

MACBETH

DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.

DUNCAN, king of Scotland.
 MALCOLM, } his sons.
 DONALBAIN, }
 MACBETH, } generals of the king's army.
 BANQUO, }
 MACDUFF, }
 LENNOX, }
 ROSS, } noblemen of Scotland.
 MENTEITH, }
 ANGUS, }
 CAITHNESS, }
 FLEANCE, son to Banquo.
 SIWARD, Earl of Northumberland, general
 of the English forces.
 Young SIWARD, his son.
 SEYTON, an officer attending on Macbeth.

Boy, son to Macduff.
 An English Doctor.
 A Scotch Doctor.
 A Soldier.
 A Porter.
 An Old Man.
 LADY MACBETH.
 LADY MACDUFF.
 Gentlewoman attending on Lady Macbeth.
 HECATE.
 Three witches.
 Apparitions.
 Lords, Gentlemen, Officers, Soldiers, Mur-
 derers, Attendants, and Messengers.

SCENE: Scotland: England.

ACT I.

SCENE I. *A desert place.*

Thunder and lightning. Enter three Witches.

First Witch. When shall we three meet
 again

In thunder, lightning, or in rain?

Sec. Witch. When the hurlyburly's done,
 When the battle's lost and won.

Third Witch. That will be ere the set of
 sun.

First Witch. Where the place?

Sec. Witch. Upon the heath.

Third Witch. There to meet with Macbeth.

First Witch. I come, Graymalkin!

Sec. Witch. Paddock calls.

Third Witch. Anon. 10

All. Fair is foul, and foul is fair:
 Hover through the fog and filthy air. [*Exeunt.*]

SCENE II. *A camp near Forres.*

*Alarum within. Enter DUNCAN, MALCOLM,
 DONALBAIN, LENNOX, with Attendants,
 meeting a bleeding Sergeant.*

Dun. What bloody man is that? He can
 report,
 As seemeth by his plight, of the revolt
 The newest state.

Mal. This is the sergeant
 Who like a good and hardy soldier fought
 'Gainst my captivity. Hail, brave friend!
 Say to the king the knowledge of the broil
 As thou didst leave it.

Ser. Doubtful it stood;
 As two spent swimmers, that do cling together
 And choke their art. The merciless Macdon-
 wald—

Worthy to be a rebel, for to that 10
 The multiplying villanies of nature

Do swarm upon him—from the western isles
 Of kerns and gallowglasses is supplied;

And fortune, on his damned quarrel smiling,
 Show'd like a rebel's whore: but all's too
 weak:

For brave Macbeth—well he deserves that
 name—

Disdaining fortune, with his brandish'd steel,
 Which smoked with bloody execution,

Like valour's minion carved out his passage
 Till he faced the slave; 20

† Which ne'er shook hands, nor bade farewell
 to him,

Till he unseam'd him from the nave to the
 chaps,

And fix'd his head upon our battlements.

Dun. O valiant cousin! worthy gentleman!

Ser. As whence the sun 'gins his reflection
 Shipwrecking storms and direful thunders
 break,

So from that spring whence comfort seem'd
 to come

Discomfort swells. Mark, king of Scotland,
 mark:

No sooner justice had with valour arm'd
 Compell'd these skipping kerns to trust their
 heels, 30

But the Norweyan lord surveying vantage
With furbish'd arms and new supplies of men
Began a fresh assault.

Dun. Dismay'd not this
Our captains, Macbeth and Banquo?

Ser. Yes;
As sparrows eagles, or the hare the lion.
If I say sooth, I must report they were
As cannons overcharged with double cracks,
so they

Doubly redoubled strokes upon the foe:
Except they meant to bathe in reeking wounds,
Or memorize another Golgotha, 40
I cannot tell.

But I am faint, my gashes cry for help.

Dun. So well thy words become thee as
thy wounds;

They smack of honour both. Go get him
surgeons. [Exit Sergeant, attended.]

Who comes here?

Enter Ross.

Mal. The worthythane of Ross.

Len. What a haste looks through his eyes!
So should he look

That seems to speak things strange.

Ross. God save the king!

Dun. Whence camest thou, worthythane?

Ross. From Fife, great king;
Where the Norweyan banners flout the sky
And fan our people cold. Norway himself,
With terrible numbers,

Assisted by that most disloyal traitor
Thethane of Cawdor, began a dismal conflict;
Till that Bellona's bridegroom, lapp'd in proof,
Confronted him with self-comparisons,
Point against point rebellious, arm 'gainst arm,
Curbing his lavish spirit: and, to conclude,
The victory fell on us.

Dun. Great happiness!

Ross. That now
Sweno, the Norways' king, craves composi-
tion;

Nor would we deign him burial of his men 60
Till he disbursed at Saint Colme's inch
Ten thousand dollars to our general use.

Dun. No more thatthane of Cawdor shall
deceive

Our bosom interest: go pronounce his present
death,

And with his former title greet Macbeth.

Ross. I'll see it done.

Dun. What he hath lost noble Macbeth
hath won. [Exeunt.]

SCENE III. A heath near Forres.

Thunder. Enter the three Witches.

First Witch. Where hath thou been, sister?

Sec. Witch. Killing swine.

Third Witch. Sister, where thou?

First Witch. A sailor's wife had chestnuts
in her lap,

And munch'd, and munch'd, and munch'd:—

'Give me,' quoth I:

'Aroint thee, witch!' the rump-fed ronyon
cries.

Her husband's to Aleppo gone, master o' the
Tiger:

But in a sieve I'll thither sail,

And, like a rat without a tail,

I'll do, I'll do, and I'll do. 10

Sec. Witch. I'll give thee a wind.

First Witch. Thou'rt kind.

Third Witch. And I another.

First Witch. I myself have all the other,

And the very ports they blow,

All the quarters that they know

I' the shipman's card.

I will drain him dry as hay:

Sleep shall neither night nor day

Hang upon his pent-house lid; 20

He shall live a man forbid:

Weary se'nnights nine times nine

Shall he dwindle, peak and pine:

Though his bark cannot be lost,

Yet it shall be tempest-tost.

Look what I have.

Sec. Witch. Show me, show me.

First Witch. Here I have a pilot's thumb,
Wreck'd as homeward he did come.

[Drum within.]

Third Witch. A drum, a drum! 30
Macbeth doth come.

All. The weird sisters, hand in hand,
Posters of the sea and land,

Thus do go about, about:

Thrice to thine and thrice to mine

And thrice again, to make up nine.

Peace! the charm's wound up.

Enter MACBETH and BANQUO.

Macb. So foul and fair a day I have not
seen.

Ban. How far is 't call'd to Forres? What
are these

So wither'd and so wild in their attire, 40

That look not like the inhabitants o' the earth,

And yet are on 't? Live you? or are you aught

That man may question? You seem to under-
stand me,

By each at once her choppy finger laying

Upon her skinny lips: you should be women,

And yet your beards forbid me to interpret
That you are so.

Macb. Speak, if you can: what are you?

First Witch. All hail, Macbeth! hail to
thee, thane of Glamis!

- Sec. Witch.* All hail, Macbeth! hail to thee, thane of Cawdor!
- Third Witch.* All hail, Macbeth, that shalt be king hereafter! 50
- Ban.* Good sir, why do you start; and seem to fear
Things that do sound so fair? I' the name of truth,
Are ye fantastical, or that indeed
Which outwardly ye show? My noble partner
You greet with present grace and great prediction
Of noble having and of royal hope,
That he seems rapt withal: to me you speak not.
If you can look into the seeds of time,
And say which grain will grow and which will not,
Speak then to me, who neither beg nor fear
Your favours nor your hate.
- First Witch.* Hail!
- Sec. Witch.* Hail!
- Third Witch.* Hail!
- First Witch.* Lesser than Macbeth, and greater.
- Sec. Witch.* Not so happy, yet much happier.
- Third Witch.* Thou shalt get kings, though thou be none:
So all hail, Macbeth and Banquo!
- First Witch.* Banquo and Macbeth, all hail!
- Macb.* Stay, you imperfect speakers, tell me more: 70
By Sinel's death I know I am thane of Glamis;
But how of Cawdor? the thane of Cawdor lives,
A prosperous gentleman; and to be king
Stands not within the prospect of belief,
No more than to be Cawdor. Say from whence
You owe this strange intelligence? or why
Upon this blasted heath you stop our way
With such prophetic greeting? Speak, I charge you. [*Witches vanish.*]
- Ban.* The earth hath bubbles, as the water has,
And these are of them. Whither are they vanish'd? 80
- Macb.* Into the air; and what seem'd corporal melted
As breath into the wind. Would they had stay'd!
- Ban.* Were such things here as we do speak about?
Or have we eaten on the insane root
That takes the reason prisoner?
- Macb.* Your children shall be kings.
- Ban.* You shall be king.
- Macb.* And thane of Cawdor too: went it not so?
- Ban.* To the selfsame tune and words.
Who's here?
- Enter Ross and ANGUS.*
- Ross.* The king hath happily received, Macbeth,
The news of thy success; and when he reads
Thy personal venture in the rebels' fight,
His wonders and his praises do contend
Which should be thine or his: silenced with that,
In viewing o'er the rest o' the selfsame day,
He finds thee in the stout Norweyan ranks,
Nothing afeard of what thyself didst make,
Strange images of death. As thick as hail
Came post with post; and every one did bear
Thy praises in his kingdom's great defence,
And pour'd them down before him.
- Ang.* We are sent 100
To give thee from our royal master thanks;
Only to herald thee into his sight,
Not pay thee.
- Ross.* And, for an earnest of a greater honour,
He bade me, from him, call thee thane of Cawdor:
In which addition, hail, most worthy thane!
For it is thine.
- Ban.* What, can the devil speak true?
- Macb.* The thane of Cawdor lives: why do you dress me
In borrow'd robes?
- Ang.* Who was the thane lives yet;
But under heavy judgement bears that life 110
Which he deserves to lose. Whether he was combined
With those of Norway, or did line the rebel
With hidden help and vantage, or that with both
He labour'd in his country's wreck, I know not;
But treasons capital, confess'd and proved,
Have overthrown him.
- Macb.* [*Aside*] Glamis, and thane of Cawdor!
The greatest is behind. [*To Ross and Angus*]
Thanks for your pains.
- [*To Ban.*] Do you not hope your children
shall be kings,
When those that gave the thane of Cawdor
to me
Promised no less to them?
- Ban.* That trusted home 120
Might yet enkindle you unto the crown,
Besides the thane of Cawdor. But 'tis strange:
And oftentimes, to win us to our harm,
The instruments of darkness tell us truths,
Win us with honest trifles, to betray's
In deepest consequence.
Cousins, a word, I pray you.

Macb. [*Aside*] Two truths are told,
As happy prologues to the swelling act
Of the imperial theme.—I thank you, gentle-
men.

[*Aside*] This supernatural soliciting 130
Cannot be ill, cannot be good: if ill,
Why hath it given me earnest of success,
Commencing in truth? I am thane of Caw-
dor:

If good, why do I yield to that suggestion
Whose horrid image doth unfix my hair
And make my seated heart knock at my ribs,
Against the use of nature? Present fears
Are less than horrible imaginings:
My thought, whose murder yet is but fan-
tastical,

Shakes so my single state of man that function
Is smother'd in surmise, and nothing is 141
But what is not.

Ban. Look, how our partner's rapt.

Macb. [*Aside*] If chance will have me
king, why, chance may crown me,
Without my stir.

Ban. New honours come upon him,
Like our strange garments, cleave not to their
mould

But with the aid of use.

Macb. [*Aside*] Come what come may,
Time and the hour runs through the roughest
day.

Ban. Worthy Macbeth, we stay upon your
leisure.

Macb. Give me your favour: my dull brain
was wrought

With things forgotten. Kind gentlemen, your
pains 150

Are register'd where every day I turn
The leaf to read them. Let us toward the king.
Think upon what hath chanced, and, at more
time,

The interim having weigh'd it, let us speak
Our free hearts each to other.

Ban. Very gladly.

Macb. Till then, enough. Come, friends.
[*Exeunt.*]

SCENE IV. *Forres. The palace.*

Flourish. Enter DUNCAN, MALCOLM, DON-
ALBAIN, LENNOX, and Attendants.

Dun. Is execution done on Cawdor? Are
not

Those in commission yet return'd?

Mal. My liege,
They are not yet come back. But I have spoke
With one that saw him die: who did report
That very frankly he confess'd his treasons,
Implor'd your highness' pardon and set forth
A deep repentance: nothing in his life

Became him like the leaving it; he died
As one that had been studied in his death
To throw away the dearest thing he owed, 10
As 'twere a careless trifle.

Dun. There's no art
To find the mind's construction in the face:
He was a gentleman on whom I built
An absolute trust.

Enter MACBETH, BANQUO, ROSS, and
ANGUS.

O worthiest cousin!
The sin of my ingratitude even now
Was heavy on me: thou art so far before
That swiftest wing of recompense is slow
To overtake thee. Would thou hadst less
deserved,

That the proportion both of thanks and pay-
ment

Might have been mine! only I have left to say,
More is thy due than more than all can pay.

Macb. The service and the loyalty I owe,
In doing it, pays itself. Your highness' part
Is to receive our duties; and our duties
Are to your throne and state children and
servants,

Which do but what they should, by doing
every thing

Safe toward your love and honour.

Dun. Welcome hither:
I have begun to plant thee, and will labour
To make thee full of growing. Noble Banquo,
That hast no less deserved, nor must be known
No less to have done so, let me infold thee 31
And hold thee to my heart.

Ban. There if I grow,
The harvest is your own.

Dun. My plenteous joys,
Wanton in fulness, seek to hide themselves
In drops of sorrow. Sons, kinsmen, thanes,
And you whose places are the nearest, know
We will establish our estate upon
Our eldest, Malcolm, whom we name hereafter
The Prince of Cumberland; which honour
must

Not unaccompanied invest him only, 40
But signs of nobleness, like stars, shall shine
On all deservers. From hence to Inverness,
And bind us further to you.

Macb. The rest is labour, which is not
used for you:

I'll be myself the harbinger and make joyful
The hearing of my wife with your approach;
So humbly take my leave.

Dun. My worthy Cawdor!

Macb. [*Aside*] The Prince of Cumber-
land! that is a step
On which I must fall down, or else o'erleap,

For in my way it lies. Stars, hide your fires;
Let not light see my black and deep desires:
The eye wink at the hand; yet let that be,
Which the eye fears, when it is done, to see.

[Exit.

Dun. True, worthy Banquo; he is full so
valiant,
And in his commendations I am fed;
It is a banquet to me. Let's after him,
Whose care is gone before to bid us welcome:
It is a peerless kinsman. [Flourish. Exeunt.

SCENE V. Inverness. Macbeth's castle.

Enter LADY MACBETH, reading a letter.

Lady M. 'They met me in the day of
success; and I have learned by the perfectest
report, they have more in them than mortal
knowledge. When I burned in desire to ques-
tion them further, they made themselves air,
into which they vanished. Whiles I stood rapt
in the wonder of it, came missives from the
king, who all-hailed me "Thane of Cawdor;"
by which title, before, these weird sisters
saluted me, and referred me to the coming on
of time, with "Hail, king that shalt be!" This
have I thought good to deliver thee, my dear-
est partner of greatness, that thou mightst not
lose the dues of rejoicing, by being ignorant
of what greatness is promised thee. Lay it
to thy heart, and farewell.'

Glamis thou art, and Cawdor; and shalt be
What thou art promised: yet do I fear thy
nature;

It is too full o' the milk of human kindness
To catch the nearest way: thou wouldst be
great;

Art not without ambition, but without 20
The illness should attend it: what thou
wouldst highly

That wouldst thou holily; wouldst not play
false,

And yet wouldst wrongly win: thou 'ldst have,
great Glamis,

That which cries "Thus thou must do, if thou
have it;

And that which rather thou dost fear to do
Than wishest should be undone." Hie thee
hither,

That I may pour my spirits in thine ear;
And chastise with the valour of my tongue
All that impedes thee from the golden round,
Which fate and metaphysical aid doth seem
To have thee crown'd withal.

Enter a Messenger.

What is your tidings?

Mess. The king comes here to-night.

Lady M. Thou 'rt mad to say it:
Is not thy master with him? who, were 't so,
Would have inform'd for preparation.

Mess. So please you, it is true: our thane
is coming:

One of my fellows had the speed of him,
Who, almost dead for breath, had scarcely
more

Than would make up his message.

Lady M. Give him tending;
He brings great news. [Exit Messenger.

The raven himself is hoarse
That croaks the fatal entrance of Duncan 40
Under my battlements. Come, you spirits
That tend on mortal thoughts, unsex me here,
And fill me from the crown to the toe top-full
Of direst cruelty! make thick my blood;

Stop up the access and passage to remorse,
That no compunctious visitings of nature
Shake my fell purpose, nor keep peace between
The effect and it! Come to my woman's breasts,
And take my milk for gall, you murdering
ministers,

Wherever in your sightless substances 50
You wait on nature's mischief! Come, thick
night,

And pall thee in the dunest smoke of hell,
That my keen knife see not the wound it makes,
Nor heaven peep through the blanket of the
dark,

To cry 'Hold, hold!'

Enter MACBETH.

Great Glamis! worthy Cawdor!
Greater than both, by the all-hail hereafter!
Thy letters have transported me beyond
This ignorant present, and I feel now
The future in the instant.

Macb. My dearest love, 59
Duncan comes here to-night.

Lady M. And when goes hence?

Macb. To-morrow, as he purposes.

Lady M. O, never
Shall sun that morrow see!

Your face, my thane, is as a book where men
May read strange matters. To beguile the time,
Look like the time; bear welcome in your eye,
Your hand, your tongue: look like the inno-
cent flower,

But be the serpent under 't. He that's coming
Must be provided for: and you shall put
This night's great business into my dispatch;
Which shall to all our nights and days to come
Give solely sovereign sway and masterdom. 71

Macb. We will speak further.

Lady M. Only look up clear;
To alter favour ever is to fear:

Leave all the rest to me. [Exeunt.

SCENE VI. *Before Macbeth's castle.*

Haulboys and torches. Enter DUNCAN, MALCOLM, DONALBAIN, BANQUO, LENNOX, MACDUFF, ROSS, ANGUS, and Attendants.

Dun. This castle hath a pleasant seat; the air
Nimbly and sweetly recommends itself
Unto our gentle senses.

Ban. This guest of summer,
The temple-haunting martlet, does approve,
By his loved mansionry, that the heaven's
breath
Smells wooingly here: no jutty, frieze,
Buttress, nor coign of vantage, but this bird
Hath made his pendent bed and procreant
cradle:

Where they most breed and haunt I have
observed,
The air is delicate.

Enter LADY MACBETH.

Dun. See, see, our honour'd hostess! 10
The love that follows us sometime is our
trouble,
Which still we thank as love. Herein I teach
you

How you shall bid God 'ild us for your pains,
And thank us for your trouble.

Lady M. All our service
In every point twice done and then done
double

Were poor and single business to contend
Against those honours deep and broad where-
with

Your majesty loads our house: for those of old,
And the late dignities heap'd up to them,
We rest your hermits.

Dun. Where's the thane of Cawdor? 20
We coursed him at the heels, and had a purpose
To be his purveyor; but he rides well;
And his great love, sharp as his spur, hath
help him

To his home before us. Fair and noble hostess,
We are your guest to-night.

Lady M. Your servants ever
Have theirs, themselves and what is theirs
in compt,

To make their audit at your highness' pleasure,
Still to return your own.

Dun. Give me your hand;
Conduct me to mine host: we love him highly,
And shall continue our graces towards him. 30
By your leave, hostess. [Exeunt.]

SCENE VII. *Macbeth's castle.*

*Haulboys and torches. Enter a Sewer, and
divers Servants with dishes and service,*

and pass over the stage. Then enter MACBETH.

Macb. If it were done when 'tis done,
then 'twere well

It were done quickly: if the assassination
Could trammel up the consequence, and catch
With his surcease success; that but this blow
Might be the be-all and the end-all here,
But here, upon this bank and shoal of time,
We 'ld jump the life to come. But in these

cases
We still have judgement here; that we but
teach

Bloody instructions, which, being taught, re-
turn

To plague the inventor: this even-handed
justice

Commends the ingredients of our poison'd
chalice

To our own lips. He's here in double trust;
First, as I am his kinsman and his subject,
Strong both against the deed; then, as his host,
Who should against his murderer shut the door,
Not bear the knife myself. Besides, this
Duncan

Hath borne his faculties so meek, hath been
So clear in his great office, that his virtues
Will plead like angels, trumpet-tongued, against
The deep damnation of his taking-off; 20
And pity, like a naked new-born babe,
Striding the blast, or heaven's cherubim, horsed
Upon the sightless couriers of the air,
Shall blow the horrid deed in every eye,
That tears shall drown the wind. I have no
spur

To prick the sides of my intent, but only
Vaulting ambition, which o'erleaps itself
And falls on the other.

Enter LADY MACBETH.

How now! what news?

Lady M. He has almost supp'd: why have
you left the chamber?

Macb. Hath he ask'd for me?

Lady M. Know you not he has? 30

Macb. We will proceed no further in this
business:

He hath honour'd me of late; and I have bought
Golden opinions from all sorts of people,
Which would be worn now in their newest
gloss,

Not cast aside so soon.

Lady M. Was the hope drunk
Wherein you dress'd yourself? hath it slept
since?

And wakes it now, to look so green and pale
At what it did so freely? From this time
Such I account thy love. Art thou afeard

To be the same in thine own act and valour 40
As thou art in desire? Wouldst thou have that
Which thou esteem'st the ornament of life,
And live a coward in thine own esteem,
Letting 'I dare not' wait upon 'I would,'
Like the poor cat i' the adage?

Macb. Prithee, peace:
I dare do all that may become a man;
Who dares do more is none.

Lady M. What beast was 't, then,
That made you break this enterprise to me?
When you durst do it, then you were a man;
And, to be more than what you were, you
would 50
Be so much more the man. Nor time nor
place

Did then adhere, and yet you would make both:
They have made themselves, and that their
fitness now

Does unmake you. I have given suck, and
know

How tender 'tis to love the babe that milks me:
I would, while it was smiling in my face,
Have pluck'd my nipple from his boneless
gums,

And dash'd the brains out, had I so sworn as
you

Have done to this.

Macb. If we should fail?

Lady M. We fail!
But screw your courage to the sticking-place,
And we'll not fail. When Duncan is asleep—
Whereto the rather shall his day's hard journey
Soundly invite him—his two chamberlains
Will I with wine and wassail so convince
That memory, the warder of the brain,
Shall be a fume, and the receipt of reason
A limbeck only: when in swinish sleep
Their drenched natures lie as in a death,
What cannot you and I perform upon
The unguarded Duncan? what not put upon 70
His spongy officers, who shall bear the guilt
Of our great quell?

Macb. Bring forth men-children only;
For thy undaunted mettle should compose
Nothing but males. Will it not be received,
When we have mark'd with blood those sleepy
two

Of his own chamber and used their very
daggers,

That they have done 't?

Lady M. Who dares receive it other,
As we shall make our griefs and clamour roar
Upon his death?

Macb. I am settled, and bend up
Each corporal agent to this terrible feat. 80
Away, and mock the time with fairest show:
False face must hide what the false heart
doth know. [Exeunt.]

ACT II.

SCENE I. Court of Macbeth's castle.

*Enter BANQUO, and FLEANCE bearing a torch
before him.*

Ban. How goes the night, boy?

Fle. The moon is down; I have not heard
the clock.

Ban. And she goes down at twelve.

Fle. I take 't, 'tis later, sir.

Ban. Hold, take my sword. There's hus-
bandry in heaven;

Their candles are all out. Take thee that too.
A heavy summons lies like lead upon me,
And yet I would not sleep: merciful powers,
Restrain in me the cursed thoughts that nature
Gives way to in repose!

Enter MACBETH, and a Servant with a torch.

Give me my sword.

Who's there?

Macb. A friend.

Ban. What, sir, not yet at rest? The
king's a-bed:

He hath been in unusual pleasure, and
Sent forth great largess to your offices.
This diamond he greets your wife withal,
By the name of most kind hostess; and shut up
In measureless content.

Macb. Being unprepared,
Our will became the servant to defect;
Which else should free have wrought.

Ban. All's well.
I dreamt last night of the three weird sisters:
To you they have show'd some truth.

Macb. I think not of them:
Yet, when we can entreat an hour to serve,
We would spend it in some words upon that
business,

If you would grant the time.

Ban. At your kind'st leisure.

Macb. If you shall cleave to my consent,
when 'tis,

It shall make honour for you.

Ban. So I lose none
In seeking to augment it, but still keep
My bosom franchised and allegiance clear,
I shall be counsell'd.

Macb. Good repose the while!

Ban. Thanks, sir: the like to you! 30

[Exeunt Banquo and Fleance.]

Macb. Go bid thy mistress, when my drink
is ready,

She strike upon the bell. Get thee to bed.

[Exit Servant.]

Is this a dagger which I see before me,
The handle toward my hand? Come, let me
clutch thee.

I have thee not, and yet I see thee still.

Art thou not, fatal vision, sensible
 To feeling as to sight? or art thou but
 A dagger of the mind, a false creation,
 Proceeding from the heat-oppressed brain?
 I see thee yet, in form as palpable 40
 As this which now I draw.
 Thou marshall'st me the way that I was going;
 And such an instrument I was to use.
 Mine eyes are made the fools o' the other
 senses,
 Or else worth all the rest; I see thee still,
 And on thy blade and dudgeon gouts of blood,
 Which was not so before. There's no such
 thing:
 It is the bloody business which informs
 Thus to mine eyes. Now o'er the one half-
 world
 Nature seems dead, and wicked dreams abuse
 The curtain'd sleep; withcraft celebrates 51
 Pale Hecate's offerings, and wither'd murder,
 Alarum'd by his sentinel, the wolf,
 Whose howl's his watch, thus with his stealthy
 pace,
 With Tarquin's ravishing strides, towards his
 design
 Moves like a ghost. Thou sure and firm-set
 earth,
 Hear not my steps, which way they walk, for
 fear
 Thy very stones prate of my whereabouts,
 And take the present horror from the time,
 Which now suits with it. Whiles I threat, he
 lives: 60
 Words to the heat of deeds too cold breath
 gives. [A bell rings.]
 I go, and it is done; the bell invites me.
 Hear it not, Duncan; for it is a knell
 That summons thee to heaven or to hell. [Exit.]

SCENE II. *The same.**Enter LADY MACBETH.*

Lady M. That which hath made them
 drunk hath made me bold;
 What hath quench'd them hath given me fire.
 Hark! Peace!
 It was the owl that shriek'd, the fatal bellman,
 Which gives the stern'st good-night. He is
 about it:
 The doors are open; and the surfeited grooms
 Do mock their charge with snores: I have
 drugg'd their possets,
 That death and nature do contend about them,
 Whether they live or die.
Macb. [Within] Who's there? what, ho!
Lady M. Alack, I am afraid they have
 awaked, 10
 And 'tis not done. The attempt and not the
 deed

Confounds us. Hark! I laid their daggers
 ready;
 He could not miss 'em. Had he not resembled
 My father as he slept, I had done 't.

Enter MACBETH.

My husband!
Macb. I have done the deed. Didst thou
 not hear a noise?
Lady M. I heard the owl scream and the
 crickets cry.
 Did not you speak?
Macb. When?
Lady M. Now.
Macb. As I descended?
Lady M. Ay.
Macb. Hark!
 Who lies i' the second chamber?
Lady M. Donalbain. 20
Macb. This is a sorry sight.
 [Looking on his hands.]
Lady M. A foolish thought, to say a
 sorry sight.
Macb. There's one did laugh in's sleep,
 and one cried 'Murder!'
 That they did wake each other: I stood and
 heard them:
 But they did say their prayers, and address'd
 them
 Again to sleep.
Lady M. There are two lodged together.
Macb. One cried 'God bless us!' and
 'Amen' the other;
 As they had seen me with these hangman's
 hands.
 Listening their fear, I could not say 'Amen,'
 When they did say 'God bless us!'
Lady M. Consider it not so deeply. 30
Macb. But wherefore could not I pro-
 nounce 'Amen'?
 I had most need of blessing, and 'Amen'
 Stuck in my throat.
Lady M. These deeds must not be thought
 After these ways; so, it will make us mad.
Macb. Methought I heard a voice cry
 'Sleep no more!
 Macbeth does murder sleep,' the innocent sleep,
 Sleep that knits up the ravell'd sleeve of care,
 The death of each day's life, sore labour's bath,
 Balm of hurt minds, great nature's second
 course,
 Chief nourisher in life's feast—
Lady M. What do you mean?
Macb. Still it cried 'Sleep no more!' to
 all the house: 41
 'Glamis hath murder'd sleep, and therefore
 Cawdor
 Shall sleep no more; Macbeth shall sleep no
 more.'

Lady M. Who was it that thus cried?
Why, worthy thane,
You do unbend your noble strength, to think
So brainsickly of things. Go get some water,
And wash this filthy witness from your hand.
Why did you bring these daggers from the
place?

They must lie there: go carry them; and
smear

The sleepy grooms with blood.

Macb. I'll go no more: 50
I am afraid to think what I have done;
Look on't again I dare not.

Lady M. Infirm of purpose!
Give me the daggers: the sleeping and the
dead

Are but as pictures: 'tis the eye of childhood
That fears a painted devil. If he do bleed,
I'll gild the faces of the grooms withal;
For it must seem their guilt.

[*Exit. Knocking within.*]

Macb. Whence is that knocking?
How is't with me, when every noise appals
me?

What hands are here? ha! they pluck out
mine eyes.

Will all great Neptune's ocean wash this blood
Clean from my hand? No, this my hand will
rather 61

The multitudinous seas incarnadine,
Making the green one red.

Re-enter LADY MACBETH.

Lady M. My hands are of your colour;
but I shame
To wear a heart so white. [*Knocking within.*]
I hear a knocking

At the south entry: retire we to our chamber:
A little water clears us of this deed:

How easy is it, then! Your constancy
Hath left you unattended. [*Knocking within.*]

Hark! more knocking.
Get on your nightgown, lest occasion call us,
And show us to be watchers. Be not lost
So poorly in your thoughts.

Macb. To know my deed, 'twere best not
know myself. [*Knocking within.*]

Wake Duncan with thy knocking! I would
thou couldst! [*Exeunt.*]

SCENE III. *The same.*

Knocking within. Enter a Porter.

Porter. Here's a knocking indeed! If a
man were porter of hell-gate, he should have
old turning the key. [*Knocking within.*]
Knock, knock, knock! Who's there, i' the
name of Beelzebub? Here's a farmer, that
hanged himself on the expectation of plenty:
come in time; have napkins enow about you;

here you'll sweat for't. [*Knocking within.*]
Knock, knock! Who's there, in the other
devil's name? Faith, here's an equivocator,
that could swear in both the scales against
either scale; who committed treason enough
for God's sake, yet could not equivocate to
heaven: O, come in, equivocator. [*Knocking
within.*] Knock, knock, knock! Who's there?
Faith, here's an English tailor come hither,
for stealing out of a French hose: come in,
tailor; here you may roast your goose. [*Knock-
ing within.*] Knock, knock; never at quiet!
What are you? But this place is too cold for
hell. I'll devil-porter it no further: I had
thought to have let in some of all professions
that go the primrose way to the everlasting
bonfire. [*Knocking within.*] Anon, anon!
I pray you, remember the porter.

[*Opens the gate.*]

Enter MACDUFF and LENNOX.

Macd. Was it so late, friend, ere you
went to bed,
That you do lie so late?

Port. Faith, sir, we were carousing till
the second cock: and drink, sir, is a great
provoker of three things.

Macd. What three things does drink es-
pecially provoke? 30

Port. Marry, sir, nose-painting, sleep, and
urine. Lechery, sir, it provokes, and un-
provokes; it provokes the desire, but it takes
away the performance: therefore, much drink
may be said to be an equivocator with lechery:
it makes him, and it mars him; it sets him on,
and it takes him off; it persuades him, and
disheartens him; makes him stand to, and
not stand to; in conclusion, equivocates him in
a sleep, and, giving him the lie, leaves him. 40

Macd. I believe drink gave thee the lie
last night.

Port. That it did, sir, i' the very throat on
me: but I requited him for his lie; and, I
think, being too strong for him, though he
took up my legs sometime, yet I made a shift
to cast him.

Macd. Is thy master stirring?

Enter MACBETH.

Our knocking has awaked him; here he comes.

Len. Good morrow, noble sir.

Macb. Good morrow, both.

Macd. Is the king stirring, worthy thane?

Macb. Not yet.

Macd. He did command me to call timely
on him: 51

I have almost slipp'd the hour.

Macb. I'll bring you to him.

Macd. I know this is a joyful trouble to
you;

But yet 'tis one.

Macb. The labour we delight in physics
pain.

This is the door.

Macd. I'll make so bold to call,
For 'tis my limited service. [*Exit.*

Len. Goes the king hence to-day?

Macb. He does: he did appoint so.

Len. The night has been unruly: where we
lay,

Our chimneys were blown down; and, as they
say,

Lamentings heard i' the air; strange screams
of death,

And prophesying with accents terrible
Of dire combustion and confused events

New hatch'd to the woeful time: the obscure
bird

Clamour'd the livelong night: some say, the
earth

Was feverous and did shake.

Macb. 'Twas a rough night.

Len. My young remembrance cannot par-
allel

A fellow to it.

Re-enter MACDUFF.

Macd. O horror, horror, horror! Tongue
nor heart

Cannot conceive nor name thee!

Macb. { What's the matter?
Len. }

Macd. Confusion now hath made his mas-
terpiece!

Most sacrilegious murder hath broke ope
The Lord's anointed temple, and stole thence
The life o' the building!

Macb. What is't you say? the life?

Len. Mean you his majesty?

Macd. Approach the chamber, and destroy
your sight

With a new Gorgon: do not bid me speak;
See, and then speak yourselves.

[*Exeunt Macbeth and Lennox.*

Awake, awake!

Ring the alarum-bell. Murder and treason!
Banquo and Donalbain! Malcolm! awake!
Shake off this downy sleep, death's counter-
feit,

And look on death itself! up, up, and see
The great doom's image! Malcolm! Banquo!
As from your graves rise up, and walk like
sprites,

To countenance this horror! Ring the bell.
[*Bell rings.*

Enter LADY MACBETH.

Lady M. What's the business,
That such a hideous trumpet calls to parley
The sleepers of the house? speak, speak!

Macd. O gentle lady,

'Tis not for you to hear what I can speak:

The repetition, in a woman's ear,
Would murder as it fell. 90

Enter BANQUO.

O Banquo, Banquo,

Our royal master's murder'd!

Lady M. Woe, alas!

What, in our house?

Ban. Too cruel any where.

Dear Duff, I prithee, contradict thyself,
And say it is not so.

Re-enter MACBETH and LENNOX, with ROSS.

Macb. Had I but died an hour before this
chance,

I had lived a blessed time; for, from this
instant,

There's nothing serious in mortality:

All is but toys: renown and grace is dead;

The wine of life is drawn, and the mere lees
Is left this vault to brag of. 101

Enter MALCOLM and DONALBAIN.

Don. What is amiss?

Macb. You are, and do not know't:
The spring, the head, the fountain of your
blood

Is stopp'd; the very source of it is stopp'd.

Macd. Your royal father's murdered.

Mal. O, by whom?

Len. Those of his chamber, as it seem'd,
had done't:

Their hands and faces were all badged with
blood;

So were their daggers, which unwiped we
found

Upon their pillows:

They stared, and were distracted; no man's
life 110

Was to be trusted with them.

Macb. O, yet I do repent me of my fury,
That I did kill them.

Macd. Wherefore did you so?

Macb. Who can be wise, amazed, tem-
perate and furious,

Loyal and neutral, in a moment? No man:
The expedition of my violent love

Outrun the pauser, reason. Here lay Duncan,
His silver skin laced with his golden blood;

And his gash'd stabs look'd like a breach in
nature

For ruin's wasteful entrance: there, the mur-
derers, 120

Steep'd in the colours of their trade, their
daggers

Unmannerly breech'd with gore: who could
refrain,

That had a heart to love, and in that heart

Courage to make's love known?

Lady M. Help me hence, ho!

Macd. Look to the lady.

Mal. [*Aside to Don.*] Why do we hold our tongues,

That most may claim this argument for ours?

Don. [*Aside to Mal.*] What should be spoken here, where our fate,

Hid in an auger-hole, may rush, and seize us? Let's away;

Our tears are not yet brew'd.

Mal. [*Aside to Don.*] Nor our strong sorrow

Upon the foot of motion.

Ban. Look to the lady: 131

[*Lady Macbeth is carried out.*]

And when we have our naked frailties hid,
That suffer in exposure, let us meet,
And question this most bloody piece of work,
To know it further. Fears and scruples
shake us:

In the great hand of God I stand; and thence
Against the undivulged pretence I fight
Of treasonous malice.

Macd. And so do I.

All. So all.

Macb. Let's briefly put on manly readiness,

And meet it in the hall together.

All. Well contented.

[*Exeunt all but Malcolm and Donalbain.*]

Mal. What will you do? Let's not consort with them: 141

To show an unfelt sorrow is an office

Which the false man does easy. I'll to England.

Don. To Ireland, I; our separated fortune
Shall keep us both the safer: where we are,
There's daggers in men's smiles: the near in blood,

The nearer bloody.

Mal. This murderous shaft that's shot
Hath not yet lighted, and our safest way
Is to avoid the aim. Therefore, to horse;
And let us not be dainty of leave-taking, 150
But shift away: there's warrant in that theft
Which steals itself, when there's no mercy left.

[*Exeunt.*]

SCENE IV. Outside Macbeth's castle.

Enter Ross and an Old Man.

Old M. Threescore and ten I can remember well:

Within the volume of which time I have seen
Hours dreadful and things strange; but this
sore night

Hath trifled former knowings.

Ross. Ah, good father,

Thou seest, the heavens, as troubled with man's act,

Threaten his bloody stage: by the clock, 'tis day,

And yet dark night strangles the travelling lamp:

Is't night's predominance, or the day's shame,
That darkness does the face of earth entomb,
When living light should kiss it?

Old M. 'Tis unnatural, 10

Even like the deed that's done. On Tuesday last,

A falcon, towering in her pride of place,
Was by a mousing owl hawk'd at and kill'd.

Ross. And Duncan's horses—a thing most strange and certain—

Beauteous and swift, the minions of their race,
Turn'd wild in nature, broke their stalls,
flung out,

Contending 'gainst obedience, as they would make

War with mankind.

Old M. 'Tis said they eat each other.

Ross. They did so, to the amazement of mine eyes

That look'd upon't. Here comes the good Macduff. 20

Enter MACDUFF.

How goes the world, sir, now?

Macd. Why, see you not?

Ross. Is't known who did this more than bloody deed?

Macd. Those that Macbeth hath slain.

Ross. Alas, the day!

What good could they pretend?

Macd. They were suborn'd:

Malcolm and Donalbain, the king's two sons,
Are stol'n away and fled; which puts upon them

Suspicion of the deed.

Ross. 'Gainst nature still!

Thriftless ambition, that wilt ravin up
Thine own life's means! Then 'tis most like
The sovereignty will fall upon Macbeth. 30

Macd. He is already named, and gone to Scone

To be invested.

Ross. Where is Duncan's body?

Macd. Carried to Colmekill,

The sacred storehouse of his predecessors,
And guardian of their bones.

Ross. Will you to Scone?

Macd. No, cousin, I'll to Fife.

Ross. Well, I will thither.

Macd. Well, may you see things well done there: adieu!

Lest our old robes sit easier than our new!

Ross. Farewell, father.

Old M. God's benison go with you; and
with those 40
That would make good of bad, and friends of
foes! [Exeunt.]

ACT III.

SCENE I. *Forres. The palace.*

Enter BANQUO.

Ban. Thou hast it now: king, Cawdor,
Glamis, all,
As the weird women promised, and, I fear,
Thou play'dst most foully for 't: yet it was
said

It should not stand in thy posterity,
But that myself should be the root and father
Of many kings. If there come truth from
them—

As upon thee, Macbeth, their speeches shine—
Why, by the verities on thee made good,
May they not be my oracles as well,
And set me up in hope? But hush! no more.

*Sennet sounded. Enter MACBETH, as king,
LADY MACBETH, as queen, LENNOX, ROSS,
Lords, Ladies, and Attendants.*

Macb. Here's our chief guest.

Lady M. If he had been forgotten,
It had been as a gap in our great feast,
And all-things unbecoming.

Macb. To-night we hold a solemn supper,
sir,

And I'll request your presence.

Ban. Let your highness
Command upon me; to the which my duties
Are with a most indissoluble tie
For ever knit.

Macb. Ride you this afternoon?

Ban. Ay, my good lord. 20

Macb. We should have else desired your
good advice,
Which still hath been both grave and pros-
perous,
In this day's council; but we'll take
to-morrow.

Is't far you ride?

Ban. As far, my lord, as will fill up the
time

Twixt this and supper: go not my horse the
better,

I must become a borrower of the night
For a dark hour or twain.

Macb. Fail not our feast.

Ban. My lord, I will not.

Macb. We hear, our bloody cousins are
bestow'd 30

In England and in Ireland, not confessing
Their cruel parricide, filling their hearers

With strange invention: but of that
to-morrow,

When therewithal we shall have cause of state
Craving us jointly. Hie you to horse: adieu,
Till your return at night. Goes Fleance with
you?

Ban. Ay, my good lord: our time does
call upon 's.

Macb. I wish your horses swift and sure
of foot;

And so I do commend you to their backs.

Farewell. [Exit Banquo. 40

Let every man be master of his time

Till seven at night: to make society

The sweeter welcome, we will keep ourself

Till supper-time alone: while then, God be
with you!

[Exeunt all but Macbeth, and an attendant.]

Sirrah, a word with you: attend those men
Our pleasure?

Atten. They are, my lord, without the
palace gate.

Macb. Bring them before us.

[Exit Attendant.]

To be thus is nothing;

But to be safely thus.—Our fears in Banquo
Stick deep; and in his royalty of nature 50
Reigns that which would be fear'd: 'tis much
he dares;

And, to that dauntless temper of his mind,
He hath a wisdom that doth guide his valour

To act in safety. There is none but he

Whose being I do fear: and, under him,

My Genius is rebuked; as, it is said,

Mark Antony's was by Cæsar. He chid the
sisters

When first they put the name of king upon me,
And bade them speak to him: then prophet-
like

They hail'd him father to a line of kings: 60

Upon my head they placed a fruitless crown,

And put a barren sceptre in my gripe,

Thence to be wrench'd with an unlineal hand,

No son of mine succeeding. If't be so,

For Banquo's issue have I filed my mind;

For them the gracious Duncan have I mur-
der'd;

Put rancours in the vessel of my peace

Only for them; and mine eternal jewel

Given to the common enemy of man,

To make them kings, the seed of Banquo
kings! 70

Rather than so, come fate into the list,

And champion me to the utterance! Who's
there?

Re-enter Attendant, with two Murderers.

Now go to the door, and stay there till we
call. [Exit Attendant.]

Was it not yesterday we spoke together?

First Mur. It was, so please your highness.

Macb. Well then, now
Have you consider'd of my speeches? Know
That it was he in the times past which held
you

So under fortune, which you thought had been
Our innocent self: this I made good to you
In our last conference, pass'd in probation
with you, 80

How you were borne in hand, how cross'd,
the instruments,
Who wrought with them, and all things else
that might

To half a soul and to a notion crazed
Say 'Thus did Banquo.'

First Mur. You made it known to us.

Macb. I did so, and went further, which
is now
Our point of second meeting. Do you find
Your patience so predominant in your nature
That you can let this go? Are you so gospell'd
To pray for this good man and for his issue,
Whose heavy hand hath bow'd you to the
grave

And beggar'd yours for ever?

First Mur. We are men, my liege. 91

Macb. Ay, in the catalogue ye go for men;
As hounds and greyhounds, mongrels, span-
iels, curs,

Shoughs, water-rugs and demi-wolves are clept
All by the name of dogs: the valued file
Distinguishes the swift, the slow, the subtle,
The housekeeper, the hunter, every one
According to the gift which bounteous nature
Hath in him closed, whereby he does receive
Particular addition, from the bill 100

That writes them all alike: and so of men.
Now, if you have a station in the file,
Not i' the worst rank of manhood, say 't;
And I will put that business in your bosoms,
Whose execution takes your enemy off,
Grapples you to the heart and love of us,
Who wear our health but sickly in his life,
Which in his death were perfect.

Sec. Mur. I am one, my liege,
Whom the vile blows and buffets of the world
Have so incensed that I am reckless what 110
I do to spite the world.

First Mur. And I another
So weary with disasters, tugg'd with fortune,
That I would set my life on any chance,
To mend it, or be rid on 't.

Macb. Both of you
Know Banquo was your enemy.

Both Mur. True, my lord.

Macb. So is he mine; and in such bloody
distance,
That every minute of his being thrusts

Against my near'st of life: and though I could
With barefaced power sweep him from my
sight

And bid my will avouch it, yet I must not, 120
For certain friends that are both his and mine,
Whose loves I may not drop, but wail his fall
Who I myself struck down; and thence it is,
That I to your assistance do make love,
Masking the business from the common eye
For sundry weighty reasons.

Sec. Mur. We shall, my lord,
Perform what you command us.

First Mur. Though our lives—

Macb. Your spirits shine through you.

Within this hour at most

I will advise you where to plant yourselves;
Acquaint you with the perfect spy o' the time,
The moment on 't; for 't must be done to-
night,

And something from the palace; always
thought

That I require a clearness: and with him—
To leave no rubs nor botches in the work—
Fleance his son, that keeps him company,
Whose absence is no less material to me
Than is his father's, must embrace the fate
Of that dark hour. Resolve yourselves apart:
I'll come to you anon.

Both Mur. We are resolved, my lord.

Macb. I'll call upon you straight: abide
within. [Exeunt Murderers. 140
It is concluded. Banquo, thy soul's flight,
If it find heaven, must find it out to-night.

[Exit.

SCENE II. The palace.

Enter LADY MACBETH and a Servant.

Lady M. Is Banquo gone from court?

Serv. Ay, madam, but returns again to-
night.

Lady M. Say to the king, I would attend
his leisure
For a few words.

Serv. Madam, I will. [Exit.

Lady M. Nought's had, all's spent,
Where our desire is got without content:
'Tis safer to be that which we destroy
Than by destruction dwell in doubtful joy.

Enter MACBETH.

How now, my lord! why do you keep alone,
Of sorriest fancies your companions making,
Using those thoughts which should indeed
have died 10
With them they think on? Things without
all remedy
Should be without regard: what's done is
done.

Macb. We have scotch'd the snake, not
kill'd it:
She'll close and be herself, whilst our poor
malice
Remains in danger of her former tooth.
But let the frame of things disjoint, both the
worlds suffer,
Ere we will eat our meal in fear and sleep
In the affliction of these terrible dreams
That shake us nightly: better be with the
dead,
Whom we, to gain our peace, have sent to
peace, 20
Than on the torture of the mind to lie
In restless ecstasy. Duncan is in his grave;
After life's fitful fever he sleeps well;
Treason has done his worst: nor steel, nor
poison,
Malice domestic, foreign levy, nothing,
Can touch him further.
Lady M. Come on;
Gentle my lord, sleek o'er your rugged looks;
Be bright and jovial among your guests to-
night.
Macb. So shall I, love; and so, I pray, be
you:
Let your remembrance apply to Banquo; 30
Present him eminence, both with eye and
tongue:
†Unsafe the while, that we
Must lave our honours in these flattering
streams,
And make our faces vizards to our hearts,
Disguising what they are.
Lady M. You must leave this.
Macb. O, full of scorpions is my mind,
dear wife!
Thou know'st that Banquo, and his Fleance,
lives.
Lady M. But in them nature's copy's not
eternae.
Macb. There's comfort yet; they are as-
ailable;
Then be thou jocund: ere the bat hath
flown
His cloister'd flight, ere to black Hecate's
summons 41
The shard-borne beetle with his drowsy hums
Hath rung night's yawning peal, there shall
be done
A deed of dreadful note.
Lady M. What's to be done?
Macb. Be innocent of the knowledge,
dearest chuck,
Till thou applaud the deed. Come, seeling
night,
Scarf up the tender eye of pitiful day;
And with thy bloody and invisible hand
Cancel and tear to pieces that great bond

Which keeps me pale! Light thickens; and
the crow 50
Makes w.ing to the rooky wood:
Good things of day begin to droop and
drowse;
Whiles night's black agents to their preys do
rouse.
Thou marvell'st at my words: but hold thee
still:
Things bad begun make strong themselves by
ill.
So, prithee, go with me. [Exeunt.]

SCENE III. *A park near the palace.*

Enter three Murderers.

First Mur. But who did bid thee join with
us?

Third Mur. Macbeth.

Sec. Mur. He needs not our mistrust, since
he delivers

Our offices and what we have to do
To the direction just.

First Mur. Then stand with us.
The west yet glimmers with some streaks of
day:

Now spurs the lated traveller apace.
To gain the timely inn; and near approaches
The subject of our watch.

Third Mur. Hark! I hear horses.

Ban. [Within] Give us a light there, ho!

Sec. Mur. Then 'tis he: the rest
That are within the note of expectation 10
Already are i' the court.

First Mur. His horses go about.

Third Mur. Almost a mile: but he does
usually,

So all men do, from hence to the palace gate
Make it their walk.

Sec. Mur. A light, a light!

Enter BANQUO, and FLEANCE with a torch.

Third Mur. 'Tis he.

First Mur. Stand to 't.

Ban. It will be rain to-night.

First Mur. Let it come down.

[They set upon Banquo.]

Ban. O, treachery! Fly, good Fleance,
fly, fly, fly!

Thou mayst revenge. O slave!

[Dies. Fleance escapes.]

Third Mur. Who did strike out the light?

First Mur. Was't not the way?

Third Mur. There's but one down; the
son is fled.

Sec. Mur. We have lost 20
Best half of our affair.

First Mur. Well, let's away, and say how
much is done. [Exeunt.]

SCENE IV. *The same. Hall in the palace.*

A banquet prepared. Enter MACBETH, LADY MACBETH, ROSS, LENNOX, Lords, and Attendants.

Macb. You know your own degrees; sit down: at first
And last the hearty welcome.

Lords. Thanks to your majesty.

Macb. Ourselves will mingle with society,
And play the humble host.

Our hostess keeps her state, but in best time
We will require her welcome.

Lady M. Pronounce it for me, sir, to all
our friends;
For my heart speaks they are welcome.

First Murderer appears at the door.

Macb. See, they encounter thee with their
hearts' thanks. 9

Both sides are even: here I'll sit i' the midst:
Be large in mirth; anon we'll drink a meas-
ure

The table round. [*Approaching the door.*]
There's blood upon thy face.

Mur. 'Tis Banquo's then.

Macb. 'Tis better thee without than he
within.

Is he dispatch'd?

Mur. My lord, his throat is cut; that I
did for him.

Macb. Thou art the best o' the cut-throats:
yet he's good
That did the like for Fleance: if thou didst it,
Thou art the nonpareil.

Mur. Most royal sir,
Fleance is 'scaped. 20

Macb. Then comes my fit again: I had
else been perfect,

Whole as the marble, founded as the rock,
As broad and general as the casing air:
But now I am cabin'd, cribb'd, confined,
bound in

To saucy doubts and fears. But Banquo's
safe?

Mur. Ay, my good lord: safe in a ditch
he bides,

With twenty trenched gashes on his head;
The least a death to nature.

Macb. Thanks for that
There the grown serpent lies; the worm
that's fled

Hath nature that in time will venom breed, 30
No teeth for the present. Get thee gone: to-
morrow

We'll hear, ourselves, again. [*Exit Murderer.*]

Lady M. My royal lord,
You do not give the cheer: the feast is sold
That is not often vouch'd, while 'tis a-making,

'Tis given with welcome: to feed were best
at home;

From thence the sauce to meat is ceremony;
Meeting were bare without it.

Macb. Sweet remembrancer!
Now, good digestion wait on appetite,
And health on both!

Len. May't please your highness sit.
[*The Ghost of Banquo enters, and sits in
Macbeth's place.*]

Macb. Here had we now our country's
honour roof'd, 40
Were the graced person of our Banquo pres-
ent;

Who may I rather challenge for unkindness
Than pity for mischance!

Ross. His absence, sir,
Lays blame upon his promise. Please't your
highness

To grace us with your royal company.

Macb. The table's full.

Len. Here is a place reserved, sir,

Macb. Where?

Len. Here, my good lord. What is't that
moves your highness?

Macb. Which of you have done this?

Lords. What, my good lord?

Macb. Thou canst not say I did it: never
shake 50

Thy gory locks at me.

Ross. Gentlemen, rise; his highness is not
well.

Lady M. Sit, worthy friends: my lord is
often thus,

And hath been from his youth: pray you,
keep seat;

The fit is momentary; upon a thought
He will again be well: if much you note him,
You shall offend him and extend his passion:
Feed, and regard him not. Are you a man?

Macb. Ay, and a bold one, that dare look
on that

Which might appal the devil.

Lady M. O proper stuff! 60
This is the very painting of your fear:

This is the air-drawn dagger which, you said,
Led you to Duncan. O, these flaws and
starts,

Impostors to true fear, would well become

A woman's story at a winter's fire,

Authorized by her grandam. Shame itself!

Why do you make such faces! When all's
done,

You look but on a stool.

Macb. Prithee, see there! behold! look!
lo! how say you?

Why, what care I? If thou canst nod, speak
too. 70

If charnel-houses and our graves must send

Those that we bury back, our monuments
Shall be the maws of kites. [*Ghost vanishes.*]

Lady M. What, quite unmann'd in folly?

Macb. If I stand here, I saw him.

Lady M. Fie, for shame!

Macb. Blood hath been shed ere now, i'
the olden time,

Ere humane statute purged the gentle weal;
Ay, and since too, murders have been per-
form'd

Too terrible for the ear: the time has been,
That, when the brains were out, the man
would die,

And there an end; but now they rise again,
With twenty mortal murders on their crowns,
And push us from our stools: this is more
strange

Than such a murder is.

Lady M. My worthy lord,
Your noble friends do lack you.

Macb. I do forget.
Do not muse at me, my most worthy friends;
I have a strange infirmity, which is nothing
To those that know me. Come, love and
health to all;

Then I'll sit down. Give me some wine; fill
full.

I drink to the general joy o' the whole table,
And to our dear friend Banquo, whom we
miss; 90

Would he were here! to all, and him, we
thirst,

And all to all.

Lords. Our duties, and the pledge.

Re-enter Ghost.

Macb. Avaunt! and quit my sight! let the
earth hide thee!

Thy bones are marrowless, thy blood is cold;
Thou hast no speculation in those eyes
Which thou dost glare with!

Lady M. Think of this, good peers,
But as a thing of custom: 'tis no other;
Only it spoils the pleasure of the time.

Macb. What man dare, I dare: 99

Approach thou like the rugged Russian bear,
The arm'd rhinoceros, or the Hyrcan tiger;
Take any shape but that, and my firm nerves
Shall never tremble: or be alive again,
And dare me to the desert with thy sword;
†If trembling I inhabit then, protest me
The baby of a girl. Hence, horrible shadow!
Unreal mockery, hence! [*Ghost vanishes.*]

Why, so: being gone,
I am a man again. Pray you, sit still.

Lady M. You have displaced the mirth,
broke the good meeting,
With most admired disorder.

Macb. Can such things be, 110

And overcome us like a summer's cloud,
Without our special wonder? You make me
strange

Even to the disposition that I owe,
When now I think you can behold such sights,
And keep the natural ruby of your cheeks,
When mine is blanch'd with fear.

Ross. What sights, my lord?

Lady M. I pray you, speak not; he grows
worse and worse;

Question enrages him. At once, good night:
Stand not upon the order of your going,
But go at once.

Len. Good night; and better health 120
Attend his majesty!

Lady M. A kind good night to all!

[*Exeunt all but Macbeth and Lady M.*]

Macb. It will have blood; they say, blood
will have blood:

Stones have been known to move and trees
to speak;

Augurs and understood relations have
By magot pies and choughs and rooks brought
forth

The secret'st man of blood. What is the night?

Lady M. Almost at odds with morning,
which is which.

Macb. How say'st thou, that Macduff de-
nies his person

At our great bidding?

Lady M. Did you send to him, sir?

Macb. I hear it by the way; but I will
send:

There's not a one of them but in his house
I keep a servant fee'd. I will to-morrow,
And betimes I will, to the weird sisters:
More shall they speak; for now I am bent to
know,

By the worst means, the worst. For mine
own good,

All causes shall give way: I am in blood
Stepp'd in so far that, should I wade no more,
Returning were as tedious as go o'er:
Strange things I have in head, that will to
hand;

Which must be acted ere they may be scann'd.

Lady M. You lack the season of all na-
tures, sleep. 141

Macb. Come, we'll to sleep. My strange
and self-abuse

Is the initiate fear that wants hard use:

We are yet but young in deed. [*Exeunt.*]

SCENE V. A Heath.

Thunder. Enter the three Witches,
meeting HECATE.

First Witch. Why, how now, Hecate! you
look angrily.

Hec. Have I not reason, beldams as you are,
 Saucy and overbold? How did you dare
 To trade and traffic with Macbeth
 In riddles and affairs of death;
 And I, the mistress of your charms,
 The close contriver of all harms,
 Was never call'd to bear my part,
 Or show the glory of our art?
 And, which is worse, all you have done 10
 Hath been but for a wayward son,
 Spiteful and wrathful, who, as others do,
 Loves for his own ends, not for you.
 But make amends now: get you gone,
 And at the pit of Acheron
 Meet me i' the morning: thither he
 Will come to know his destiny:
 Your vessels and your spells provide,
 Your charms and every thing beside.
 I am for the air; this night I'll spend 20
 Unto a dismal and a fatal end:
 Great business must be wrought ere noon:
 Upon the corner of the moon
 There hangs a vaporous drop profound;
 I'll catch it ere it come to ground:
 And that distill'd by magic sleights
 Shall raise such artificial sprites
 As by the strength of their illusion
 Shall draw him on to his confusion:
 He shall spurn fate, scorn death, and bear 30
 His hopes 'bove wisdom, grace and fear:
 And you all know, security
 Is mortals' chiefest enemy.

[*Music and a song within: 'Come away, come away,' &c.*
Hark! I am call'd; my little spirit, see,
 Sits in a foggy cloud, and stays for me. [*Exit.*
First Witch. Come, let's make haste;
 she'll soon be back again. [*Exeunt.*

SCENE VI. *Forres. The palace.*

Enter LENNOX and another Lord.

Len. My former speeches have but hit
 your thoughts,
 Which can interpret further: only, I say,
 Things have been strangely borne. The
 gracious Duncan
 Was pitied of Macbeth: marry, he was dead:
 And the right-valiant Banquo walk'd too late;
 Whom, you may say, if 't please you, Fleance
 kill'd,
 For Fleance fled: men must not walk too late.
 Who cannot want the thought how monstrous
 It was for Malcolm and for Donalbain
 To kill their gracious father? damned fact! 10
 How it did grieve Macbeth! did he not
 straight
 In pious rage the two delinquents tear,

That were the slaves of drink and thralls of
 sleep?

Was not that nobly done? Ay, and wisely
 too;

For 'twould have anger'd any heart alive
 To hear the men deny 't. So that, I say,
 He has borne all things well: and I do think
 That had he Duncan's sons under his key—
 As, an't please heaven, he shall not—they
 should find

What 'twere to kill a father; so should
 Fleance.

But, peace! for from broad words and 'cause
 he fail'd 21

His presence at the tyrant's feast, I hear
 Macduff lives in disgrace: sir, can you tell
 Where he bestows himself?

Lord. The son of Duncan,
 From whom this tyrant holds the due of birth,
 Lives in the English court, and is received
 Of the most pious Edward with such grace
 That the malevolence of fortune nothing
 Takes from his high respect: thither Macduff
 Is gone to pray the holy king, upon his aid 30
 To wake Northumberland and warlike Si-
 ward:

That by the help of these—with Him above
 To ratify the work—we may again
 Give to our tables meat, sleep to our nights,
 Free from our feasts and banquets bloody
 knives,

Do faithful homage and receive free honours:
 All which we pine for now: and this report
 Hath so exasperated the king that he
 Prepares for some attempt of war.

Len. Sent he to Macduff?

Lord. He did: and with an absolute 'Sir,
 not I,' 40

The cloudy messenger turns me his back,
 And hums, as who should say 'You'll rue the
 time

That clogs me with this answer.'

Len. And that well might
 Advise him to a caution, to hold what dis-
 tance

His wisdom can provide. Some holy angel
 Fly to the court of England and unfold
 His message ere he come, that a swift blessing
 May soon return to this our suffering country
 Under a hand accursed!

Lord. I'll send my prayers with him.
 [*Exeunt.*

ACT IV.

SCENE I. *A cavern. In the middle, a boiling
 cauldron.*

Thunder. Enter the three Witches.

First Witch. Thrice the brinded cat hath
 mew'd.

Sec. Witch. Thrice and once the hedge-pig whined.

Third Witch. Harpier cries 'Tis time, 'tis time.

First Witch. Round about the cauldron go;

In the poison'd entrails throw.
 †Toad, that under cold stone
 Days and nights has thirty one
 Swelter'd venom sleeping got,
 Boil thou first i' the charmed pot.

All. Double, double toil and trouble; 10
 Fire burn, and cauldron bubble.

Sec. Witch. Fillet of a fenny snake,
 In the cauldron boil and bake;
 Eye of newt and toe of frog,
 Wool of bat and tongue of dog,
 Adder's fork and blind-worm's sting,
 Lizard's leg and howlet's wing,
 For a charm of powerful trouble,
 Like a hell-broth boil and bubble.

All. Double, double toil and trouble; 20
 Fire burn, and cauldron bubble.

Third Witch. Scale of dragon, tooth of wolf,

Witches' mummy, maw and gulf
 Of the ravin'd salt-sea shark,
 Root of hemlock digg'd i' the dark,
 Liver of blaspheming Jew,
 Gall of goat, and slips of yew
 Silver'd in the moon's eclipse,
 Nose of Turk and Tartar's lips,
 Finger of birth-strangled babe 30
 Ditch-deliver'd by a drab,
 Make the gruel thick and slab:
 Add thereto a tiger's chaudron,
 For the ingredients of our cauldron.

All. Double, double toil and trouble;
 Fire burn, and cauldron bubble.

Sec. Witch. Cool it with a baboon's blood,

Then the charm is firm and good.

Enter HECATE to the other three Witches.

Hec. O, well done! I commend your pains;

And every one shall share i' the gains: 40
 And now about the cauldron sing,
 Like elves and fairies in a ring,
 Enchanting all that you put in.

[*Music and a song: 'Black spirits,' &c.*
[Hecate retires.]

Sec. Witch. By the pricking of my thumbs,

Something wicked this way comes.

Open, locks,
 Whoever knocks!

Enter MACBETH.

Macb. How now, you secret, black, and midnight hags!

What is 't you do?

All. A deed without a name.

Macb. I conjure you, by that which you profess, 50

Howe'er you come to know it, answer me:
 Though you untie the winds and let them fight
 Against the churches; though the yesty waves
 Confound and swallow navigation up;
 Though bladed corn be lodged and trees
 blown down;

Though castles topple on their warders' heads;
 Though palaces and pyramids do slope
 Their heads to their foundations; though the
 treasure

Of nature's germens tumble all together,
 Even till destruction sicken; answer me 60
 To what I ask you.

First Witch. Speak.

Sec. Witch. Demand.

Third Witch. We 'll answer.

First Witch. Say, if thou'dst rather hear it
 from our mouths,
 Or from our masters?

Macb. Call 'em; let me see 'em.

First Witch. Pour in sow's blood, that
 hath eaten

Her nine farrow; grease that's sweaten
 From the murderer's gibbet throw,
 Into the flame.

All. Come, high or low;
 Thyself and office deftly show!

Thunder. *First Apparition: an armed Head.*

Macb. Tell me, thou unknown power,—

First Witch. He knows thy thought;
 Hear his speech, but say thou nought. 70

First App. Macbeth! Macbeth! Macbeth!
 beware Macduff;

Beware the thane of Fife. Dismiss me.
 Enough. [*Descends.*]

Macb. Whate'er thou art, for thy good
 caution, thanks;

Thou hast harp'd my fear aright: but one
 word more,—

First Witch. He will not be commanded:
 here's another,
 More potent than the first.

Thunder. *Second Apparition: a bloody Child.*

Sec. App. Macbeth! Macbeth! Macbeth!

Macb. Had I three ears, I 'ld hear thee.

Sec. App. Be bloody, bold, and resolute;
 laugh to scorn

The power of man, for none of woman born
 Shall harm Macbeth. [*Descends.*]

Macb. Then live, Macduff: what need I
 fear of thee?

But yet I'll make assurance double sure,
And take a bond of fate: thou shalt not live;
That I may tell pale-hearted fear it lies,
And sleep in spite of thunder.

*Thunder. Third Apparition: a Child
crowned, with a tree in his hand.*

What is this
That rises like the issue of a king,
And wears upon his baby-brow the round
And top of sovereignty?

All. Listen, but speak not to 't.

Third App. Be lion-mettled, proud; and
take no care 90

Who chafes, who frets, or where conspirers
are:

Macbeth shall never vanquish'd be until
Great Birnam wood to high Dunsinane hill
Shall come against him. [*Descends.*]

Macb. That will never be:
Who can impress the forest, bid the tree
Unfix his earth-bound root? Sweet bode-
ments! good!

Rebellion's head, rise never till the wood
Of Birnam rise, and our high-placed Macbeth
Shall live the lease of nature, pay his breath
To time and mortal custom. Yet my heart
Throbs to know one thing: tell me, if your art
Can tell so much: shall Banquo's issue ever
Reign in this kingdom?

All. Seek to know no more.

Macb. I will be satisfied: deny me this,
And an eternal curse fall on you! Let me
know.

Why sinks that cauldron? and what noise is
this? [*Hautboys.*]

First Witch. Show!

Sec. Witch. Show!

Third Witch. Show!

All. Show his eyes, and grieve his heart;
Come like shadows, so depart! 111

*A show of Eight Kings, the last with a glass
in his hand; Banquo's Ghost following.*

Macb. Thou art too like the spirit of Ban-
quo; down!

Thy crown doth sear mine eye-balls. And
thy hair,

Thou other gold-bound brow, is like the first.
A third is like the former. Filthy hags!
Why do you show me this? A fourth! Start,
eyes!

What, will the line stretch out to the crack of
doom?

Another yet! A seventh! I'll see no more:
And yet the eighth appears, who bears a glass
Which shows me many more; and some I see
That two-fold balls and treble sceptres carry:
Horrible sight! Now, I see, 'tis true;

For the blood-bolter'd Banquo smiles upon
me,

And points at them for his. [*Apparitions.
vanish.*] What, is this so?

First Witch. Ay, sir, all this is so: but
why

Stands Macbeth thus amazedly?

Come, sisters, cheer we up his sprites,

And show the best of our delights:

I'll charm the air to give a sound,

While you perform your antic round; 130

That this great king may kindly say,

Our duties did his welcome pay.

[*Music. The Witches dance, and then
vanish, with Hecate.*]

Macb. Where are they? Gone! Let this
pernicious hour

Stand aye accursed in the calendar!

Come in, without there!

Enter LENNOX.

Len. What's your grace's will?

Macb. Saw you the weird sisters?

Len. No, my lord.

Macb. Came they not by you?

Len. No, indeed, my lord.

Macb. Infected be the air whereon they
ride;

And damn'd all those that trust them! I did
hear

The galloping of horse: who was't came by?

Len. 'Tis two or three, my lord, that bring
you word 141

Macduff is fled to England.

Macb. Fled to England!

Len. Ay, my good lord.

Macb. Time, thou anticipatest my dread
exploits:

The flighty purpose never is o'ertook

Unless the deed go with it: from this moment

The very firstlings of my heart shall be

The firstlings of my hand. And even now,

To crown my thoughts with acts, be it thought
and done:

The castle of Macduff I will surprise; 150

Seize upon Fife; give to the edge o' the sword

His wife, his babes, and all unfortunate souls

That trace him in his line. No boasting like
a fool:

This deed I'll do before this purpose cool.

But no more sights!—Where are these gentle-
men?

Come, bring me where they are. [*Exeunt.*]

SCENE II. *Fife. Macduff's castle.*

Enter LADY MACDUFF, her Son, and ROSS.

L. Macd. What had he done, to make him
fly the land?

Ross. You must have patience, madam.

L. Macd. He had none:
His flight was madness: when our actions do
not,

Our fears do make us traitors.

Ross. You know not
Whether it was his wisdom or his fear.

L. Macd. Wisdom! to leave his wife, to
leave his babes,

His mansion and his titles in a place
From whence himself does fly? He loves us
not;

He wants the natural touch: for the poor wren,
The most diminutive of birds, will fight, 10
Her young ones in her nest, against the owl.
All is the fear and nothing is the love;
As little is the wisdom, where the flight
So runs against all reason.

Ross. My dearest coz,
I pray you, school yourself: but for your
husband,

He is noble, wise, judicious, and best knows
The fits o' the season. I dare not speak much
further;

But cruel are the times, when we are traitors
And do not know ourselves, when we hold
rumour

From what we fear, yet know not what we
fear,

But float upon a wild and violent sea 21
Each way and move. I take my leave of you:
Shall not be long but I'll be here again:
Things at the worst will cease, or else climb
upward

To what they were before. My pretty cousin,
Blessing upon you!

L. Macd. Father'd he is, and yet he's
fatherless.

Ross. I am so much a fool, should I stay
longer,

It would be my disgrace and your discomfort:
I take my leave at once. [Exit.]

L. Macd. Sirrah, your father's dead: 30
And what will you do now? How will you
live?

Son. As birds do, mother.

L. Macd. What, with worms and flies?

Son. With what I get, I mean; and so do
they.

L. Macd. Poor bird! thou 'ldst never fear
the net nor lime,
The pitfall nor the gin.

Son. Why should I, mother? Poor birds
they are not set for.

My father is not dead, for all your saying.

L. Macd. Yes, he is dead: how wilt thou
do for a father?

Son. Nay, how will you do for a husband?

L. Macd. Why, I can buy me twenty at
any market. 40

Son. Then you'll buy 'em to sell again.

L. Macd. Thou speak'st with all thy wit;
and yet, i' faith,
With wit enough for thee.

Son. Was my father a traitor, mother?

L. Macd. Ay, that he was.

Son. What is a traitor?

L. Macd. Why, one that swears and lies.

Son. And be all traitors that do so?

L. Macd. Every one that does so is a
traitor, and must be hanged. 50

Son. And must they all be hanged that
swear and lie?

L. Macd. Every one.

Son. Who must hang them?

L. Macd. Why, the honest men.

Son. Then the liars and swearers are fools,
for there are liars and swearers enow to beat
the honest men and hang up them.

L. Macd. Now, God help thee, poor
monkey! But how wilt thou do for a father?

Son. If he were dead, you'd weep for
him: if you would not, it were a good sign
that I should quickly have a new father.

L. Macd. Poor prattler, how thou talk'st!

Enter a Messenger.

Mess. Bless you, fair dame! I am not to
you known,

Though in your state of honour I am perfect.
I doubt some danger does approach you nearly:
If you will take a homely man's advice,
Be not found here; hence, with your little ones.
To fright you thus, methinks, I am too savage;
To do worse to you were fell cruelty, 71
Which is too nigh your person. Heaven pre-
serve you!

I dare abide no longer.

[Exit.]

L. Macd. Whither should I fly?
I have done no harm. But I remember now
I am in this earthly world; where to do harm
Is often laudable, to do good sometime
Accounted dangerous folly: why then, alas,
Do I put up that womanly defence,
To say I have done no harm?

Enter Murderers.

What are these faces?

First Mur. Where is your husband? 80

L. Macd. I hope, in no place so unsanctified
Where such as thou mayst find him.

First Mur.

He's a traitor.

Son. Thou liest, thou shag-hair'd villain!

First Mur.

What, you egg!

[Stabbing him.]

Young fry of treachery!

Son.

He has kill'd me, mother:

Run away, I pray you!

[Dies.]

[Exit Lady Macduff, crying 'Murder!']

Exeunt Murderers, following her.

SCENE III. *England. Before the King's palace.*

Enter MALCOLM and MACDUFF.

Mal. Let us seek out some desolate shade,
and there
Weep our sad bosoms empty.

Macd. Let us rather
Hold fast the mortal sword, and like good men
Bestride our downfall'n birthdom: each new
morn
New widows howl, new orphans cry, new
sorrows

Strike heaven on the face, that it resounds
As if it felt with Scotland and yell'd out
Like syllable of dolour.

Mal. What I believe I'll wail,
What know believe, and what I can redress,
As I shall find the time to friend, I will. 10
What you have spoke, it may be so perchance.
This tyrant, whose sole name blisters our
tongues,

Was once thought honest: you have loved
him well;

He hath not touch'd you yet. I am young;
but something

You may deserve of him through me, and
wisdom

To offer up a weak poor innocent lamb
To appease an angry god.

Macd. I am not treacherous.

Mal. But Macbeth is.
A good and virtuous nature may recoil
In an imperial charge. But I shall crave
your pardon; 20
That which you are my thoughts cannot
transpose:

Angels are bright still, though the brightest
fell:

Though all things foul would wear the brows
of grace,

Yet grace must still look so.

Macd. I have lost my hopes.

Mal. Perchance even there where I did
find my doubts.

Why in that rawness left you wife and child,
Those precious motives, those strong knots
of love,

Without leave-taking? I pray you,
Let not my jealousies be your dishonours,
But mine own safeties. You may be rightly
just, 30

Whatever I shall think.

Macd. Bleed, bleed, poor country!
Great tyranny! lay thou thy basis sure,
For goodness dare not check thee: wear thou
thy wrongs;

The title is affeer'd! Fare thee well, lord:

I would not be the villain that thou think'st
For the whole space that's in the tyrant's
grasp,

And the rich East to boot.

Mal. Be not offended:
I speak not as in absolute fear of you.

I think our country sinks beneath the yoke;
It weeps, it bleeds; and each new day a gash
Is added to her wounds: I think withal
There would be hands uplifted in my right;
And here from gracious England have I offer
Of goodly thousands: but, for all this,
When I shall tread upon the tyrant's head,
Or wear it on my sword, yet my poor country
Shall have more vices than it had before,
More suffer and more sundry ways than ever,
By him that shall succeed.

Macd. What should he be?

Mal. It is myself I mean: in whom I know
All the particulars of vice so grafted 51
That, when they shall be open'd, black Mac-
beth

Will seem as pure as snow, and the poor state
Esteem him as a lamb, being compared
With my confineless harms.

Macd. Not in the legions
Of horrid hell can come a devil more dam'd
In evils to top Macbeth.

Mal. I grant him bloody,
Luxurious, avaricious, false, deceitful,
Sudden, malicious, smacking of every sin
That has a name: but there's no bottom, none,
In my voluptuousness: your wives, your
daughters, 61

Your matrons and your maids, could not fill up
The cistern of my lust, and my desire
All continent impediments would o'erbear
That did oppose my will: better Macbeth
Than such an one to reign.

Macd. Boundless intemperance
In nature is a tyranny; it hath been
The untimely emptying of the happy throne
And fall of many kings. But fear not yet
To take upon you what is yours: you may 70
Convey your pleasures in a spacious plenty,
And yet seem cold, the time you may so
hoodwink.

We have willing dames enough; there cannot
be

That vulture in you, to devour so many
As will to greatness dedicate themselves,
Finding it so inclined.

Mal. With this there grows
In my most ill-composed affection such
A stanchless avarice that, were I king,
I should cut off the nobles for their lands,
Desire his jewels and this other's house: 80
And my more-having would be as a sauce
To make me hunger more; that I should forge

Quarrels unjust against the good and loyal,
Destroying them for wealth.

Macd. This avarice
Sticks deeper, grows with more pernicious root
Than summer-seeming lust, and it hath been
The sword of our slain kings: yet do not fear;
Scotland hath foisons to fill up your will,
Of your mere own: all these are portable,
With other graces weigh'd. 90

Mal. But I have none: the king-becoming
graces,
As justice, verity, temperance, stableness,
Bounty, perseverance, mercy, lowliness,
Devotion, patience, courage, fortitude,
I have no relish of them but abound
In the division of each several crime,
Acting it many ways. Nay, had I power, I
should

Pour the sweet milk of concord into hell,
Uproar the universal peace, confound
All unity on earth.

Macd. O Scotland, Scotland! 100

Mal. If such a one be fit to govern, speak:
I am as I have spoken.

Macd. Fit to govern!
No, not to live. O nation miserable,
With an untitled tyrant bloody-scepter'd,
When shalt thou see thy wholesome days again,
Since that the truest issue of thy throne
By his own interdiction stands accursed,
And does blaspheme his breed? Thy royal
father

Was a most sainted king: the queen that bore
thee,

Oftener upon her knees than on her feet, 110
Died every day she lived. Fare thee well!
These evils thou repeat'st upon thyself
Have banish'd me from Scotland. O my breast,
Thy hope ends here!

Mal. Macduff, this noble passion,
Child of integrity, hath from my soul
Wiped the black scruples, reconciled my
thoughts

To thy good truth and honour. Devilish
Macbeth

By many of these trains hath sought to win me
Into his power, and modest wisdom plucks me
From over-credulous haste: but God above
Deal between thee and me! for even now
I put myself to thy direction, and
Unspeak mine own detraction, here abjure
The taints and blames I laid upon myself,
For strangers to my nature. I am yet
Unknown to woman, never was forsworn,
Scarcely have coveted what was mine own,
At no time broke my faith, would not betray
The devil to his fellow and delight
No less in truth than life: my first false
speaking 130

Was this upon myself: what I am truly,
Is thine and my poor country's to command:
Whither indeed, before thy here-approach,
Old Siward, with ten thousand warlike men,
Already at a point, was setting forth.
Now we'll together; and the chance of good-
ness

Be like our warranted quarrel! Why are
you silent?

Macd. Such welcome and unwelcome things
at once

'Tis hard to reconcile.

Enter a Doctor.

Mal. Well; more anon.—Comes the king
forth, I pray you? 140

Doct. Ay, sir; there are a crew of wretched
souls

That stay his cure: their malady convinces
The great assay of art; but at his touch—
Such sanctity hath heaven given his hand—
They presently amend.

Mal. I thank you, doctor. [*Exit Doctor.*]

Macd. What's the disease he means?

Mal. 'Tis call'd the evil:
A most miraculous work in this good king;
Which often, since my here-remain in England,
I have seen him do. How he solicits heaven,
Himself best knows: but strangely-visited
people, 150

All swoln and ulcerous, pitiful to the eye,
The mere despair of surgery, he cures,
Hanging a golden stamp about their necks,
Put on with holy prayers: and 'tis spoken,
To the succeeding royalty he leaves
The healing benediction. With this strange
virtue,

He hath a heavenly gift of prophecy,
And sundry blessings hang about his throne,
That speak him full of grace.

Enter Ross.

Macd. See, who comes here?

Mal. My countryman; but yet I know him
not. 160

Macd. My ever-gentle cousin, welcome
hither.

Mal. I know him now. Good God, be-
times remove

The means that makes us strangers!

Ross. Sir, amen.

Macd. Stands Scotland where it did?

Ross. Alas, poor country!
Almost afraid to know itself. It cannot
Be call'd our mother, but our grave; where
nothing,

But who knows nothing, is once seen to smile:
Where sighs and groans and shrieks that rend
the air

Are made, not mark'd; where violent sorrow
seems
A modern ecstasy: the dead man's knell 170
Is there scarce ask'd for who; and good
men's lives
Expire before the flowers in their caps,
Dying or ere they sicken.
Macd. O, relation
Too nice, and yet too true!
Mal. What's the newest grief?
Ross. That of an hour's age doth hiss the
speaker:
Each minute teems a new one.
Macd. How does my wife?
Ross. Why, well.
Macd. And all my children?
Ross. Well too.
Macd. The tyrant has not batter'd at their
peace?
Ross. No; they were well at peace when
I did leave 'em.
Macd. Be not a niggard of your speech:
how goes 't? 180
Ross. When I came hither to transport the
tidings,
Which I have heavily borne, there ran a
rumour
Of many worthy fellows that were out;
Which was to my belief witness'd the rather,
For that I saw the tyrant's power a-foot:
Now is the time of help; your eye in Scotland
Would create soldiers, make our women fight,
To doff their dire distresses.
Mal. Be 't their comfort
We are coming thither: gracious England hath
Lent us good Siward and ten thousand men;
An older and a better soldier none 191
That Christendom gives out.
Ross. Would I could answer
This comfort with the like! But I have words
That would be howl'd out in the desert air,
Where hearing should not latch them.
Macd. What concern they?
The general cause? or is it a fee-grief
Due to some single breast?
Ross. No mind that's honest
But in it shares some woe; though the main
part
Pertains to you alone.
Macd. If it be mine,
Keep it not from me, quickly let me have it.
Ross. Let not your ears despise my tongue
for ever,
Which shall possess them with the heaviest
sound
That ever yet they heard.
Macd. Hum! I guess at it.
Ross. Your castle is surprised; your wife
and babes
Savagely slaughter'd: to relate the manner,
Were, on the quarry of these murder'd deer,
To add the death of you.
Mal. Merciful heaven!
What, man! ne'er pull your hat upon your
brows;
Give sorrow words: the grief that does not
speak
Whispers the o'er-fraught heart and bids it
break. 210
Macd. My children too?
Ross. Wife, children, servants, all
That could be found.
Macd. And I must be from thence!
My wife kill'd too?
Ross. I have said.
Mal. Be comforted:
Let's make us medicines of our great re-
venge,
To cure this deadly grief.
Macd. He has no children. All my pretty
ones?
Did you say all? O hell-kite! All?
What, all my pretty chickens and their dam
At one fell swoop?
Mal. Dispute it like a man.
Macd. I shall do so; 220
But I must also feel it as a man:
I cannot but remember such things were,
That were most precious to me. Did heaven
look on,
And would not take their part? Sinful Mac-
duff,
They were all struck for thee! naught that I
am,
Not for their own demerits, but for mine,
Fell slaughter on their souls. Heaven rest
them now!
Mal. Be this the whetstone of your sword:
let grief
Convert to anger; blunt not the heart, enrage it.
Macd. O, I could play the woman with
mine eyes 230
And braggart with my tongue! But, gentle
heavens,
Cut short all intermission; front to front
Bring thou this fiend of Scotland and myself;
Within my sword's length set him; if he
'scape,
Heaven forgive him too!
Mal. This tune goes manly.
Come, go we to the king; our power is
ready;
Our lack is nothing but our leave: Macbeth
Is ripe for shaking, and the powers above
Put on their instruments. Receive what cheer
you may:
The night is long that never finds the day. 240
[Exeunt.]

ACT V.

SCENE I. *Dunsinane. Ante-room in the castle.*

Enter a Doctor of Physic and a Waiting-Gentlewoman.

Doct. I have two nights watched with you, but can perceive no truth in your report. When was it she last walked?

Gent. Since his majesty went into the field, I have seen her rise from her bed, throw her nightgown upon her, unlock her closet, take forth paper, fold it, write upon 't, read it, afterwards seal it, and again return to bed; yet all this while in a most fast sleep. 9

Doct. A great perturbation in nature, to receive at once the benefit of sleep, and do the effects of watching! In this slumbry agitation, besides her walking and other actual performances, what, at any time, have you heard her say?

Gent. That, sir, which I will not report after her.

Doct. You may to me: and 'tis most meet you should.

Gent. Neither to you nor any one; having no witness to confirm my speech. 21

Enter LADY MACBETH, with a taper.

Lo you, here she comes! This is her very guise; and, upon my life, fast asleep. Observe her; stand close.

Doct. How came she by that light?

Gent. Why, it stood by her; she has light by her continually; 'tis her command.

Doct. You see, her eyes are open.

Gent. Ay, but their sense is shut.

Doct. What is it she does now? Look, how she rubs her hands. 31

Gent. It is an accustomed action with her, to seem thus washing her hands: I have known her continue in this a quarter of an hour.

Lady M. Yet here's a spot.

Doct. Hark! she speaks: I will set down what comes from her, to satisfy my remembrance the more strongly.

Lady M. Out, damned spot! out, I say!—One: two: why, then 'tis time to do 't.—Hell is murky!—Fie, my lord, fie! a soldier, and afeard? What need we fear who knows it, when none can call our power to account?—Yet who would have thought the old man to have had so much blood in him.

Doct. Do you mark that?

Lady M. The thane of Fife had a wife: where is she now?—What, will these hands ne'er be clean?—No more o' that, my lord, no more o' that: you mar all with this starting.

Doct. Go to, go to; you have known what you should not.

Gent. She has spoke what she should not, I am sure of that: heaven knows what she has known.

Lady M. Here's the smell of the blood still: all the perfumes of Arabia will not sweeten this little hand. Oh, oh, oh!

Doct. What a sigh is there! The heart is sorely charged. 60

Gent. I would not have such a heart in my bosom for the dignity of the whole body.

Doct. Well, well, well,—

Gent. Pray God it be, sir.

Doct. This disease is beyond my practice: yet I have known those which have walked in their sleep who have died holily in their beds.

Lady M. Wash your hands, put on your nightgown; look not so pale.—I tell you yet again, Banquo's buried; he cannot come out on 's grave. 71

Doct. Even so?

Lady M. To bed, to bed! there's knocking at the gate: come, come, come, come, give me your hand. What's done cannot be undone.—To bed, to bed, to bed! [Exit.

Doct. Will she go now to bed?

Gent. Directly.

Doct. Foul whisperings are abroad: unnatural deeds

Do breed unnatural troubles: infected minds To their deaf pillows will discharge their secrets:

More needs she the divine than the physician. God, God forgive us all! Look after her; Remove from her the means of all annoyance, And still keep eyes upon her. So, good night: My mind she has mated, and amazed my sight. I think, but dare not speak.

Gent. Good night, good doctor. [Exeunt.

SCENE II. *The country near Dunsinane.*

Drum and colours. Enter MENTEITH, CAITHNESS, ANGUS, LENNOX, and Soldiers.

Ment. The English power is near, led on by Malcolm,

His uncle Siward and the good Macduff: Revenges burn in them; for their dear causes Would to the bleeding and the grim alarm Excite the mortified man.

Ang. Near Birnam wood Shall we well meet them; that way are they coming.

Caith. Who knows if Donalbain be with his brother?

Len. For certain, sir, he is not: I have a file

Of all the gentry: there is Siward's son,

And many unrough youths that even now 10
Protest their first of manhood.

Ment. What does the tyrant?

Caith. Great Dunsinane he strongly fortifies:
Some say he's mad: others that lesser hate
him

Do call it valiant fury: but, for certain
He cannot buckle his distemper'd cause
Within the belt of rule.

Ang. Now does he feel
His secret murders sticking on his hands;
Now minutely revolts upbraid his faith-breach;
Those he commands move only in command,
Nothing in love: now does he feel his title 20
Hang loose about him, like a giant's robe
Upon a dwarfish thief.

Ment. Who then shall blame
His pester'd senses to recoil and start,
When all that is within him does condemn
Itself for being there?

Caith. Well, march we on,
To give obedience where 'tis truly owed:
Meet we the medicine of the sickly weal,
And with him pour we in our country's purge
Each drop of us.

Len. Or so much as it needs,
To dew the sovereign flower and drown the
weeds. 30
Make we our march towards Birnam.
[*Exeunt, marching.*]

SCENE III. *Dunsinane. A room in the
castle.*

Enter MACBETH, Doctor, and Attendants.

Macb. Bring me no more reports; let them
fly all:
Till Birnam wood remove to Dunsinane,
I cannot taint with fear. What's the boy
Malcolm?
Was he not born of woman? The spirits
that know
All mortal consequences have pronounced me
thus:
'Fear not, Macbeth; no man that's born of
woman
Shall e'er have power upon thee.' Then fly,
false thanes,
And mingle with the English epicures:
The mind I sway by and the heart I bear
Shall never sag with doubt nor shake with fear.

Enter a Servant.

The devil damn thee black, thou cream-faced
loon! 11
Where got'st thou that goose look?
Serv. There is ten thousand—

Macb.

Geese, villain?

Serv.

Soldiers, sir.

Macb. Go, prick thy face, and over-red
thy fear,

Thou lily-liver'd boy: What soldiers, patch?
Death of thy soul! those linen cheeks of thine
Are counsellors to fear. What soldiers, whey-
face?

Serv. The English force, so please you.

Macb. Take thy face hence. [*Exit Servant.*]

Seyton!—I am sick at heart,
When I behold—Seyton, I say!—This push
Will cheer me ever, or disseat me now.

I have lived long enough: my way of life
Is fall'n into the sear, the yellow leaf;
And that which should accompany old age,
As honour, love, obedience, troops of friends,
I must not look to have; but, in their stead,
Curses, not loud but deep, mouth-honour,
breath,

Which the poor heart would fain deny, and
dare not.

Seyton!

Enter SEYTON.

Sey. What is your gracious pleasure?

Macb. What news more? 30

Sey. All is confirm'd, my lord, which was
reported.

Macb. I'll fight till from my bones my
flesh be hack'd.

Give me my armour.

Sey. 'Tis not needed yet.

Macb. I'll put it on.
Send out moe horses; skirr the country round;
Hang those that talk of fear. Give me mine
armour.

How does your patient, doctor?

Doct. Not so sick, my lord,
As she is troubled with thick-coming fancies,
That keep her from her rest.

Macb. Cure her of that.
Canst thou not minister to a mind diseased, 40
Pluck from the memory a rooted sorrow,
Raze out the written troubles of the brain
And with some sweet oblivious antidote
Cleanse the stuff'd bosom of that perilous stuff
Which weighs upon the heart?

Doct. Therein the patient
Must minister to himself.

Macb. Throw physic to the dogs; I'll
none of it.

Come, put mine armour on; give me my staff.
Seyton, send out. Doctor, the thanes fly
from me.

Come, sir, dispatch. If thou couldst, doctor, 50
cast

The water of my land, find her disease,

And purge it to a sound and pristine health,
I would applaud thee to the very echo,
That should applaud again.—Pull't off, I
say.—

What rhubarb, senna, or what purgative drug,
Would scour these English hence? Hear'st
thou of them?

Doct. Ay, my good lord; your royal
preparation

Makes us hear something.

Macb. Bring it after me.
I will not be afraid of death and bane,
Till Birnam forest come to Dunsinane. 60

Doct. [*Aside*] Were I from Dunsinane
away and clear,

Profit again should hardly draw me here.

[*Exeunt.*]

SCENE IV. Country near Birnam wood.

*Drum and colours. Enter MALCOLM, old
SIWARD and his Son, MACDUFF, MEN-
TEITH, CAITHNESS, ANGUS, LENNOX,
ROSS, and Soldiers, marching.*

Mal. Cousins, I hope the days are near
at hand

That chambers will be safe.

Ment. We doubt it nothing.

Siw. What wood is this before us?

Ment. The wood of Birnam.

Mal. Let every soldier hew him down a
bough

And bear't before him: thereby shall we
shadow

The numbers of our host and make discovery:
Err in report of us.

Soldiers. It shall be done.

Siw. We learn no other but the confident
tyrant

Keeps still in Dunsinane, and will endure
Our setting down before't.

Mal. 'Tis his main hope: 10
For where there is advantage to be given,
Both more and less have given him the revolt,
And none serve with him but constrained
things

Whose hearts are absent too.

Macd. Let our just censures
Attend the true event, and put we on
Industrious soldiership.

Siw. The time approaches
That will with due decision make us know
What we shall say we have and what we owe.
Thoughts speculative their unsure hopes re-
late,

But certain issue strokes must arbitrate: 20
Towards which advance the war.

[*Exeunt, marching.*]

SCENE V. Dunsinane. Within the castle.

*Enter MACBETH, SEYTON, and Soldiers, with
drum and colours.*

Macb. Hang out our banners on the out-
ward walls;

The cry is still 'They come:' our castle's
strength

Will laugh a siege to scorn: here let them lie
Till famine and the ague eat them up:

Were they not forced with those that should
be ours,

We might have met them dareful, beard to
beard,

And beat them backward home.

[*A cry of women within.*]

What is that noise?

Sey. It is the cry of women, my good
lord.

Macb. I have almost forgot the taste of
fears: 10

The time has been, my senses would have
cool'd

To hear a night-shriek; and my fell of hair
Would at a dismal treatise rouse and stir
As life were in't: I have supp'd full with
horrors;

Direness, familiar to my slaughterous thoughts,
Cannot once start me.

Re-enter SEYTON.

Wherefore was that cry?

Sey. The queen, my lord, is dead.

Macb. She should have died hereafter;
There would have been a time for such a word.
To-morrow, and to-morrow, and to-morrow,
Creeps in this petty pace from day to day 20
To the last syllable of recorded time,
And all our yesterdays have lighted fools
The way to dusty death. Out, out, brief candle!
Life's but a walking shadow, a poor player
That struts and frets his hour upon the stage
And then is heard no more: it is a tale
Told by an idiot, full of sound and fury,
Signifying nothing.

Enter a Messenger.

Thou comest to use thy tongue; thy story
quickly.

Mess. Gracious my lord, 30
I should report that which I saw I saw,
But know not how to do it.

Macb. Well, say, sir.

Mess. As I did stand my watch upon the
hill,

I look'd toward Birnam, and anon, methought,
The wood began to move.

Macb. Liar and slave!

Mess. Let me endure your wrath, if 't be not so:

Within this three mile may you see it coming; I say, a moving grove.

Macb. If thou speak'st false, Upon the next tree shalt thou hang alive, Till famine cling thee: if thy speech be sooth, I care not if thou dost for me as much. 41 I pull in resolution, and begin

To doubt the equivocation of the fiend That lies like truth: 'Fear not, till Birnam wood

Do come to Dunsinane:' and now a wood Comes toward Dunsinane. Arm, arm, and out! If this which he avouches does appear, There is nor flying hence nor tarrying here. I 'gin to be aweary of the sun,

And wish the estate o' the world were now undone. 50

Ring the alarum-bell! Blow, wind! come, wrack!

At least we 'll die with harness on our back. [*Exeunt.*]

SCENE VI. *Dunsinane. Before the castle.*

Drum and colours. Enter MALCOLM, old SIWARD, MACDUFF, and their Army, with boughs.

Mal. Now near enough: your leavy screens throw down, And show like those you are. You, worthy uncle,

Shall, with my cousin, your right-noble son, Lead our first battle: worthy Macduff and we Shall take upon 's what else remains to do, According to our order.

Siw. Fare you well. Do we but find the tyrant's power to-night, Let us be beaten, if we cannot fight.

Macd. Make all our trumpets speak; give them all breath, 9

Those clamorous harbingers of blood and death. [*Exeunt.*]

SCENE VII. *Another part of the field.*

Alarums. Enter MACBETH.

Macb. They have tied me to a stake; I cannot fly, But, bear-like, I must fight the course. What's he

That was not born of woman? Such a one Am I to fear, or none.

Enter young SIWARD.

Yo. Siw. What is thy name?

Macb. Thou 'lt be afraid to hear it.

Yo. Siw. No; though thou call'st thyself a hotter name

Than any is in hell.

Macb. My name's Macbeth.

Yo. Siw. The devil himself could not pronounce a title

More hateful to mine ear.

Macb. No, nor more fearful.

Yo. Siw. Thou liest, abhorred tyrant; with my sword 10

I 'll prove the lie thou speak'st.

[*They fight and young Siward is slain.*]

Macb. Thou wast born of woman. But swords I smile at, weapons laugh to scorn, Brandish'd by man that's of a woman born.

[*Exit.*]

Alarums. Enter MACDUFF.

Macd. That way the noise is. Tyrant, show thy face!

If thou be'st slain and with no stroke of mine, My wife and children's ghosts will haunt me still.

I cannot strike at wretched kerns, whose arms Are hired to bear their staves: either thou, Macbeth,

Or else my sword with an unbatter'd edge I sheathe again undeeded. There thou shouldst be; 20

By this great clatter, one of the greatest note Seems bruited. Let me find him, fortune! And more I beg not. [*Exit. Alarums.*]

Enter MALCOLM and old SIWARD.

Siw. This way, my lord; the castle's gently render'd:

The tyrant's people on both sides do fight; The noble thanes do bravely in the war, The day almost itself professes yours, And little is to do.

Mal. We have met with foes That strike beside us.

Siw. Enter, sir, the castle. 29 [*Exeunt. Alarums.*]

SCENE VIII. *Another part of the field,*

Enter MACBETH.

Macb. Why should I play the Roman fool, and die

On mine own sword? whiles I see lives, the gashes

Do better upon them.

Enter MACDUFF.

Macd. Turn, hell-hound, turn!

Macb. Of all men else I have avoided thee:

But get thee back; my soul is too much charged With blood of thine already.

Macd. I have no words:

My voice is in my sword: thou bloodier villain
Than terms can give thee out! [*They fight.*]

Macb. Thou lovest labour:
As easy mayst thou the intrenchant air
With thy keen sword impress as make me
bleed: 10

Let fall thy blade on vulnerable crests;
I bear a charmed life, which must not yield
To one of woman born.

Macd. Despair thy charm;
And let the angel whom thou still hast served
Tell thee, Macduff was from his mother's womb
Untimely ripp'd.

Macb. Accursed be that tongue that tells
me so,

For it hath cow'd my better part of man!
And be these juggling fiends no more believed,
That palter with us in a double sense; 20
That keep the word of promise to our ear,
And break it to our hope. I'll not fight with
thee.

Macd. Then yield thee, coward,
And live to be the show and gaze o' the time:
We'll have thee, as our rarer monsters are,
Painted upon a pole, and underwrit,
'Here may you see the tyrant.'

Macb. I will not yield,
To kiss the ground before young Malcolm's
feet,

And to be baited with the rabble's curse. 29
Though Birnam wood be come to Dunsinane,
And thou opposed, being of no woman born,
Yet I will try the last. Before my body

I throw my warlike shield. Lay on, Macduff,
And damn'd be him that first cries 'Hold,
enough!' [*Exeunt, fighting. Alarums.*]

*Retreat. Flourish. Enter, with drum and
colours, MALCOLM, old SIWARD, ROSS, the
other Thanes, and Soldiers.*

Mal. I would the friends we miss were
safe arrived.

Siw. Some must go off: and yet, by these
I see,

So great a day as this is cheaply bought.

Mal. Macduff is missing, and your noble
son.

Ross. Your son, my lord, has paid a sol-
dier's debt:

He only lived but till he was a man; 40
The which no sooner had his prowess confirm'd
In the unshrinking station where he fought,
But like a man he died.

Siw. Then he is dead?

Ross. Ay, and brought off the field: your
cause of sorrow

Must not be measured by his worth, for then
It hath no end.

Siw. Had he his hurts before?

Ross. Ay, on the front.

Siw. Why then, God's soldier be he!
Had I as many sons as I have hairs,
I would not wish them to a fairer death:
And so, his knell is knoll'd.

Mal. He's worth more sorrow, 50
And that I'll spend for him.

Siw. He's worth no more:
They say he parted well, and paid his score:
And so, God be with him! Here comes newer
comfort.

Re-enter MACDUFF, with MACBETH'S head.

Macd. Hail, king! for so thou art: be-
hold, where stands

The usurper's cursed head: the time is free:
I see thee compass'd with thy kingdom's pearl,
That speak my salutation in their minds;
Whose voices I desire aloud with mine:
Hail, King of Scotland!

All. Hail, King of Scotland! [*Flourish.*]

Mal. We shall not spend a large expense
of time 60

Before we reckon with your several loves,
And make us even with you. My thanes and
kinsmen,

Henceforth be earls, the first that ever Scotland
In such an honour named. What's more to do,
Which would be planted newly with the time,
As calling home our exiled friends abroad
That fled the snares of watchful tyranny;
Producing forth the cruel ministers

Of this dead butcher and his fiend-like queen,
Who, as 'tis thought, by self and violent hands
Took off her life; this, and what needful else
That calls upon us, by the grace of Grace,
We will perform in measure, time and place:
So, thanks to all at once and to each one,
Whom we invite to see us crown'd at Scone.

[*Flourish. Exeunt.*]