the fatal Sifters have decreed
To separate us from this earthly Mold,
No mortal Force can countermand their Minds:
Then, worthy Lord, since there's no way but one,
Cease your Laments, and leave your grievous moan.

Cor. Your Highness knows how many Victories,
How many Trophies I erected have
Triumphantly in every place we came.
The Grecian Monarch, warlike Pandarrias,
And all the Crew of the Molossians;
Goffarius the arm-strong King of Gauls,
Have felt the Force of our victorious Arms,
And to their Coft beheld our Chivalry:
Where-e'er Aurora, Handmaid of the Sun,
Where-e'er the Sun, bright Guardian of the Day,
Where-e'er the joyful Day with cheerful Light,
Where-e'er the Light illuminates the World,
The Trojans Glory flies with golden Wings,
Wings that do soar beyond fell envious flight,
The fame of Brutus and his followers.
The Tragedy of Locrine.
Pierceth the Skies, and with the Skies the Throne
Of mighty Jove, Commander of the World.
Then, worthy Brutus, leave these sad Laments,
Comfort yourself with this your great Renown,
And fear not Death, tho' he seems terrible.

Brut. Nay, Corineius, you mistake my Mind,
In confounding wrong the Cause of my Complaints;
I fear'd not I'd yield myself to fatal Death,
God knows it was the least of all my Thoughts;
A greater Care torments my very Bones,
And makes me tremble at the thought of it,
And in your Lordings both the Substance lie.

Thra. Most noble Lord, if ought your Loyal Peers
Accomplish may, to ease your lingering Grief,
I, in the name of all, protest to you,
That we would boldly enterprize the same,
Were it to enter to black Tartarus,
Where triple Cerberus with his venomous Throat,
Scareth the Ghosts with high resounding Noise,
We'll either rent the Bowels of the Earth,
Searching the Entrails of the brutish Earth,
Or with his Inions overdares, soon
Be bound in Chains of ever-during Steel.

Brut. Then hearken to your Sovereign's latest Words,
In which I will unto you all unfold,
Our Royal Mind and resolute Intent.
When golden Hebe, Daughter to great Jove,
Cover'd my manly Cheeks with youthful Down,
Th' unhappy Slaughter of my luckless Sire,
Drove me and old Assarachus mine Eame,
As Exiles from the Bounds of Italy,
So that perforce we were constrain'd to fly
To Grecian Monarch, noble Pandraffus,
There I alone did undertake your Cause,
There I restor'd your antique Liberty,
Tho' Greece frown'd, and all Molossia storm'd,
Tho brave Antigonus, with martial Band,
In pitched Field encountred me and mine,
Tho Pandraffus and his Contributaries,
With all the routs of their Confederates,
The Tragedy of Locrine.

Sought to deface our glorious Memory,
And wipe the Name of Trojans from the Earth;
Him did I captivate with this mine Arm,
And by Compulsion forc’d him to agree
To certain Articles, which there we did propound.
From Grecia thro’ the boisterous Hellefont,
We came into the Fields of Lestrigon,
Whereat our Brother Corineius was;
Which when we passed the Sicilian Gulf,
And so transfretting the Illicina Sea,
Arrived on the Coasts of Aquitain;
Where with an Army of his barbarous Gauls
Goffarius and his Brother Gathelus
Encountering with our Hoft, sustain’d the Foil,
And for your sakes my Turnus there I loft;
Turnus that slew six hundred Men at Arms,
All in an Hour, with his sharp Battle-Axe.
From thence upon the Stronds of Albion
To Corus Haven happily we came,
And quell’d the Giants, come of Albion’s Race,
With Gogmagog, Son to Samothenus,
The cursed Captain of that damned Crew,
And in that Ise at length I placed you,
Now let me see, if my laborious Toils,
If all my Care, if all my grievous Wounds,
If all my Diligence were well employ’d.

Cor. When first I follow’d thee and thine, brave King,
I hazarded my Life and dearest Blood,
To purchase Favour at your Princely Hands,
And for the same in dangerous Attempts,
In sundry Conflicts, and in divers Broils,
I shew’d the Courage of my manly Mind;
For this I combated with Gathelus,
The Brother to Goffarius of Gaul;
For this I fought with furious Gogmagog,
A savage Captain of a savage Crew;
And for these Deeds brave Cornwall I receiv’d,
A grateful Gift giv’n by a gracious King;
And for this Gift, this Life and dearest Blood

Q. 4

Will
The Tragedy of Locrine.

368 Will Corineius spend for Brutus' good.

Deb. And what my Friend, brave Prince, hath vow'd to you,
The same will Debon do unto his end.

Brut. Then, Loyal Peers, since you are all agreed,
And resolute to follow Brutus' Hoots,
Favour my Sons, favour those Orphans, Lords,
And shield them from the Dangers of their Foes.

Locraine, the Column of my Family,
And only Pillar of my weaken'd Age;

Locraine, draw near, draw near unto thy Sire,
And take thy latest Blessings at his Hands:
And, for thou art the eldest of my Sons,
Be thou a Captain to thy Brethren,
And imitate thy aged Father's steps,
Which will conduct thee to true Honour's Gate:

For if thou follow sacred Virtues lore,
Thou shalt be crowned with a Laurel Branch,
And wear a Wreath of sempiternal Fame,
Sorted amongst the Glorious happy ones.

Loc. If Locraine do not follow your Advice,
And bear himself in all things like a Prince
That seeks to amplify the great Renown,

Left unto him for an Inheritance,
By those that were his Ancestors,
Let me be flung into the Ocean,
And swallow'd in the Bowels of the Earth.
Or let the ruddy Lightening of great Jove,
Descend upon this my devoted Head.

[Brutus taking Guendeline by the Hand.

Brut. But for I see you all to be in doubt,
Who shall be matched with our Royal Son,

Locraine, receive this Present at my Hand;
A Gift more rich than are the wealthy Mines
Found in the Bowels of America.
Thou shalt be spous'd to fair Guendeline:

Love her, and take her, for she is thine own,
If so thy Uncle and her self do please.

Cor. And herein how your Highness honours me,
It cannot now be in my Speech exprest;
The Tragedy of Locrine.

For careful Parents glory not so much
At their own Honour and Promotion,
As for to see the issue of their Blood
Seated in Honour and Prosperity.

Guen. And far be it from my pure maiden Thoughts
To contradict her aged Father’s Will,
Therefore since he to whom I must obey,
Hath giv’n me now unto your Royal self,
I will not stand aloof from off the lure,
Like crafty Dames that most of all deny
That, which they most desire to possess.

[Brutus turning to Locrine.

Locrine kneeling.]

Then now my Son thy part is on the Stage,
For thou must bear the Person of a King.

[Puts the Crown on his Head.

Locrine stand up, and wear the regal Crown,
And think upon the State of Majesty,
That thou with Honour well may’st wear the Crown,
And if thou tenderest these my latest Words,
As thou requir’st my Soul to be at rest,
As thou desirest thine own Security,
Cherish and love thy new betrothed Wife.

Loc. No longer let me well enjoy the Crown,
Than I do peerless Guendeline.

Bru. Camber.

Cam. My Lord.

Bru. The Glory of mine Age,
And darling of thy Mother Junoger,
Take thou the South for thy Dominion,
From thee there shall proceed a Royal Race,
That shall maintain the Honour of this Land,
And sway the regal Scepter with their Hands.

[Turning to Albanaist.

And Albanaist, thy Father’s only Joy,
Youngest in Years, but not the young’st in mind,
A perfect Pattern of all Chivalry,
Take thou the North for thy Dominion,
A Country full of Hills and ragged Rocks,

Q. 5 Replenished
The Tragedy of Locrine.

Replenished with fierce untamed Beasts,
As correspondent to thy martial Thoughts,
Live long my Sons with endless Happiness,
And bear firm Concordance among your selves,
Obey the Counsels of these Fathers grave,
That you may better bear out Violence.
But suddenly, thro’ Weakness of my Age,
And the defect of youthful Puissance,
My Malady increaseth more and more,
And cruel Death hasteneth his quickned pace,
To disposess me of my earthly Shape,
Mine Eyes wax dim, o’ercast with Clouds of Age;
The pangs of Death compasse my crazed Bones.
Thus to you all my Blessings I bequeath,
And with my Blessings, this my fleeting Soul.
My Glass is run, and all my Miseries
Do end with Life; Death closeth up mine Eyes,
My Soul in haste flies to the Elysian Fields. [He dies.

Loc. Accursed Stars, damn’d and accursed Stars,
T’abbreviate my noble Father’s Life.
Hard-hearted Gods, and too too envious Fates,
Thus to cut off my Father’s fatal Thread.
Brutus that was a Glory to us all,
Brutus that was a Terror to his Foes,
Alas too soon by Demogorgon’s Knife,
The Martial Brutus is bereft of Life.
No sad Complaints may move just Aeacus.

Cor. No dreadful Threats can fear Judge Rhodomanis.
Wert thou as strong as mighty Hercules,
That tam’d the huge Monsters of the World,
Plaid’st thou as sweet, on the sweet sounding Lute,
As did the Spouse of fair Eurydice,
That did enchant the Waters with his Noife,
And made the Stones, Birds, Beasts, to lead a Dance,
Constrain’d the hilly Trees to follow him,
Thou could’st not move the Judge of Erebos,
Nor move Compassion in grim Pluto’s Heart:
For fatal Mars expexteth all the World,
And every Man must tread the way of Death;
Brave Tantalus, the valiant Pelops' Sire,
Guest to the Gods, suffered untimely Death,
And old Tithonus Husband to the Morn,
And eke grim Minos whom just Jupiter
Deign'd to admit unto his Sacrifice.
The thundering Trumpets of Blood-thirsty Mars,
The fearful rage of fell Tisiphone,
The boisterous Waves of humid Ocean,
Are Instruments and Tools of dismal Death.
Then noble Cousin cease to mourn his chance,
Whose Age and Years were Signs that he should die.
It resteth now that we inter his Bones,
That was a Terror to his Enemies.
Take up his Coarse, and Princes hold him dead,
Who while he liv'd, upheld the Trojan State.
Sound Drums and Trumpets, march to Troinovant,
There to provide our Chiefain's Funeral. [Exeunt]

SCENE III.

Enter Strumbo above in a Gown, with Ink and Paper
in his Hand.

Strum. Either the four Elements, the seven Planets
and all the particular Stars of the Pole Antarctick, are
adverstitive against me, or else I was begotten and
born in the Wain of the Moon, when every thing, as
Laistantius in his fourth Book of Consultations doth say,
goeth arsward. Ay Masters, ay, you may laugh, but I
must weep; you may joy, but I must sorrow, shed-
ding salt Tears from the watry Fountains of my most
dainty fair Eyes, along my comely and smooth Cheeks,
in as great plenty as the Water runneth from the Bucking-
tubs, or red Wine out of the Hogs-heads: for trust me,
Gentlemen, and my very good Friends, and so forth:
the little God, nay the desperate God Cupid, with one of
his vengible Birds bolts, hath shot me unto the Heel: so
not only, but also, oh fine phrase, I burn, I burn, and
The Tragedy of Locrine.

I burn a, in love, in love, and in love a, ah Strumbo, what hast thou seen, not Dina with the Al's Tom? Yea, with these Eyes thou hast seen her, and therefore pull them out, for they will work thy Bail. Ah, Strumbo, hast thou heard of the Voice of the Nightingale, but a Voice sweeter than hers, yea, with these Ears hast thou heard them, and therefore cut them off, for they have caus'd thy sorrow. Nay, Strumbo, kill thy self, drown thy self, hang thy self, starve thy self. Oh, but then I shall leave my sweet Heart. Oh my Heart! Now Pate for thy Master, I will dite an aliquant Love-pistle to her, and then she hearing the grand verbosity of my Scripture, will love me presently.

[Let him write a little, and then read.]

My Pen is naught, Gentlemen, lend me a Knife, I think the more haste the worst speed.

[Then write again, and after read.]

So it is, Missress Dorothy, and the sole essence of my Soul, that the little sparkles of Affection kindled in me towards your sweet self, hath now encreas'd to a great Flame, and will ere it be long consume my poor Heart, except you with the pleasant Water of your secret Fountain, quench the furious Heat of the same. Alas, I am a Gentleman of good Fame, and Name, majestic, in Apparel comely, in Gate portly. Let not therefore your gentle Heart be so hard, as to despise a proper tall young Man of a handsome Life, and by despising him, not only, but also to kill him. Thus expecting Time and Tide, I bid you farewell. Your Servant, Signior Strumbo.

Oh Wit, O Pate, O Memory, O Hand, O Ink, O Paper. Well, now I will send it away. Trompart, Trompart, a what Villain is this? Why Sirrah, come when your Master calls you. Trompart.

Trompart entiring, faith, Anon, Sir.

Strum. Thou knowest, my pretty Boy, what a good Master I have been to thee ever since I took thee into my Service.

Trom. Ay, Sir.
The Tragedy of Locrine.

Strum. And how I have cherished thee always, as if thou hadst been the Fruits of my Loins, Flesh of my Flesh, and Bone of my Bone.

Trom. Ay, Sir.

Strum. Then shew thy self herein a trusty Servant, and carry this Letter to Mistress Dorothy, and tell her—

[Speaking in his Ear. Exit Trompart.

Strum. Nay, Masters, you shall see a Marriage by and by. But here she comes. Now must I frame my amorous Passions.

Enter Dorothy and Trompart.

Dor. Signior Strumbo, well met: I receiv’d your Letters by your Man here, who told me a pitiful Story of your anguish, and so understanding your Passions were so great, I came hither speedily.

Strum. Oh, my Sweet and Pigsey, the fecundity of my ingenuity is not so great, that may declare unto you the sorrowful Sobs and broken Sleeps that I suffer’d for your sake; and therefore I desire you to receive me into your familiarity.

For your Love doth lye,
As near and as nigh,
Unto my Heart within,
As mine Eye to my Nose,
My Leg unto my Hose,
And my Flesh unto my Skin:

Dor. Truly, Mr. Strumbo, you speak too learnedly for me to understand the drift of your Mind, and therefore tell your Tale in plain terms, and leave off your dark Riddles.

Strum. Alas Mistress Dorothy, this is my luck, that when I most would, I cannot be understood: so that my great learning is an inconvenience unto me. But to speak in plain terms, I love you, Mistress Dorothy, if you like to accept me into your familiarity.

Dor.
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Dor. If this be all, I am content.

[Turning to the People.

Strum. Say'th thou so, sweet Wench, let me lick thy Toes. Farewel, Mistress. If any of you be in love, provide ye a Cap-Cafe full of new coin'd words, and then shall you soon have the succado de labres, and something else.

[Exeunt.

SCENE IV.

Enter Locrine, Guendeline, Camber, Albanaet, Corineius, Asiarachus, Debon, and Thrasimachus.

Loc. Uncle and Princes of brave Britany,
Since that our noble Father is Entomb'd,
As best beesteem'd so brave a Prince as he;
If so you please, this day my Love and I,
Within the Temple or Concordia,
Will solemnize our Royal Marriage.

Thra. Right noble Lord, your Subjects every one
Must needs obey your Highness at command,
Especially in such a Cause as this,
That much concerns your Highness' great content.

Loc. Then Frolick, Lordings, to fair Concord's Walls,
Where we will pass the Day in Knightly Sports,
The Night in Dancing and in figur'd Masks,
And offer to God Rifes all our Sports. [Exeunt.

A C T
ACT II. SCENE I.

Enter Ate as before. After a little Lightning and Thundering, let there come forth this Show: Perseus and Andromeda, hand in hand, and Cepheus also with Swords and Targetes. Then let there come out of another Door Phineus, all black in Armour with Ethio-
pians after him, driving in Perseus, and having taken away Andromeda, let them depart. Ate remaining, says:

Regit omnia Numen.

When Perseus married fair Andromeda,
The only Daughter of King Cepheus,
He thought he had establish'd well his Crown,
And that his Kingdom should for aye endure.
But lo proud Phineus, with a Band of Men,
Conriv'd of Sun-burnt Ethiopians,
By force of Arms the Bride he took from him,
And turn'd their Joy into a Flood of Tears.
So fares it with young Locrine and his Love,
He thinks this Marriage tendeth to his weal,
But this foul day, this foul accursed day,
Is the beginning of his miseries.
Behold where Humber and his Scythians
Approacheth nigh with all his warlike Train.
I need not I, the sequel shall declare,
What tragick chances fell out in this War.

[Exit.

SCENE
SCENE II.

Enter Humber, Hubba, Estfrild, Segar, and their Soldiers.

HUM. At length the Snail doth climb the highest tops,
   Ascending up the stately Castle Walls;
At length the Water with continual drops,
Doth penetrate the hardest Marble Stone;
At length we are arrived in Albion.
Nor could the barbarous Dacian Sovereign,
Nor yet the Ruler of brave Belgia,
Stay us from cutting over to this Isle;
Whereas I hear a Troop of Phrygians,
Under the Conduct of Posthumus' Son,
Have pitch'd up lordly Pavilions,
And hope to prosper in this lovely Isle:
But I will frustrate all their foolish Hope,
And teach them that the Scythian Emperor
Leads Fortune tied in a Chain of Gold,
Constraining her to yield unto his will,
And grace him with their Regal Diadem:
Which I will have, maugre their treble Hoots,
And all the Power their petty Kings can make.

Hub. If she that rules fair Rhamanis golden Gate,
Grant us the Honour of the Victory
As hitherto she always favour'd us,
Right noble Father, we will rule the Land,
Enthroned in Seats of Topaz Stones,
That Locrine and his Brethren all may know,
None must be King but Humber and his Son.

HUM. Courage, my Son, Fortune shall favour us,
And yield to us the Coronet of Bays,
That decketh none but noble Conquerors.
But what faith Estfrild to these Regions?
How liketh she the Temperature thereof?
Are they not pleasant in her gracious Eyes?

Efr.
The Tragedy of Locrine.

Es. The Plains, my Lord, garnish'd with Flora's Wealth,
And over-spread with party-colour'd Flowers,
Do yield sweet contentation to my mind;
The airy Hills enclos'd with shady Groves,
The Groves replenish'd with sweet chirping Birds,
The Birds resounding heav'nly Melody,
Are equal to the Groves of Thessaly,
Where Phoebus with these learned Ladies nine,
Delight themselves with Musick's Harmony:
And from the moisture of the Mountain Tops,
The silent Springs dance down with murmuring Streams,
And water all the Ground with Crystal Waves;
The gentle blasts of Eurus modest Wind,
Moving the pattering Leaves of Sylvane's Woods,
Do equal it with Tempe's Paradisè.
And thus comforted all to one Effect,
Do make me think these are the happy Isles,
Most fortunate if Humber may them win.

Hub. Madam, where Resolution leads the way,
And Courage follows with embolden'd pace,
Fortune can never use her Tyranny;
For Valiantness is like unto a Rock
That standeth on the Waves of Ocean,
Which tho the Billows beat on every side,
And Boreas fell with his tempestuous Storms,
Bloweth upon it with a hideous clamour,
Yet it remaineth still unmoving.

Hum. Kingly resolv'd, thou Glory of thy Sire,
But worthy Segar, what uncouth Novelties
Bring'st thou unto our Royal Majesty?

Seg. My Lord, the youngest of all Brutus' Sons,
Stout Albanish, with Millions of Men,
Approacheth nigh, and meaneth ere the Morn,
To try your Force by dint of fatal Sword.

Hum. Tur, let him come with Millions of Hosts;
He shall find Entertainment good enough,
Yea, fit for those that are our Enemies:
For we'll receive them at the Lances Points,
And massacre their Bodies with our Blades:

Yea,
The Tragedy of Locrine.

Yea, tho they were in number infinite,
More than the mighty Babylonian Queen,
Semiramis the Ruler of the East,
Brought 'gainst the Emperor of the Scythians,
Yet would we not start back one Foot from them:
That they might know we are invincible.

Hub. Now by great Jove, the Supreme King of
Heav'n,
And the immortal Gods that live therein;
When as the Morning shews his cheerful Face,
And Lucifer mounted upon his Steed,
Brings in the Chariot of the golden Sun,
I'll meet young Albanæt in th'open Field,
And crack my Launce upon his Burganet,
To try the Valour of his boyish Strength:
There will I shew such ruffish Spectacles,
And cause so great effusion of Blood,
That all his Boys shall wonder at my Strength.
As when the warlike Queen of Amazons,
Penthesilea, armed with her Launce,
Girt with a Corset of bright shining Steel,
Coop'd up the faint-heart Grecians in the Camp.

Hum. Spoke like a warlike Knight, my noble Son,
Nay, like a Prince that seeks his Father's Joy.
Therefore to Morrow ere Fair Titani shone,
And bashful Eos Messenger of Light,
Expels the liquid Sleep from out Mens Eyes,
Thou shalt conduct the right Wing of the Host,
The left Wing shall be under Segar's Charge,
The Rearward shall be under me myself:
And lovely Estrild, fair and gracious,
If Fortune favour me in my Attempts,
Thou shalt be Queen of lovely Albion.

Fortune shall favour me in mine Attempts,
And make thee Queen of lovely Albion.
Come let us in and muster up our Train,
And furnish up our lusty Soldiers,
That they may be a Bulwark to our State,
And bring our wished Joys to perfect end.

[Exeunt.]

SCENE
Enter Strumbo, Dorothy and Trompart, cobling Shoes and singing.

Trom. We Coblers lead a merry Life:
All. Dan, dan, dan, dan.
Strum. Void of all envy and strife:
All. Dan diddle dan.
Dor. Our ease is great, our Labour small:
All. Dan, dan, dan, dan.
Strum. And yet our Gains be much withal:
All. Dan diddle dan.
Dor. With this Art so fine and fair:
All. Dan, dan, dan, dan.
Trom. No Occupation may compare:
All. Dan diddle dan.
Strum. For merry pastime and joyful glee:
Dan, dan, dan, dan.
Dor. Most happy Men we Coblers be:
Dan diddle dan.
Trom. The Can stands full of nappy Ale:
Dan, dan, dan, dan.
Strum. In our Shop still withouten fail:
Dan diddle dan.
Dor. This is our Meat, this is our Food:
Dan, dan, dan, dan.
Trom. This brings us to a merry mood:
Dan diddle dan.
Strum. This makes us work for Company:
Dan, dan, dan, dan.
Dor. To pull the Tankards echearfully:
Dan diddle dan.
Trom. Drink to thy Husband, Dorothy:
Dan, dan, dan, dan.
Dor. Why then my Strumbo there's to thee:
Dan diddle dan.
Strum. **Drink thou the rest, Trompart, amain:**
Dan, dan, dan, dan.

Dor. **When that is gone, we'll fill't again:**
Dan diddle dan.

Enter Captain.

Capt. The poorest state is farthest from annoy;
How Merrily he sitteth on his stool:
But when he sees that needs he must be prest,
He'll turn his note and sing another tune.
Ho, by your leave Master Cobler.

Strum. You are welcome, Gentleman; what will you
any old shoes or buskins, or will you have your shoes
clouted? I will do them as well as any cobler in Cathness whatsoever.

Capt. Master Cobler, you are far deceiv'd in me,
for done you see this? I come not to buy any shoes,
but to buy your self; come, Sir, you must be a soldier
in the King's cause.

Strum. Why, but hear you, Sir, has your King any
commission to take any man against his will? I promise you,
I can scant believe it, or did he give you
commission?

Capt. O Sir, you need not care for that, I need no
commission; hold here, I command you in the name
of our King Albaenæs, to appear to Morrow in the
town-house of Cathness.

Strum. King Naflabal, I cry God mercy, what have
we to do with him, or he with us? but you, Sir, Master
Capontial, draw your pastboard, or else I promise you,
I'll give you a canvassado with a bastinado over your
shoulders, and teach you to come hither with your implemenes.

Capt. I pray thee good Fellow be content, I do the
King's command.

Strum. Put me out of your book then;
Capt. I may not. [Strumbo snatching up a staff.
Strum. No will, come, Sir, will your stomach serve
you,
The Tragedy of Locrine.  

you? by Gog’s blew Hood and Halidom, I will have a boat with you.  

[Fight both.  

Enter Thrasimachus.

Thra. How now, what noife, what sudden clamours this?  

How now, my Captain and the Cobler so hard at it?  

Sirs, what is your Quarrel?  

Capt. Nothing, Sir, but that he will not take Press-money.  

Thra. Here, good Fellow, take it at my Command, unless you mean to be stretch’d,  

Strum. Truly, Master Gentleman, I lack no Money, if you please I will resign it to one of these poor Fellows.  

Thra. No such matter,  

Look you be at the Common-house to morrow.  

[Exit Thrasimachus and the Captain.  

Strum. O Wife, I have spun a fair Thread; if I had been quieter, I had not been press’d; and therefore well may I lament; but come Sirrah, shut up, for we must to the Wars.  

[Exeunt.

SCENE IV.

Enter Albanaët, Debon, Thrasimachus, and the Lords.

Alba. Brave Cavaliers, Princes of Albany,  

Whose trenchant Blades with our deceased Sire,  

Passing the Frontiers of brave Grecia;  

Were bathed in our Enemies lukewarm Blood,  

Now is the time to manifest your wills,  

Your haughty minds and Resolutions,  

Now opportunity is offered  

To try your courage and your earnest zeal,  

Which you always protest to Albanaët;  

For at this time, yea at this present time,  

Stout Fugitives come from the Scythians bounds  

Have
The Tragedy of Locrine.

Have pestred every place with mutinies:
But trust me, Lordings, I will never cease
To persecute the Rascal Runnagates,
Till all the Rivers stained with their Blood,
Shall fully shew their fatal Overthrow.

Deb. So shall your Highness merit great renown,
And imitate your aged Father's steps.

Alba. But tell me, Cousin, cam'ft thou thro' the Plains?
And saw'ft thou there the faint-heart Fugitives
Mustring their Weather-beaten Soldiers?
What Order kept they in their marshalling?

Thra. After we past the Groves of Caledone,
We did behold the straggling Scythians Camp,
Replete with Men, stor'd with Munition;
There might we see the valiant minded Knights
Fetching Careers along the spacious Plains,
Humber and Hubba arm'd in azure blue,
Mounted upon their Courser's white as Snow,
Went to behold the pleasant flowering Fields;
Hector andTroilus, Priamus' lovely Sons,
Chasing the Grecians over Simois,
Were not to be compar'd to these two Knights.

Alba. Well hast thou painted out in Eloquence
The Portraiture of Humber and his Son;
As fortunate as was Polycrates.
Yet should they not escape our conquering Swords;
Or boast of ought but of our Clemency.

Enter Strumbo and Trompart; crying often;

Wild-fire and Pitch, Wild-fire and Pitch, &c.

Thra. What Sirs, what mean you by these Clamours made,
Those Outcries raised in our stately Court?


Thra. Villains, I say, tell us the cause hereof?


Thra. Tell me you Villains, why you make this noise,
Or with my Lance, I will prick your Bowels out.
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All. Where are your Houses, where's your dwelling-place?

Sirra. Place, ha, ha, ha, laugh a month and a day at him; place! I cry God mercy; why, do you think that such poor honest Men as we be, hold our Habitacles in Kings Palaces: Ha, ha, ha. But because you seem to be an abominable Chieftain, I will tell you our state;

From the Top to the Toe,
From the Head to the Shoe;
From the Beginning to the Ending:
From the Building to the Burning.

This honest Fellow and I had our mansion Cottage in the Suburbs of this City, hard on the Temple of Mercury. And by the common Soldiers of the Shittens, the Scythians, what do you call them? with all the Suburbs, were burnt to the Ground, and the ashes are left there for the Country-Wives to wash Bucks withal. And that which grieves me most, my loving Wife, O cruel strife! the wicked Flames did roast.

And therefore Captain Cruft,
We will continually cry,
Except you seek a remedy,
Our Houses to re-edify,
Which now are burnt to Dust.


Alb. Well, we must remedy these Outrages,
And throw Revenge upon their hateful Heads.
And you, good Fellows, for your Houses burnt,
We will remunerate you store of Gold,
And build your Houses by our Palace Gate.

Sirra. Gate! O petty Treason to my Person, no where else but by your Backside: Gate! oh how I am vexed in my Coller: Gate! I cry God mercy. Do you hear, Master King? If you mean to gratify such poor Men, as we be, you must build our Houses by the Ta-

Alba.
The Tragedy of Locrine.

Alba. It shall be done, Sir.

Sirrum. Near the Tavern, ay, by Lady, Sir, it was spoken like a good fellow, do you hear, Sir? when our House is builded, if you do chance to pass or re-pass that way, we will bestow a Quart of the best Wine upon you. [Exit.

Alba. It grieves me, Lordings, that my Subjects Goods
Should thus be spoiled by the Scythians,
Who, as you see, with light-foot Foragers,
Depopulate the Places where they come:
But, cursed Humber, thou shalt rue the day
That e'er thou can'st unto Cathnessia. [Exit.

SCENE V.

Enter Humber, Hubba, Segar, Thrassier, and their Soldiers.

Humb. Hubba, go take a Coronet of our Horse,
As many Lanciers, and light-armed Knights,
As may suffice for such an Enterprise,
And place them in the Grove of Challidon:
With these, when as the Skirmish doth encrease,
Retire thou from the Shelters of the Wood,
And set upon the weakned Trojans Backs,
For Policy, joined with Chivalry,
Can never be put back from Victory. [Exit.

Enter Albanast, Clowns with him.

Alba. Thou base-born Hunn, how durst thou be so bold,
As once to menace warlike Albanast,
The great Commander of these Regions?
But thou shalt buy thy Rashness with thy Death.
And rue too late thy over-bold attempts,
For with this Sword, this Instrument of Death,
That hath been drenched in my Poc-mens Blood,
The Tragedy of Locrine.

I'll separate thy Body from thy Head;
And let that coward Blood of thine abroach.

*Strum.* Nay, with this Staff, great *Strumbo's Instrument,*

I'll crack thy Cock's-comb, paltry *Scythian.*

*Hum.* Nor wreak I of thy Threats thou princeox Boy,
Nor do I fear thy foolish Insolency;
And but thou better use thy bragging Blade,
Than thou dost rule thy overflowing Tongue,
Superbious *Briton,* thou shalt know too soon
The force of *Humber* and his *Scythians.*

[They fight, *Humber* and his *Soldiers* run in.

*Strum.* O horrible, terrible.

SCENE VI.

*Sound the Alarm.* Enter *Humber* and his *Soldiers.*

*Hum.* How bravely this young *Briton,* *Albanach,*
Darteth abroad the Thunderbolts of War,
Beating down Millions with his furious Mood:
And in his Glory triumphs over all,
Moving the massy Squadrants of the Ground;
Heap Hills on Hills, to scale the Starry Sky:
As when *Briareus* arm'd with an hundred Hands,
Flung forth an hundred Mountains at great *Jove,*
And when the monstrous Giant *Monychus*
Hurl'd Mount *Olympus* at great *Mars* his Targe,
And shot huge Cedars at *Minerva's* Shield.
How doth he overlook with haughty Front
My fleeting Hoft, and lifts his lofty Face
Against us all that now do fear his Force;
Like as we see the wrathful Sea from far,
In a great Mountain heap'd with hideous Noise,
With thousand Billows beat against the Ships,
And toss them in the Waves like Tennis Balls.

[Sound the Alarm;

Ah me, I fear my Hubba is surpriz'd.

VOL. IX. R **Sound**
Sound again. Enter Albanaclt.

Alba. Follow me, Soldiers, follow Albanaclt; Pursue the Scythians flying thro' the Field: Let none of them escape with Victory: That they may know the Britons Force is more Than all the Power of the trembling Hunns.

Thra. Forward, brave Soldiers, forward, keep the chase, He that takes captive Humber or his Son, Shall be rewarded with a Crown of Gold.

Sound Alarm, then let them fight, Humber gives back. Hubba enters at their Backs, and kills Debon, Strumbo falls down, Albanaclt runs in, and afterwards enters wounded.

Alba. Injurious Fortune, haft thou crost me thus? Thus in the Morning of my Victories, Thus in the Prime of my Felicity, To cut me off by such hard Overthrow. Hadst thou no time thy Rancour to declare, But in the Spring of all my Dignities? Hadst thou no place to spit thy Venom out, But on the Person of young Albanaclt? I that ere-while did scare mine Enemies, And drove them almost to a shameful Flight: I that ere-while full Lion-like did fare Amongst the dangers of the thick throng'd Pikes; Must now depart, most lamentably slain By Humber’s Treacheries and Fortune’s Spights: Curtft be her Charms, damn’d be her cursed Charms, That doth delude the wayward Hearts of Men, Of Men that trust unto her fickle Wheel, Which never leaveth turning upside down. O Gods, O Heav’ns, allot me but the place Where I may find her hateful Mansion, I’ll pass the Alps to watry Meroe, Where fiery Phobus in his Chariot,
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The Wheels whereof are deck'd with Emeralds,
Casts such a Heat, yea such a scorching Heat,
And spoileth Flora of her chequered Grass;
I'll overturn the Mountain Caucasus,
Where fell Chimera in her triple Shape,
Rolleth hot Flames from out her monstrous Panch;
Scaring the Beasts with Issue of her Gorge;
I'll pafs the frozen Zone where Icy Flakes
Stoping the Passage of the fleeting Ships,
Do lie like Mountains in the congeal'd Sea;
Where if I find that hateful House of hers,
I'll pull the fickle Wheel from out her Hands,
And tye her self in everlasting Bands.
But all in vain I breathe these Threatnings,
The Day is lost, the Hunns are Conquerors,
Debon is slaine, my Men are done to Death,
The Currents swift swim violently with Blood,
And laft, O that this laft Night fo long laft,
My self with Wounds past all Recovery,
Must leave my Crown for Humber to possess.

Strum. Lord have Mercy upon us, Masters, I think
this is a Holy-day, every Man lies sleeping in the Fields,
but God knows full sore against their Wills.

Thra. Fly, noble Albanact, and save thy self.
The Scythians follow with great Celerity,
And there's no way but Flight, or speedy Death,
Fly, noble Albanact, and save thy self.

[Sound the Alarm.]

Alba. Nay let them fly that fear to die the Death,
That tremble at the Name of fatal Mors.
Ne'er shall proud Humber boast or brag himself,
That he hath put young Albanact to flight:
And lest he should triumph at my Decay,
This Sword shall reave his Master of his Life,
That oft hath sav'd his Master's doubtful Life:
But oh my Brethren, if you care for me,
Revenge my Death upon his traitorous Head.

Et vos quies domum est migrantis regia dictis,
Qui regitis rigido stygios moderamine lucos,
The Tragedy of Locrine,

Nox cami regina poli, furulis Erinnyis,
Dique denique omnes, Albanum tollite regem,
Tollite flumineis undis rigidaque palude;
Nunc me sata vacant, hoc condam peitore ferrum.
[Stabs himself.

Enter Trompart:

Trom. O what hath he done? his nose bleeds; but I smell a fox,
Look where my Master lies, Master, Master.
Strum. Let me alone, I tell thee, for I am dead.
Trom. Yet one, good, good Master.
Strum. I will not speak, for I am dead, I tell thee.

Trom. And is my Master dead? [Singing.
O Sticks and Stones, Brickbats and Bones,
And is my Master dead?
O you Cockatrice, and you Bablatrices,
That in the Woods dwell:
You Briers and Brambles, you Cook-shops and Shambles,
Come howl and yell
With howling and shrieking, with wailing and weeping,
Come you to lament.
O Colliers of Croyden, and Rusticks of Royden,
And Fishers of Kent,
For Strumbo the Cobler, the fine merry Cobler
Of Cathnes Town;
At this same hour, and this very hour,
Lies dead on the Ground.

O Master, Thieves, Thieves, Thieves.

Strum. Where be they? cox me tunny, bobekin, let me be rising, be gone, we shall be robb'd by and by.

Scene
SCENE VIII.

Enter Humber, Hubba, Segar, Thrallier, Estrild, and the Soldiers.

Hum. Thus from the dreadful Shocks of furious Mars,
Thundring Alarums, and Rhamnusia’s Drum,
We are retir’d with joyful Victory:
The slaughter’d Trojans squaltering in their Blood,
Infest the Air with their Carcasses,
And are a Prey for every rav’nous Bird.

Estr. So perish they that are our Enemies:
So perish they that love not Humber’s Weal.
And mighty Jove, Commander of the World,
Protect my Love from all false Treacheries.

Hum. Thanks, lovely Estrild, solace to my Soul.
But, valiant Hubba, for thy Chivalry
Declar’d against the Men of Albany,
Lo here a flourring Garland wreath’d of Bay,
As a Reward for this thy forward Mind.

[Sets it on his Head.

Hub. This unexpected Honour, noble Sir,
Will prick my Courage unto braver Deeds,
And cause me to attempt such hard Exploits,
That all the World shall sound of Hubba’s Name.

Hum. And now, brave Soldiers, for this good Success
Carouze whole Cups of Amazonian Wine,
Sweeter than Nectar or Ambrosia,
And cast away the Clods of cursed care,
With Goblets crown’d with Semelius’ Gifts,
Now let us march to Abis’ Silver Streams,
That clearly glide along the Champane Fields,
And moist the grassy Meads with humid drops.
Sound Drums and Trumpets, sound up cheerfully,
Sith we return with Joy and Victory. [Exeunt.
ACT III. SCENE I.

Dumb Show. Enter Ate as before. A Crocodile sitting on a River’s Bank, and a little Snake stinging it. Then both of them fall into the Water.

Ate. S celera in authorem cadunt.
High on a Bank, by Nilus’ boisterous Streams;
Fearfully fat th’ Egyptian Crocodile,
Dreadfully grinding in her sharp long Teeth
The broken Bowels of a silly Fish,
His Back was arm’d against the dint of Spear,
With Shields of Braes that shin’d like burnish’d Gold,
And as he stretched forth his cruel Paws,
A subtle Adder creeping closely near,
Thrusting his forked Sting into his Claws,
Privily shed his Poison thro’ his Bones,
Which made him swell that there his Bowels burst,
That did so much in his own greatness trust.
So Humber having conquer’d Albanaßt,
Doth yield his Glory unto Locrine’s Sword.
Mark what ensues, and you may easily see,
That all our Life is but a Tragedy.

[Exit.

SCENE II.

Enter Locrine, Guendeline, Corineius, Aßaractus, Thra- simachus, and Camber.

Loc. And is this true, is Albanacßt slain?
Hath cursed Humber with his stragling Host,
With that his Army made of mar-grel Curs,
Brought our redoubted Brother to his end?
The Tragedy of Locrine.

O that I had the Thraean Orpheus' Harp,
For to awake out of th' infernal Shade
Those ugly Devils of black Erebos,
That might torment the damned Traitor's Soul:
O that I had Amphion's Instrument
To quicken with his vital Notes and Tunes
The flinty Joints of every stony Rock,
By which the Scythians might be punished;
For, by the Lightning of almighty Jove,
The Human shall die, had he ten thousand Lives:
And would to God he had ten thousand Lives,
That I might with the arm-stong Hercules
Crop off to vile an Hydra's hisling Heads.
But say me, Cousin, for I long to hear
How Albanæt came by untimely Death.

Thra. After the traiterous Host of Scythians
Entred the Field with martial Equipage,
Young Albanæt, impatient of Delay,
Led forth his Army 'gainst the stragling Mares,
Whose multitude did daunt our Soldiers Minds,
Yet nothing could dismay the forward Prince,
But with a Courage most heroical,
Like to a Lion 'mongst a Flock of Lambs,
Made Havock of the faint-heart Fugitives,
Hewing a Passage thro' them with his Sword;
Yea we had almost giv'n them the Repulse,
When suddenly from out the silent Wood
Hubba with twenty thousand Soldiers,
Cowardly came upon our weakned Backs,
And murdered all with fatal Massacre;
Amongst the which old Debon, martial Knight,
With many Wounds was brought unto the Death:
And Albanæt opprest with multitude,
Whilst valiantly he fell'd his Enemies,
Yielded his Life and Honour to the Dull.
He being dead, the Soldiers fled amain,
And I alone escaped them by Flight,
To bring you Tidings of these accidents.

Loc. Not aged Priam, King of stately Troy,
Grand Emperor of barbarous Asia,
The Tragedy of Locrine.

When he beheld his noble-minded Son
Slain traiterously by all the Myrmidon,
Lamented more than I for Albanaet.

Guen. Not Hecuba the Queen of Ilium,
When she beheld the Town of Pergamus,
Her Palace burnt, with all-devouring Flames;
Her fifty Sons and Daughters fresh of Hue,
Murder'd by wicked Pyrrhus' bloody Sword,
Shed such sad Tears as I for Albanaet.

Cam. The Grief of Niobe, fair Athens Queen,
For her seven Sons magnanimous in Field,
For her seven Daughters fairer than the fairest,
Is not to be compar'd with my Laments.

Gue. In vain you sorrow for the slaughter'd Prince,
In vain you sorrow for his Overthrow;
He loves not most that doth lament the most,
But he that seeks to venge the Injury.
Think you to quell the Enemies warlike Train,
With childish Sobs and womanish Laments?
Unsheath your Swords, unsheath your conquering Swords,
And seek Revenge, the Comfort for this Sore:
In Cornwall, where I hold my Regiment,
Even just ten thousand valiant Men at Arms
Hath Corineius ready at command:
All these and more, if need shall more require;
Hath Corineius ready at command.

Cam. And in the Fields of martial Cambria,
Close by the boistrous Iscan's Silver Streams,
Where light-foot Fairies skip from Bank to Bank,
Full twenty thousand brave courageous Knights,
Well exercis'd in Feats of Chivalry,
In many manner most invincible,
Young Camber hath with Gold and Victual,
All these and more, if need shall more require,
I offer up to venge my Brother's Death.

Loc. Thanks, loving Uncle, and good Brother too,
For this Revenge, for this sweet Word Revenge
Must ease and cease my wrongful Injuries:
And by the Sword of bloody Mars I swear,

Ne'er
The Tragedy of Locrine.

Ne'er shall sweet Quiet enter this my Front,
Till I be venged on his traitorous Head,
That slew my noble Brother Albanact.
Sound Drums and Trumpets, muster up the Camp,
For we will straight march to Albania.

[Exeunt.

SCENE III:

Enter Humber, Esurild, Hubba, Thrassier, and the Soldiers.

Hum. Thus are we come, victorious Conqueror,
Unto the flowing Current's silver Streams,
Which, in memorial of our Victory,
Shall be agnominated by our Name,
And talked of by our Posterity:
For sure I hope before the golden Sun
Posteth his Horses to fair Thetis' Plains;
To see the Waters turned into Blood,
And change his blueish hue to rueful red,
By reason of the fatal massacre,
Which shall be made upon the virent Plains.

Enter the Ghost of Albanact.

Ghost. See how the Traitor doth presage his harm,
See how he glories at his own Decay,
See how he triumphs at his proper Loss,
O Fortune vile, unstable,ickle, frail!

Hum. Methinks I see both Armies in the Field,
The broken Lances climb the Crystal Skies,
Some headless lie, some breathless on the Ground;
And every place is strew'd with Carcasses,
Behold the Grass hath lost his pleasant green,
The sweetest Sight that ever might be seen.

Ghost. Ay, traitorous Humber, thou shalt find it so,
Yea to thy cost thou shalt the same behold,
With Anguish, Sorrow, and with sad Laments:
The grassy Plains, that now do please thine Eyes,
Shall ere the Night be colour'd all with Blood;
The Tragedy of Locrine.

The shady Groves that now inclose thy Camp,
And yield sweet favour to thy damned Corps,
Shall ere the Night be figured all with Blood;
The profound Stream that pass'd by thy Tents,
And with his Moisture serveth all thy Camp,
Shall ere the Night converted be to Blood,
Yea with the Blood of those thy frag'ling Boys:
For now Revenge shall ease my lingering Grief,
And now Revenge shall glut my longing Soul.

Hub. Let come what will, I mean to bear it out,
And either live with glorious Victory,
Or die with Fame renown'd for Chivalry:
He is not worthy of the Honey-comb,
That shuns the Hives because the Bees have Stings;
That likes me best that is not got with ease,
Which thousand Dangers do accompany;
For nothing can dismay our regal Mind,
Which aims at nothing but a golden Crown,
The only upshot of mine Enterprizes.
Were they enchanted in grim Pluto's Court,
And kept for Treasure 'mongst his hellish Crew,
I would either quel the triple Cerberus,
And all the Army of his hateful Hags,
Or roll the Stone with wretched Sisyphus.

Hum. Right martial be thy Thoughts, my noble Son,
And all thy Words favour of Chivalry.

Enter Segar.

But, warlike Segar, what strange Accidents
Make you to leave the warding of the Camp?

Segar. To Arms, my Lord, to honourable Arms;
Take Helm and Targe in hand, the Britons come
With greater Multitude than erst the Greeks
Brought to the Ports of Phrygidian Tenedos.

Hum. But what faith Segar to these Accidents?
What Counsel gives he in Extremities?

Segar. Why this, my Lord, Experience teacheth us,
That Resolution's a sole help at need.
The Tragedy of Locrine.

And this, my Lord, our honour teacheth us,
That we be bold in every Enterprize;
Then since there is no way but fight or die,
Be resolute, my Lord, for Victory.

Hum. And resolute, Segar, I mean to be,
Perhaps some blissful Star will favour us,
And comfort bring to our perplexed State:
Come let us in and fortify our Camp,
So to withstand their strong Invasion. [Exeunt]

SCENE IV.

Enter Strumbo, Trompert, Oliver, and his Son William following them.

Strum. Nay Neighbour Oliver, if you be so what,
come prepare your self, you shall find two as stout Fel-
lows of us, as any in all the North.

Oliv. No by my droth Neighbour Strumbo, Ich zee-
dat you are a Man of small zideration, dat will zeeck to
injure your old vreends, one of your vamiilar guests, and:
derefore zeeing your pinion is to deal withouten reazon,
Ich and my zonne William will take dat course, dat
shall be fardeft vrom reazon; how zay you, will you
have my Daughter or no?

Strum. A very hard question, Neighbour, but I will
solve it as I may; what reason have you to demand it
of me?

Will. Marry Sir, what reason had you when my Si-
ster was in the Barn to tumble her upon the Hay, and
to fish her Belly?

Strum. Mass thou sayt it true; well, but would you
have me marry her therefore? No, I scorn her, and
you, and you: Ay, I scorn you all.

Oliv. You will not have her then?

Strum. No, as I am a true Gentleman.

Will. Then will we school you, ere you and we par-
hence.
Enter Margery, and snatches the Staff out of her Brother's Hand as he is fighting.

Strum. Ay, you come in Pudding time, or else I had drest them.

Mar. You Master Saucebox, Lobcocks, Cockscobm, you Slopsauce, Lickfingers, will you not hear?

Strum. Who speak you to, me?

Mar. Ay, Sir, to you, John Lack-honesty, little Wit, is it you that will have none of me?

Strum. No, by my troth, Mistresf Nicebice, how fine you can nick-name me; I think you were brought up in the University of Bridewell, you have your Rhetoric so ready at your Tongues end, as if you were never well war'd when you were young.

Mar. Why then Goodman Cods-head, if you will have none of me, farewell.

Strum. If you be so plain, Mistresf Driggle-draggle, fare you well.

Mar. Nay, Master Strumbo, ere you go from hence we must have more words, you will have none of me?

[They fight.

Strum. Oh my Head, my Head, leave, leave, leave, I will, I will, I will.

Mar. Upon that condition I let thee alone.

Oliv. How now, Master Strumbo, hath my Daughter taught you a new Lession?

Strum. Ay, but hear you, Goodman Oliver, it will not be for my ease to have my Head broken every day, therefore remedy this, and we shall agree.

Oliv. Well, Zon, well, for you are my Zon now, all shall be remedied, Daughter be Friends with him.

[Shake Hands.

Strum. You are a sweet Nut, the Devil crack you, Masters, I think it be my luck, my first Wife was a loving quiet Wench, but this I think would weary the Devil. I would she might be burnt as my other Wife was; if not, I must run to the Halter for help. O Cod-piece,
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piece, thou hast undone thy Master; this it is to be med-

ling with warm Plackets.

[Exeunt.

SCENE V.

Enter Locrine, Camber, Corineius, Thrasimacus, and
Assarachus.

Loc. Now am I guarded with an hoist of Men,
Whose haughty Courage is invincible:
Now am I hem'd with Troops of Soldiers,
Such as might force Bellona to retire,
And make her tremble at their Puissance.
Now sit I like the mighty God of War,
When armed with his Coat of Adamant,
Mounted his Chariot drawn with mighty Bulls,
He drove the Argives over Xanthus’ Streams.
Now, cursed Humber, doth thy end draw nigh,
Down goes the Glory of his Victories;
And all his Fame, and all his high Renown,
Shall in a Moment yield to Locrine’s Sword:
Thy bragging Banners crost with argent Streams,
The Ornaments of thy Pavilions,
Shall all be captivated with this Hand,
And thou thy self, at Albanacitus’ Tomb
Shalt offer’d be, in Satisfaction
Of all the wrongs thou didst him when he liv’d.
But canst thou tell me, brave Thrasimachus,
How far we are distant from Humber’s Camp.

Thra. My Lord, within yon foul accursed Grove,
That bears the Tokens of our Overthrow,
This Humber hath intrench’d his damned Camp.
March on, my Lord, because I long to see
The treacherous Scythians squaltrring in their gore.

Loc. Sweet Fortune, favour Locrine with a smile,
That I may venge my noble Brother’s Death,
And in the midst of lately Troynovant,
I’ll build a Temple to thy Deity
Of perfect Marble, and of Jacinth Stones,
The Tragedy of Locrine.

That it shall pass the highest Pyramids,
Which with their top surmount the firmament.

Cam. The arm-strengh Off-spring of the doubted
Knight,
Stout Hercules, Alcmena's mighty Son,
That tam'd the Monsters of the three-fold World,
And rid the oppressed from the Tyrants Yokes,
Did never shew such valiantness in Fight,
As I will now for noble Albania.

Cor. Full fourscore Years hath Corineius liv'd,
Sometimes in War, sometimes in quiet Peace,
And yet I feel my self to be as strong
As erft I was in Summer of mine Age,
Able to tos this great unwieldy Club,
Which hath been painted with my Foe-mens Brains:
And with this Club I'll break the strong Array
Of Humber and his stragling Soldiers,
Or lose my Life amongst the thickest press,
And die with Honour in my latest Days:
Yet ere I die they all shall understand,
What force lyes in stout Corineius' Hand.

Thra. And if Thrasimachus detraet the Fight,
Either for weakness or for cowardise,
Let him not boast that Brutus was his Eame,
Or that brave Corineius was his Sire.

Loc. Then courage, Soldiers, firft for your Safety,
Next for your Peace, last for your Victory. [Exeunt.

Sound the Alarm. Enter Hubba and Segar at one Door,
and Corineius at the other.

Cor. Art thou that Humber, Prince of Fugitives,
That by thy Treason slew'st young Albania?

Hub. I am his Son that slew young Albania,
And if thou take not heed, proud Phrygian,
I'll send thy Soul unto the Stygian Lake,
There to complain of Humber's Injuries.

Cor. You triumph, Sir, before the Victory,
For Corineius is not so soon slain.
But, cursed Scythians, you shall rue the Day,
That e'er you came into Albania.

So
So perish they that envy Britain's wealth,
So let them die with endless infamy,
And he that seeks his Sovereign's overthrow,
Would this my Club might aggravate his Woe:

[Strikes them both down with his Club.]

Enter Humber.

_Hum._ Where may I find some desart Wilderness,
Where I may breathe out Curses as I would,
And scare the Earth with my condemning Voice,
Where every Echo's repercussion
May help me to bewail my Overthrow,
And aid me in my sorrowful Laments?
Where may I find some hollow uncouth Rock,
Where I may damn, condemn, and ban my fill,
The Heav'n's, the Hell, the Earth, the Air, the Fire,
And utter curses to the concave Sky,
Which may infect the airy Regions,
And light upon the Briton Locrine's Head?
You ugly Spirits that in Cocitus mourn,
And gnash your Teeth with dolorous Laments,
You fearful dogs that in black Lethe howl,
And scare the Ghosts with your wide open throats,
You ugly Ghosts that flying from these dogs,
Do plunge your selves in Puruslegion,
Come all of you, and with your shrieking notes
Accompany the Britonis Conquering Hoft,
Come fierce Erinmys, horrible with Snakes,
Come ugly Furies, armed with your Whips,
You threefold Judges of black Tartarus,
And all the Army of your hellish Fiends,
With new-found Torments rack proud Locrine's Bones.
O Gods and Stars, damn'd be the Gods and Stars,
That did not drown me in fair Thetis Plains.
Curst be the Sea that with outrageous Waves,
With surging Billows did not rive my Ships,
Against the Rocks of high Cerannia,
Or swallowed me into her watry Gulf.
Would God we had arriv'd upon the Shore
The Tragedy of Locrine.

Where Polyphemus and the Cyclops dwell,
Or where the bloody Anthropophagizes
With greedy Jaws devour the wandering Wights.

Enter the Ghost of Albanaetus.

But why comes Albanaetus' bloody Ghost,
To bring a compose to our miseries!
Is’t not enough to suffer shameful flight,
But we must be tormented now with Ghosts?
With Apparitions fearful to behold?
   Ghost. Revenge, revenge for Blood.
   Hum. So, nought will satisfy your wandering Ghost;
But dire revenge, nothing but Humber's fall,
Because he Conquer'd you in Albany.
Now by my Soul, Humber would be condemn'd
To Tantal's Hunger, or Ixion's Wheel,
Or to the Vulture of Prometheus,
Rather than that this Murther were undone.
When as I dye I'll drag thy cursed Ghost
Thro' all the Rivers of foul Erebus,
Thro' burning Sulphur of the Limbo-lake,
To allay the burning fury of that heat,
That rageth in mine everlasting Soul.
   Ghost. Vindicta, vindicta.

[Exeunt.]
ACT IV. SCENE I.

Enter Ate as before. Then Omphale Daughter to the King of Lydia, having a Club in her Hand, and a Lion's skin on her Back, Hercules following with a Distaff. Then Omphale turns about, and taking off her Pantoisie, strikes Hercules on the Head, then they depart. Ate remaining, says;

Quem non Argolic mandata severa Tyranni,  
Non potuit Juno vincere, victor amor.

Stout Hercules, the Mirror of the World,  
Son to Alcmena and great Jupiter,  
After so many Conquests won in Field,  
After so many Monsters quell'd by force;  
Yielded his valiant Heart to Omphale,  
A fearful Woman void of manly strength;  
She took the Club, and wore the Lion's Skin,  
He took the Wheel, and maidenly gan spin.  
So Martial Locrine cheer'd with Victory,  
Falleth in love with Humber's Concubine,  
And so forgetteth peerless Guendeline.  
His Uncle Corineius storms at this,  
And forceth Locrine for his Grace to sue,  
Lo here the Sum, the Proces doth ensue.  

[Exit.

SCENE II.

Enter Locrine, Camber, Corineius, Affarachus, Thra-  
imachus, and the Soldiers.

Loc. Thus from the fury of Bellona's broils,  
With sound of Drum and Trumpets melody,
The Tragedy of Locrine.

The Britain King returns triumphantly,
The Scythians slain with great occasion,
Do equalize the Grass in multitude,
And with their Blood have stain'd the streaming Brooks,
Offering their Bodies and their dearest Blood
As sacrifice to Albanus' Ghost.
Now cursed Humber haft thou paid thy due,
For thy Deceits and crafty Treacheries,
For all thy Guiles, and damned Stratagems,
With loss of Life and everdureing shame.
Where are thy Horses trap'd with burnish'd Gold,
Thy trampling Courser's rul'd with foaming bits?
Where are thy Soldiers strong and numberless?
Thy valiant Captains, and thy noble Peers?
Ev'n as the Country Clowns with sharpest Scythes,
Do mow the wither'd Grass from off the Earth,
Or as the Plough-man with his piercing Share
Renteth the Bowels of the fertile Fields,
And rippeth up the Roots with Razors keen;
So Locrine, with his mighty curtle Axe,
Hath cropped off the Heads of all thy Hunns,
So Locrine's Peers have daunted all thy Peers,
And drove thine Hoft unto confusion.
That thou may'st suffer Penance for thy fault,
And die for murdering valiant Albanus.

Cori. And thus, yea thus, shall all the rest be serv'd,
That seek to enter Albion 'gainst our wills.
If the brave Nation of the Troglorites,
If all the coal-black Ethiopians,
If all the Forces of the Amazons,
If all the Hofts of the Barbarian Lands,
Should dare to enter this our little World,
Soon should they rue their over-bold attempts,
That after us our Progeny may say,
There lyes the Beast that sought to usurp our Land.

Loc. Ay, they are Beasts that seek to usurp our Land,
And like to brutish Beasts they shall be serv'd.
For mighty Jove, the supreme King of Heav'n,
That guides the concourse of the Meteors,
And rules the motion of the azure Sky,
The Tragedy of Locrine.

Fights always for the Britains safety.
But stay, methinks, I hear some shrieking noise,
That draweth near to our Pavilion.

Enter Soldiers leading in Estrild.

Estrild. What Prince soe'er adorn'd with golden Crown,
Doth sway the Regal Sceptre in his Hand,
And thinks no chance can ever throw him down,
Or that his state shall everlasting stand,
Let him behold poor Estrild in this plight,
The perfect Platform of a troubled Wight.
Once was I guarded with mavourtal bands,
Compact with Princes of the noble Blood,
Now am I fallen into my Foe-mens hands,
And with my death must pacify their mood.
O Life, the harbour of calamities,
O Death, the haven of all miseries:
I could compare my sorrows to thy woe,
Thou wretched Queen of wretched Pergamus,
But that thou view'dst thy Enemies overthrow,
Nigh to the Rock of high Caphareus.
Thou saw'st their death, and then departed'st thence;
I must abide the Victor's insolence.
The Gods that pitied thy continual grief,
Transform'd thy Corps, and with thy Corps thy care,
Poor Estrild lives despairing of relief,
For Friends in trouble are but few and rare.
What, said I, few? Ay, few or none at all,
For cruel Death made havoc of them all.
Thrice happy they whose fortune was so good,
To end their lives, and with their lives their woes,
Thrice hapless I, whom Fortune so withstood,
That cruelly she gave me to my Foes.
O Soldiers, is there any misery
To be compar'd to Fortune's treachery.

Loc. Cambre, this fame should be the Scythian Queen.
Cam. So may we judge by her lamenting words.
Loc. So fair a Dame mine Eyes did never see,
With floods of woes she seems o'erwhelm'd to be.
Cam.
404 The Tragedy of Locrine.

Cam. O Locrine, hast she not a cause for to be sad?

Loc. If she have cause to weep for Humber's death, And shed salt tears for her Overthrow:

Locrime may well bewail his proper grief,
Locrine may move his own peculiar woe.
He being conquer'd, died a speedy death;
And felt not long his lamentable smart;
I being a Conqueror, live a lingering Life,
And feel the force of Cupid's sudden stroke.
I gave him cause to die a speedy death.

He left me cause to wish a speedy death.
O that sweet Face painted with Nature's dye,
Those rosy Cheeks mixt with a snowy white,
That decent Neck surpassing Ivory,
Those comely Breasts which Venus well might spite,
Are like to snares with wily Fowlers wrought,
Wherein my yielding Heart is prisoner caught.
The golden tresses of her dainty Hair,
Which shine like Rubies glittering with the Sun,
Have so entrap'd poor Locrine's love-sick Heart,
That from the same no way it can be won.

How true is that which oft I heard declar'd,
One dram of Joy must have a pound of Care.

Est. Hard is their fall, who from a Golden Crown
Are cast into a Sea of wretchedness.

Loc. Hard is their thrall, who by Cupid'srown
Are wrapt in Waves of endless carelessness.

Est. O Kingdom, Object to all miseries.

Loc. O Love, the extream'ft of all Extremities.

[ Goes into his Chair. ]

Sold. My Lord, in ranfacking the Scythian Tents,
I found this Lady, and to manifest
That earnest Zeal I bear unto your Grace,
I here present her to your Majesty.

Another Sold. He lies, my Lord, I found the Lady first,

And here present her to your Majesty.

1 Sold. Presumptuous Villain, wilt thou take my prize?
2 Sold. Nay, rather thou depriv'ft me of my right.

1 Sold.
The Tragedy of Locrine.

1 Sold. Resign thy Title, Captive unto me, Or with my Sword I'll pierce thy Cowards Loins.
2 Sold. Soft words, good Sir, 'tis not enough to speak: A barking Dog doth seldom Strangers bite.

Loc. Unreverent Villains, strive you in our sight? Take them hence, Jailor, to the Dungeon, There let them lie and try their quarrel out; But thou, fair Princess, be no whit dismay'd, But rather joy that Locrine favours thee.

Eth. How can he favour me that slew my Spouse? Loc. The chance of War, my Love, took him from thee.

Eth. But Locrine was the causer of his death. Loc. He was an Enemy to Locrine's State, And slew my noble Brother Albanact.

Eth. But he was link'd to me in Marriage-bond, And would you have me love his slaughterer? Loc. Better to live, than not to live at all.

Eth. Better to die renown'd for chastity, Than live with shame and endless infamy. What would the common sort report of me, If I forget my love, and cleave to thee?

Loc. Kings need not fear the vulgar sentences. Eth. But Ladies must regard their honest Name. Loc. Is it a shame to live in Marriage-bonds? Eth. No, but to be a Strumpet to a King. Loc. If thou wilt yield to Locrine's burning Love, Thou shalt be Queen of fair Albania. Eth. But Guendeline will undermine my State. Loc. Upon mine Honour, thou shalt have no harm, Eth. Then lo, brave Locrine, Esfrild yields to thee, And by the Gods, whom thou dost invoke, By the dread Ghost of thy deceased Sire, By thy right-hand, and by thy burning Love, Take pity on poor Esfrild's wretched thrall.

Cori. Hath Locrine then forgot his Guendeline, That thus hecourts the Scythia.'s Paramour? What, are the words of Brute so soon forgot? Are my deserts so quickly out of mind? Have I been faithful to thy Sire now dead?
The Tragedy of Locrine.

Have I protected thee from Humber’s hand,
And dost thou quit me with Ungratitude?
Is this the guerdon for my grievous wounds?
Is this the Honour for my labours past?
Now by my Sword, Locrine, I swear to thee,
This injury of thine shall be repaid.

Loc. Uncle, scorn you your Royal Sovereign,
As if we stood for Cyphers in the Court?
Upbraid you me with those your benefits?
Why, it was a Subject’s duty so to do.
What you have done for our deceased Sire
We know, and all know, you have your reward.

Cori. Avant, proud Princox, brav’d thou me withal,
Assure thy self thy be Emperor,
Thou ne’er shalt carry this unpunished.

Cam. Pardon my Brother, noble Corineius,
Pardon this once, and it shall be amended.

Assa. Cousin, remember Brutus’ latest words,
How he desired you to cherish them:
Let not this fault so much incense your Mind,
Which is not yet passed all remedy.

Cori. Then Locrine, lo I reconcile my self,
But as thou lov’st thy Life, so love thy Wife.
But if thou violate those promises,
Blood and Revenge shall light upon thy Head.
Come, let us back to stately Troynovant,
Where all these matters shall be settled.

Loc. Millions of Devils wait upon thy Soul,

[To himself.

Legions of Spirits vex thy impious Ghost:
Ten thousand torments rack thy cursed bones.
Let every thing that hath the use of breath,
Be instruments and workers of thy death.  [Exeunt.

Scene
SCENE III.

Enter Humber alone, his Hair hanging over his Shoulders; his Arms all bloody, and a Dart in one Hand.

Hum. What Basilisk hath hatched in this place, Where every thing consumed is to nought? What fearful Fury haunts these cursed Groves, Where not a root is left for Humber's Meat? Hath fell Aësto with envenom'd blasts, Breathed forth Poison in these tender Plains? Hath tripple Cerberus with contagious foam, Sow'd Aconitum 'mongst these wither'd Herbs? Hath dreadful Fames with her charming rods Brought barrenness on every fruitful Tree? What not a Root, no Fruit, no Beast, no Bird, To nourish Humber in this Wildernes? What would you more, you Friends of Erebus? My very Entrainls burn for want of drink, My Bowels cry Humber give us some meat, But wretched Humber can give you no meat, These foul accursed Groves afford no meat: This fruitless soil, this ground brings forth no meat. The Gods, hard-hearted Gods, yield me no meat. Then how can Humber give you any meat?

Enter Strumbo with a Pitch-fork and a Scotch-Cap.

Strum. How do you, Masters, how do you? how have you 'scap'd hanging this long time? 'faith I have 'scaped many a scouring this Year, but I thank God I have past them all with a good couragio, couragio, and my Wife and I are in great love and charity now. I thank my Manhood and my Strength; for I will tell you, Masters, upon a certain Day at Night I came home, to say the very truth, with my Stomach full of Wine, and ran up into the Chamber, where my Wife soberly sat rocking my little Baby, leaning her back against the
The Tragedy of Locrine.

the Bed, singing lullaby. Now when she saw me come with my Nose foremost, thinking that I had been drunk, as I was indeed, snatch’d up a Faggot-stick in her hand, and came furiously marching towards me, with a big Face, as though she would have eaten me at a bit; thundering out these words unto me, Thou drunken Knave, where hast thou been so long? I shall teach thee how to benight me another time; and so she began to play Knaves Trumps. Now, altho I trembled, fearing she would set her ten Commandments in my Face, ran within her, and taking her lustily by the middle, I carried her valiantly to the Bed, and flinging her upon it, flung my self upon her, and there I delighted her so with the sport I made, that ever after she would call me sweet Husband, and so banish’d brawling for ever; and to see the good Will of the Wench, she brought with her Portion a Yard of Land, and by that I am now become one of the richest Men in our Parish.

Well, Masters, What’s a Clock? It is now Breakfast-time, you shall see what meat I have here for my Breakfast. [He sits down and pulls out his Victuals.

Hum. Was ever Land so fruitless as this Land?
Was ever Grove so graceless as this Grove?
Was ever Soil so barren as this Soil?
Oh no: The Land where hungry Fames dwelt,
May no ways equalize this cursed Land;
No, even the climate of the Torrid Zone
Brings forth more fruit than this accursed Grove.
Ne’er came sweet Ceres, ne’er came Venus here;
Triptolemus the God of Husbandmen,
Ne’er sow’d his Seed in this foul Wilderness.
The hunger-bitten Dogs of Acheron,
Chac’d from the nine-fold Pyrrhlogiton,
Have set their four-steps in this damned Ground.
The Iron-hearted Furies arm’d with Snakes,
Scatter’d huge Hydra’s over all the Plains,
Which have consum’d the Grafs, the Herbs, the Trees,
Which have drunk up the flowing Water-Springs.
[Strumbo hearing his Voice starts up, and puts his Meat in his Pocket, seeking to hide himself.

Hum
The Tragedy of Locrine.

_Hum._ Thou great Commander of the Starry Sky, That guid'st the Life of every mortal Wight, From the inclosures of the fleeting Clouds Rain down some Food, or else I faint and die. Pour down some Drink, or else I faint and die. O Jupiter, hast thou sent Mercury In clownish Shape to minister some Food? Some Meat, some Meat, some Meat.

_Strum._ O alas, Sir, ye are deceiv'd, I am not Mercury; I am Strumbo.

_Hum._ Give me some Meat, Villain, give me some Meat, Or 'gainst this Rock I'll dash thy cursed Brains, And rend thy Bowels with my bloody Hands. Give me some Meat, Villain, give me some Meat.

_Strum._ By the Faith of my Body, good Fellow, I had rather give a whole Ox, than that thou shouldst serve me in that fort. Dash out my Brains! O horrible, terrible. I think I have a quarry of Stones in my Pocket.

He makes as tho he would give him some, and as he puts out his Hand, enters the Ghost of Albanus, and strikes him on the Hand, and so Strumbo runs out, Humber following him. [Exeunt.

_Ghost._ Lo here the Gift of fell Ambition, Of Usurpation and of Treachery: Lo here the harms that wait upon all those That do intrude themselves in others Lands, Which are not under their Dominion. [Exit.

_SCENE IV._

Enter Locrine alone.

_Loc._ Seven Years hath, aged Corineius liv'd To Locrine's Grief, and fair Estrilda's Woe, And seven Years more he hopeth yet to live:
410 The Tragedy of Locrine.
Oh supreme Love, annihilate this thought.
Should he enjoy the Air's fruition?
Should he enjoy the Benefit of Life?
Should he contemplate the radiant Sun,
That makes my Life equal to dreadful Death?
Venus convey this Monster from the Earth,
That disobeyeth thus thy sacred Hefts.
Cupid convey this Monster to dark Hell,
That disannuls thy Mother's sugar'd Laws.
Mars with thy Target all beset with Flames,
With murthering Blade bereave him of his Life,
That hindreth Locrine in his sweetest Joys.
And yet for all his diligent aspect,
His wrathful Eyes piercing like Linces Eyes,
Well have I overmatch'd his Subtlety.
Nigh Deucolitum by the pleasant Lee,
Where brackish Thamus slides with silver Streams,
Making a Breach into the grassy Downs,
A curious Arch of costly Marble fraught,
Hath Locrine framed underneath the Ground,
The Walls whereof, garnisht with Diamonds,
With Ophirs, Rubies, glittering Emeralds,
And interlac'd with Sun-bright Casbuncles,
Lightens the room with Artificial Day,
And from the Lee with Water-flowing Pipes
The moisture is deriv'd into this Arch,
Where I have plac'd fair Esrild secretly;
Thither eftsoons accompanied with my Page,
I covertly visit my Heart's desire,
Without suspicion of the meanest Eye,
For Love aboundeth still with Policy.
And thither still means Locrine to repair,
Till Atropos cut off mine Uncle's Life.

[Exit.

SCENE
The Tragedy of Locrine.

SCENE V.

Enter Humber alone, saying;

O vita misero longa, facili brevis!
Euen malorum famis extremum malum.

Long have I lived in this desert Cave,
With eating Haws and miserable Roots,
Devouring Leaves and beastly Excrements.
Caves were my Beds, and Stones my Pillowberes.
Fear was my Sleep, and Horror was my Dream;
For still methought at every boisterous Blast,
Now Locrine comes, now Humber thou must die;
So that for Fear and Hunger, Humber's Mind
Can never rest, but always trembling stands.
O what Danubius now may quench my Thirst?
What Euphrates, what light-foot Euripus
May now allay the Fury of that Heat,
Which raging in my Entrails eats me up?
You ghastly Devils of the ninefold Styx,
You damned Ghosts of joyless Acheron,
You mournful Souls, vext in Abyssus' Vaults,
You cole-black Devils of Avernus' Pond,
Come with your Flesh-hooks, rend my famish'd Arms,
These Arms that have sustain'd their Master's Life;
Come with your Razors rip my Bowels up,
With your sharp Fire-forks crack my starved Bones,
Use me as you will, so Humber may not live.
Accursed Gods that rule the merry Poles,
Accursed Jove, King of th' accursed Gods,
Cast down your Lightning on poor Humber's Head,
That I may have this Death-like Life of mine.
What, hear you not? and shall not Humber die?
Nay, I will die, tho' all the Gods say nay.
And gentle Aby take my troubled Corps,
Take it and keep it from all mortal Eyes.

That
The Tragedy of Locrine.
That none may say, when I have lost my Breath,
The very Floods conspir’d’gainst Humber’s Death.
[Flings himself into the River.

Enter the Ghost of Albanaer.

En cadem sequitur, cades in cede quiesco.
Humber is dead, joy Heav’ns, leap Earth, dance Trees;
Now may’st thou reach thy Apples Tantalus,
And with ’em feed thy hunger-bitten Limbs.
Now Sisyphus leave tumbling of thy Rock,
And rest thy restless Bones upon the same.
Unbind Ixion, cruel Rhadamanth,
And lay proud Humber on the whirling Wheel.
Back will I post to Hell Mouth Tanarus,
And pass Cocytus, to the Elysian Fields,
And tell my Father Brutus of this News. [Exit.

ACT V. SCENE I.

Enter Ate as before. Jason leading Creon’s Daughter.
Medea following, a Garland in her Hand, and putting it on Creon’s Daughter’s Head, setteth it on Fire, and then killing Jason and her, departs.

Ate.

ON tam Trinacriis exsuffuat Aetna cavernis,
Lasa furtivo quam cor mulieris amore.

Medea seeing Jason leave her Love,
And chuse the Daughter of the Theban King,
Went to her devilish Charms to work Revenge;
And raising up the triple Hecate,
With all the rout of the condemned Fieuds,
The Tragedy of Locrine.

Framed a Garland by her magick Skill,
With which she wrought Jason and Creon's Ill.
So Gueneline seeing her self misus'd,
And Humber's Paramour possest her place,
Flies to the Dukedom of Cornubia,
And with her Brother, stout Thrasimachus,
Gathering a Power of Cornish Soldiers,
Gives Battle to her Husband and his Host,
Nigh to the River of Great Mercia:
The Chances of this dismal Massacre,
That which ensueth shortly will unfold.
[Exeunt]

SCENE II.

Enter Locrine, Camber, Assaracus, and Thrasimachus.

Affa. But tell me, Cousin, dy'd my Brother so?
Now who is left to hapless Albion,
That as a Pillar might uphold our State,
That might strike Terror to our daring Foes?
Now who is left to hapless Britany,
That might defend her from the barb'rous Hands
Of those that still desire her ruinous Fall,
And seek to work her Downfall and Decay?

Camm. Ay Uncle, Death's our common Enemy,
And none but Death can match our matchless Power;
Witness the Fall of Albioneus' Crew,
Witness the Fall of Humber and his Hunns,
And this foul Death hath now increas'd our Woe,
By taking Corineius from this Life,
And in his room leaving us Worlds of Care.

Thra. But none may more bewail his mournful
Hearse,
Than I that am the Issue of his Loins.
Now foul befal that cursed Humber's Throat,
That was the causer of his lingering Wound.

Locr. Tears cannot raise him from the Dead again,
But where's my Lady Mistress Gueneline?
The Tragedy of Locrine.

Thra. In Cornwall, Locrine, is my Sister now,
Providing for my Father’s Funeral.

Loc. And let her there provide her mourning Weeds,
And mourn for ever her own Widow-hood,
Ne’er shall she come within our Palace Gate,
To countercheck brave Locrine in his Love.
Go, Boy, to Deucolitum, down the Lee,
Unto the Arch where lovely Efrild lies,
Bring her and Sabren, straight unto the Court,
She shall be Queen in Guendeline’s room.
Let others wail for Corineius’ Death,
I mean not so to macerate my Mind,
For him that barr’d me from my Heart’s Desire.

Thra. Hath Locrine then forlook his Guendeline?
Is Corineius’ Death so soon forgot?
If there be Gods in Heav’n, as sure there be,
If there be Fiends in Hell, as needs there must,
They will revenge this thy notorious wrong,
And pour their Plagues upon thy cursed Head.

Loc. What, pratt’st thou, Peasant, to thy Soveraig

Or art thou stricken in some Extasy?
Dost thou not tremble at our Royal Looks?
Dost thou not quake when mighty Locrine frowns?
Thou beardless Boy, were’t not that Locrine scorns
To vex his mind with such a heartless Child,
With the sharp Point of this my Battel-axe,
I’d send thy Soul to Puriphegion.

Thra. Tho I be young and of a tender Age,
Yet will I cope with Locrine when he dares.
My noble Father, with his conqu’ring Sword,
Slew the two Giants Kings of Aquitaine.
Thrasimachus is not so degenerate,
That he should fear and tremble at the Looks,
Or taunting Words of a Venerean Squire.

Loc. Menacdst thou thy Royal Sovereign?
Uncivil, not beseeking such as you.
Injurious Traitor (for he is no less
That at Defiance standeth with his King)
The Tragedy of Locrine.

Leave these thy Taunts, leave these thy bragging Words,
Unless thou mean'st to leave thy wretched Life.

Thra. If Princes stain their glorious Dignity
With ugly spots of monstrous Infamy,
They lefe their former Estimation,
And throw themselves into a Hell of hate.

Loc. Wilt thou abuse my gentle Patience,
As tho thou didst our high displeasure scorn?
Proud Boy, that thou may'st know thy Prince is mov'd,
Yea, greatly mov'd at this thy swelling Pride,
We banish thee for ever from our Court.

Thra. Then, losel Locrine, look unto thy self,
Thrasimachus will revenge this Injury. [Exit.

Loc. Farewel, proud Boy, and learn to use thy
Tongue.

Affa. Alas, my Lord, you should have call'd to mind
The latest Words that Brutus spake to you.
How he desir'd you, by the Obedience
That Children ought to bear their Sire,
To love and favour Lady Guendeline:
Consider this, that if the Injury
Do move her mind, as certainly it will,
War and Diffension follows speedily.
What tho her Power be not so great as yours,
Have you not seen a mighty Elephant
Slain by the biting of a silly Mouse?
Even so the chance of War inconstant is.

Loc. Peace, Uncle, Peace, and cease to talk thereof;
For he that seeks, by whispering this or that,
To trouble Locrine, in his sweetest Life,
Let him persuade himself to die the Death.

Enter the Page, with Estrild and Sabren.

Estrild. O say me, Page, tell me, where is the King?
Wherefore doth he send for me to the Court?
Is it to die? is it to end my Life?
Say me, sweet Boy, tell me and do not feign.

Page. No, trust me, Madam, if you will credit the little
Honesty that is yet left me, there is no such Danger as you
fear; but prepare your self, yonder's the King.

Estrild.
The Tragedy of Locrine.

Est. Then Estrild, lift thy dazzled Spirits up, [Kneeling. And bless that blessed time, that Day, that Hour, That warlike Locrine first did favour thee. Peace to the King of Britany, my Love, Peace to all those that love and favour him. Loc. Doth Estrild fall with such Submission [Taking her up. Before her Servant King of Albion? Arise, fair Lady, leave this lovely Cheer, Lift up those Looks that cherish Locrine's Heart, That I may freely view that rosy Face, Which so intangled hath my love-sick Breast. Now to the Court, where we will court it out, And pass the Night and Day in Venus' Sports: Frolick, brave Peers, be joyful with your King. [Exeunt.

Scene III

Enter Guendeline, Thrasimachus, Madan, and Soldiers.

Guen. You gentle Winds that with your modest Blasts Pass thro' the Circuit of the Heav'nly Vault, Enter the Clouds unto the Throne of Love, And bear my Pray'rs to his all-hearing Ears, For Locrine hath forsaken Guendeline, And learnt to love proud Humber's Concubine. You happy Sprites that in the Concave Sky, With pleasant Joy, enjoy your sweetest Love, Shed forth those Tears with me, which then you shed, When first you woo'd your Ladies to their Wills: Those Tears are fittest for my woful Case, Since Locrine shuns my nothing-pleasant Face, Blush Heav'n, blush Sun, and hide thy shining Beams, Shadow thy radiant Locks in gloomy Clouds, Deny thy cheerful Light unto the World, Where nothing reigns but Falshood and Deceit: What, said I, Falshood? Ay, that filthy Crime, For Locrine hath forsaken Guendeline.

Behold
The Tragedy of Locrine.

Behold the Heav’ns do wail for Guendeline:
The shining Sun doth blush for Guendeline:
The liquid Air doth weep for Guendeline:
The very Ground doth groan for Guendeline.
Ay, they are milder than the Britain King,
For he rejecteth luckless Guendeline.

Thra. Sister, Complaints are bootless in this cause,
This open wrong must have an open Plague:
This Plague must be repaid with grievous War,
This War must finish with Locrinus’ Death,
His Death will soon extinguish our Complaints.

Guen. O no, his Death will more augment my woes;
He was my Husband, brave Thrasimachus,
More dear to me than th’ apple of mine Eye,
Nor can I find in Heart to work his Sache.

Thra. Madam, if not your proper Injuries,
Nor my Exile, can move you to revenge:
Think on our Father Corineius’ Words,
His Words to us stand always for a Law.
Should Locrine live, that caus’d my Father’s Death?
Should Locrine live, that now divorceth you?
The Heav’ns, the Earth, the Air, the Fire reclaims;
And then why should all we deny the same?

Guen. Then henceforth farewel womanish Complaints;
All childish Pity henceforth then farewel:
But cursed Locrine, look unto thy self,
For Nemesis, the Mistress of Revenge,
Sits arm’d at all points on our dismal Blades.
And cursed Estrild, that inflam’d his Heart,
Shall, if I live, die a reproachful Death.

Mad. Mother, tho’ Nature makes me to lament
My luckless Father’s froward Letchery;
Yet for he wrongs my Lady Mother, thus,
I, if I could, my self would work his Death.

Thra. See, Madam, see, the desire of Revenge
Is in the Children of a tender Age.
Forward, brave Soldiers, into Mercia,
Where we shall brave the Coward to his Face. [Exeunt.]

S 5

SCENE
SCENE IV.

Enter Locrine, Estrild, Sabren, Assarachus, and the Soldiers.

Loc. Tell me, Assarachus, are the Cornish Chuffs
In such great number come to Mercia,
And have they pitched there their Host,
So close unto our royal Mansion?

Assa. They are, my Lord, and mean incontinent
To bid defiance to your Majesty.

Loc. It makes me laugh, to think that Guendeline
Should have the Heart to come in Arms against me.

Estr. Alas, my Lord, the Horse will run amain
When as the Spur doth gall him to the Bone;
Jealously, Locrine, hast a wicked Sting.

Loc. Sayst thou so, Estrild, Beauty's Paragon?
Well, we will try her Choler to the Proof,
And make her know, Locrine can brook no braves.
March on, Assarachus, thou must lead the way,
And bring us to their proud Pavilion.        [Exeunt.

SCENE V.

Enter the Ghost of Corineius, with Thunder and Lightning.

Ghost. Behold, the Circuit of the azure Sky
Throws forth sad Throbs, and grievous Suspires,
Prejudicating Locrine's Overthrow:
The Fire casteth forth sharp darts of Flames,
The great Foundation of the triple World
Trembleth and quaketh with a mighty Noise,
Presaging bloody Massacres at hand.
The wandering Birds that flutter in the dark,
When hellish Night in cloudy Chariot seated
Casteth her Mists on shady Tellus' Face,

With
The Tragedy of Locrine.

With fable Mantles cov’ring all the Earth,
Now fly abroad amid the cheerful Day,
Foretelling some unwonted Misery.
The snarling Curs of darkned Tartarus,
Sent from Avernus Ponds by Rhadamanth,
With howling Ditties pester ev’ry Wood;
The warty Ladies, and the lightfoot Fawns,
And all the Rabble of the woody Nymphs,
All trembling hide themselves in shady Groves,
And shrowd themselves in hideous hollow Pits.
The boisterous Boreas thundreth forth Revenge:
The stony Rocks cry out on sharp Revenge:
The thorny Bush pronounceth dire Revenge.

[Sound the Alarm.]

Nay Corineius stay and see Revenge,
And feed thy Soul with Locrine’s Overthrow:
Behold they come, the Trumpets call them forth,
The roaring Drums summon the Soldiers,
Lo where their Army glistereth on the Plains.
Throw forth thy Lightning, mighty Jupiter,
And pour thy Plagues on cursed Locrine’s Head.

[Stands aside.]

Enter Locrine, Estrild, Affarachus, Sabren and their
Soldiers at one Door; Thrasimachus, Guendeline,
Madan, and their Followers at another,

Loc. What, is the Tiger started from his Cave?

Is Guendeline come from Cornubia,
That thus she braveth Locrine to the Teeth?
And haft thou found thine Armour, pretty Boy,
Accompanied with these thy straggling Mates?
Believe me but this Enterprize was bold,
And well deserveth Commendation.

Guen. Ay, Locrine, traiterous Locrine, we are come,
With full Pretence to seek thine Overthrow.
What have I done that thou shouldst scorn me thus?
What have I said that thou shouldst me reject?
Have I been disobedient to thy Words?
Have I betray’d thy arcane Secrecy?

Have
The Tragedy of Locrine.

Have I dishonoured thy Marriage-bed
With filthy Crimes, or with laicivious Lusts?
Nay it is thou that hast dishonour'd it:
Thy filthy Mind o'ercome with filthy Lusts,
Yieldeth unto Affection's filthy Darts.
Unkind, thou wrong'ft thy first and truest Fair,
Unkind, thou wrong'ft thy best and dearest Friend;
Unkind, thou scorn'ft all skilful Brutus' Laws,
Forgetting Father, Uncle, and thy self.

Else Believe me, Locrine, but the Girl is wise,
And well would seem to make a Vestal Nun:
How finely frames she her Oration.

Thra. Locrine, we came not here to fight with Words,
Words that can never win the Victory,
But for you are so merry in your Frumps,
Unsheath your Swords, and try it out by force,
That we may see who hath the better hand.

Loc. Think'ft thou to dare me, bold Thrasimachus?
Think'ft thou to fear me with thy taunting braves,
Or do we seem too weak to cope with thee?
Soon shall I shew thee my fine cutting Blade,
And with my Sword, the Messenger of Death,
Seal thee an Acquaintance for thy bold attempts.

[Exeunt.

Sound the Alarm. Enter Locrine, Assarachus, and a
Soldier at one Door; Guendeline, Thrasimachus, at
another: Locrine and his Followers driven back.

Then Locrine and Estrild enter again in amaze.

Loc. O fair Estrilda, we have loft the Field,
Thrasimachus hath won the Victory,
And we are left to be a Laughing-stock,
Scotst at by those that are our Enemies.
Ten thousand Soldiers arm'd with Sword and Shield,
Prevail against an hundred thousand Men.
Thrasimachus incens'd with fuming Ire,
Ragest amongst the faint-heart Soldiers,
Like to grim Mars, when cover'd with his Target.
The Tragedy of Locrine.

He fought with Diomedes in the Field,
Close by the Banks of silver Simois.

[Sound the Alarm.

O lovely Estrild now the Chase begins:
Ne'er shall we see the stately Troyvont,
Mounted with Courser's garnish'd all with Pearls,
Ne'er shall we view the fair Concordia,
Unless as Captives we be thither brought.
Shall Locrine then be taken Prisoner,
By such a youngling as Thrasimachus?
Shall Guendeline captivate my Love?
Ne'er shall mine Eyes behold that dismal hour,
Ne'er will I view that rueful Spectacle,
For with my Sword, or this sharp Curtle-ax,
I'll cut in sunder my accursed Heart.
But O you Judges of the ninefold Styx,
Which with incessant Torments rack the Ghosts
Within the bottomless Abyssus Pits,
You Gods, Commanders of the Heav'nly Spheres,
Whose Will and Laws irrevocable stand,
Forgive, forgive, this soul accursed Sin;
Forget, O Gods, this soul condemned fault:
And now my Sword, that in so many Fights

[Hisses his Sword.

Haft fav'd the Life of Brutus and his Son,
End now his Life that wistheth still for Death,
Work now his Death that wistheth still for Death,
Work now his Death that hatesth still his Life.
Farewel, fair Estrild, Beauty's Paragon,
Fram'd in the Front of forlorn Miseries,
Ne'er shall mine Eyes behold thy Sun-shine Eyes,
But when we meet in the Elysian Fields,
Thither I go before with hasten'd pace.
Farewel, vain World, and thy enticing Snares,
Farewel, foul Sin, and thy enticing Pleasures,
And welcome Death, the end of mortal Smart,
Welcome to Locrine's over-burthen'd Heart.

[Thrusts himself thro' with his Sword.

Estrild. Break Heart with Sobs and grievous Suffrises,
Stream forth your Tears from forth my watry Eyes,

Help
The Tragedy of Locrine.

Help me to mourn for warlike Locrine’s Death,
Pour down your Tears you watry Regions,
For mighty Locrine is bereft of Life.
O fickle Fortune, O unsteady World,
What else are all things, that this Globe contains,
But a confused Chaos of mishaps?
Wherein, as in a Glass, we plainly see,
That all our Life is but a Tragedy.
Since mighty Kings are subject to mishap,
Ay, mighty Kings are subject to mishap,
Since martial Locrine is bereft of Life,
Shall Eฟrid live then after Locrine’s Death?
Shall love of Life bar her from Locrine’s Sword?
O no, this Sword that hath bereft his Life,
Shall now deprive me of my fleeting Soul:
Strengthen these Hands, O mighty Jupiter,
That I may end my woful Misery.
Locrine I come, Locrine I follow thee. [Kills herself.

Sound the Alarum. Enter Sabren.

Sab. What doleful Sight, what ruthless Spectacle
Hath Fortune offer’d to my hapless Heart?
My Father slain with such a fatal Sword,
My Mother murder’d by a mortal Wound?
What Thracian Dog, what barbarous Myrmidon,
Would not relent at such a ruthless case?
What fierce Achilles, what hard stony Flint,
Would not bemoan this mournful Tragedy?
Locrine, the Map of Magnanimity,
Lies slaughter’d in this foul accursed Cave;
Eฟrid, the perfect Pattern of Renown,
Nature’s sole Wonder, in whose beauteous Breasts
All Heav’nly Grace and Virtue was inshrin’d,
Both massacred, are dead within this Cave,
And with them dies fair Pallas and sweet Love.
Here lies a Sword, and Sabren hath a Heart,
This blessed Sword shall cut my cursed Heart,
And bring my Soul unto my Parents Ghosts,
The Tragedy of Locrine.

That they that live and view our Tragedy,
May mourn our case with mournful Pleadites.

[Offers to kill herself.

Ay me, my Virgin’s Hands are too too weak,
To penetrate the Bulwark of my Breast;
My Fingers, us’d to tune the amorous Lute,
Are not of Force to hold this steely Glaive,
So I am left to wail my Parents Death,
Not able for to work my proper Death.
Ah Locrine, honour’d for thy Nobleness,
Ah Estrild, famous for thy Constancy,
Ill may they fare that wrought your mortal Ends.

Enter Guendeline, Thrasimachus, Madan, and the Soldiers.

Guen. Search, Soldiers, search, find Locrine and his Love,
Find the proud Strumpet, Humber’s Concubine,
That I may change those her so pleasing Looks
To pale and ignominious Aspect.
Find me the Issue of their cursed Love,
Find me young Sabren, Locrine’s only Joy,
That I may glut my Mind with lukewarm Blood,
Swiftly distilling from the Bastard’s Breast.
My Father’s Ghost still haunts me for Revenge,
Crying, Revenge my over-haften’d Death.
My Brother’s Exile, and mine own Divorce,
Banish Remorse clean from my brazen Heart,
All Mercy from mine adamantine Breasts.

Thra. Nor doth thy Husband, lovely Guendeline,
That wonted was to guide our fearless Steps,
Enjoy this Light; see where he murdred lies,
By luckless Lot and froward frowning Fate:
And by him lies his lovely Paramour
Fair Estrild, gored with a dismal Sword,
As it seems, both murdered by themselves,
Clasping each other in their feebled Arms,
With loving Zeal, as if for Company

Their
The Tragedy of Locrine.

Their uncontented Corps were yet content
To pass foul Styx in Charon's Ferry-boat.
Guen. And hath proud Efrild then prevented me,
Hath she escaped Guendeline's Wrath,
By violently cutting off her Life?
Would God she had the monstrous Hydra's Lives,
That every Hour she might have died a Death
Worse than the swing of old Ixion's Wheel,
And every Hour revive to die again,
As Titius bound to houless Caucason,
Doth feed the Substance of his own mishap,
And every Day for want of Food doth die,
And every Night doth live again to die.
But stay, methinks, I hear some fainting Voice,
Mournfully weeping for their luckless Death.

Sab. You Mountain Nymphs which in these Desarts reign,
Cease off your hafty Chace of savage Beasts,
Prepare to see a Heart opprest with Care,
Address your Ears to hear a mournful Stile,
No human Strength, no Work can work my Weal,
Care in my Heart to Tyrant-like doth deal.
You Dryades and lightfoot Satyri,
You gracious Fairies, which at Even-tide
Your Closets leave with heav'ly Beauty stor'd,
And on your Shoulders spread your golden Locks,
You savage Bears in Caves and darken'd Dens,
Come wail with me the martial Locrine's Death:
Come mourn with me, for beauteous Efrild's Death.
Ah, loving Parents, little do you know
What Sorrow Sabren suffers for your Thrall.

Guen. But may this be, and is it possible,
Lives Sabren yet to expiate my Wrath?
Fortune I thank thee for this Courtesey,
And let me never see one prosperous Hour,
If Sabren die not a reproachful Death.

Sab. Hard-hearted Death, that when the wretched call,
Art fathiest off, and seldom hearst at all,
But in the midst of Fortune's good Success,
Uncalled comes, and sheers our Life in twain:

When
The Tragedy of Locrine.

When will that Hour, that blessed Hour draw nigh,
When poor distress'd Sabren may be gone.
Sweet Atropos cut off my fatal Thread.
What art thou Death, shall not poor Sabren die?

[Guendeline taking her by the Chin says,

Guen. Yes Damsel, yes, Sabren shall surely die,
Tho' all the World should seek to save her Life,
And not a common Death shall Sabren die,
But after strange and grievous Punishments,
Shortly inflicted on thy Bastard's Head,
Thou shalt be cast into the cursed Streams,
And feed the Fishes with thy tender Flesh.

Sab. And thinkst thou then, thou cruel Homicide,
That these thy Deeds shall be unpunished?
No, Traitor, no, the Gods will venge these Wrongs,
The Fiends of Hell will mark these Injuries,
Never shall these blood-sucking masty Curs
Bring wretched Sabren to her latest home,
For I myself, in spite of thee and thine,
Mean to abridge my former Destinies,
And that which Locrine's Sword could not perform;
This present Stream shall present bring to pass.

[She drowns herself.

Guen. One Mischief follows on another's Neck.
Who would have thought so young a Maid as she,
With such a Courage would have fought her Death?
And for because this River was the Place
Where little Sabren resolutely died,
Sabren for ever shall this fame be call'd.
And as for Locrine, our deceased Spouse,
Because he was the Son of mighty Brute,
To whom we owe our Country, Lives and Goods,
He shall be buried in a stately Tomb,
Close by his aged Father Brutus' Bones,
With such great Pomp and great Solemnity,
As well befits so brave a Prince as he.
Let Estrild be without the shallow Vaults,
Without the Honour due unto the dead,
Because she was the Author of this War.
Retire brave Followers unto Troyovant,

Where
The Tragedy of Locrine.
Where we will celebrate these Exequies,
And place young Locrine in his Father's Tomb.

Ate. Lo here the end of lawless Treachery,
Of Usurpation and ambitious Pride.
And they that for their private Amours dare
Turmoil our Land, and set their Broils abroach,
Let them be warned by these Premisses.
And as a Woman was the only cause
That civil Discord was then stirred up,
So let us pray for that renowned Maid,
That eight and thirty Years the Scepter sway'd
In quiet Peace and sweet Felicity;
And every Wight that seeks her Grace's Smart,
Would that this Sword were pierced in his Heart.

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