

Henry the fourth. Popules. Then art thou damnd for keeping thy word with the Prince. Else he had bin damnd for cosening the divell, Poy. But my lads, my lads, to morrow morning, by foure a clocke early at Gads hill, there are pilgrims going to Canturbury with 17th offerings, and traders riding to London with fat purses. I haue vizards for you all; you have horses for your selves. Gadshill lies to night in Rochester, I haue bespoke supper to morrow night in Eastcheape: we may do it as secure as sleep: if you wil go, I will stuffe your purses full of crownes: if you wil not, tarie at home and be hangd. Fall. Heare ye Yedward, if I sarrie at home and go not, Ile hang you for going. 201 Po. You will chops. Fall. Hal, wile thou make one? Prm. Who, Irob? I a theefe? not I by my faith. Fals. Ther sneither honestie, manhood, nor good fellowship in thee, nor thou camest not of the bloud royall, if thou darest not and for ten shillings. Prin. Wellthen, once in my daies I'le be a madcap. Falf. Why that's well faid. Frin. Well, come what will, I'le tarrie at home. Fals. By the Lord I'le be a traitour then, when thou art King. Prince. I care not. Po. Sir Iohn, I prethee leave the Prince & me alone, I wil lay him downe such reasons for this adventure, that he shall go. Fals. Well, God gine thee the spirit of perswasion, and him the eares of profiting, that what thou speakest, may moue, and what he hears, may be beleeued, that the true prince may (for recreation lake) proue a false theese, for the poore abuses of the time want countenance: farewell, you shall finde me in Eastcheape. Prin. Farewell the latter spring, farewell Alhollowne summer. Poy. Now my good sweete hony Lord, ride with vs to more row, I haue a least to execute, that I cannot mannage alone. Fal-Ralffe, Haruey, Rossill, and Gadshill shall rob those menthat we haucalready way-laid, your selfe & I will not be there: and when they have the bootie, if you and I do not rob them, cut this head from my thoulders. Prince.

Henry the fourth.

Prin. How shall we part with them in setting forth?

The Why, we will fet forth before or after them, and appoint them a place of meeting, wherein it is at our pleasure to faile, and then will they aduenture upon the exploit themselves, which the shall have no sooner atchieued, but weele set upon them.

Prin. Yea, but t'is like that they will know vs by our horses, bour habits, and by enery other appointment to be our selues.

our vizards we will change after we leave them: and firra, I have cases of buckrom for the nonce, to immaske our noted outward garments.

Prin. Yea, but I doubt they will be too hard for vs.

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Po. Well, for two of them, I know them to be as true bred cownards as ever turnd backe: and for the third, if he fight longer them he sees reason, He forsweare armes. The vertue of this least will be the incomprehensible lies, that this same fat rogue will tell when we excete at supper, how thirtie at least he fought with what wards, what blowes, what extremities he indured, and in the reproofe of this lyes the least.

Prince Well, lle go with thee, prouide vs all things necessaring and meete me to morrow night in Eastcheape, there lle supper farewell.

Po. Farewellmy Lord. Exit Poines.

Prin. I know you all, and will a while vphold
The wnyokt humour of your idlenes,
Yet herein will I imitate the Sunne,
Who doth permit the base contagious clouds
To smother vp his beautie from the world,
That when he please againe to be himselse,
Being wanted he may be more wondred at
By breaking through the soule and vgly miss
Of vapours that did seeme to strangle him.
If all the yeere were playing holy-daies,
To sport would be as tedious as to worke;
But when they seldome come, they wisht for come,
And nothing pleaseth but rare accidents:
So when this loose behaviour I throw off,
And pay the debt I never promised,

By how much better then my word I am,

By to much shall I falsifie mens hopes,

And like bright mettall on a sullen ground,

My reformation glittering o're my fault,

Shall shew more goodly, and attract more eyes

Then that which hath no foile to set it off.

Ile so offend, to make offence a skill,

Redeeming tune when men thinke least I will.

Enter the King, Northumberland, Worcester, Liotspur.
Sir Walter Blunt, with others.

Vnapt to stir at these indignities,
And you have found me, for accordingly
You tread upon my patience, but be sure
I will from henceforth rather be my selfe
Mightie, and to be feard, then my condition,
Which hath bene smooth as oyle, soft as yong downe,
And therefore lost that title of respect,
Which the proud soulene're payes but to the proud.

Wor. Our house (my soueraigne Liege) little deserues
The scourge of greatnesse to be vsed on it,
And that same greatnesse too, which our owne hands
Haue holpe to make so portly. North, My Lord,

Ring. Worcester, get thee gone, for I do see
Danger, and disobedience in thine eie:
O sir, your presence is too bold and peremptorie,
And Maiestie might neuer yet endure
The moodie frontier of a seruant brow,
You have good leave to leave vs: when we neede
Your vse and councell, we shall send for you.

Exit Wor.
You were about to speake.

North. Yea, my good Lord.
Those prisoners in your highnes name demanded,
Which Harry Percy heere at Holmedon tooke,
Were, as he saies, not with such strength denied
As is deliuered to your Maiestie.
Either enuie therefore, or misprisson,
Is guiltie of this fault, and not my sonne.

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Henrie the fourth.

Hotsp. My Liege, I did deny no prisoners, But I remember when the fight was done, When I was drie with rage, and extreame toyle, Breathlesse and faint, leaning vpon my sword, Came there a certaine Lord, neate and trimly drest, Fresh as a bridegroome, and his chin new reapt; Shewd like a stubble land at haruest home: He was perfumed like a Milliner, And twixt his finger and his thumbe he held A pouncet boxe, which euer and anon He gaue his nose, and took't away againe: Who there-with angry, when it next came there: Tooke it in snuffe, and still he smilde and talkt: And as the souldiours bore dead bodies by, He cald them vntaught knaues, vnmanerly, To bring a souenly enhandsome coarse Betwixt the wind and his nobilitie. With many holy-day and ladie tearmes He questioned me: among the rest demanded My prisoners in your Maiesties behalfe. I then, all smarting with my wounds being cold, To be so pestred with a Popingay, Out of my griefe and my impatience Answered neglectingly, I know not what, He should, or he should not, for he made me mad To see him thine so briske, and sinell so sweete, And talke so like a waiting gentlewoman, Of guns, and drums, and wounds, God faue the marke: And telling me the soueraignst thing on earth, Was Parmacitie, for an inward bruife, Aud that it was great pitie, so it was, This villanous saltpeeter should be digd Out of the bowels of the harmeles earth, Which many a good tall fellow had destroyed So cowardly: and but for these vile guns, He would himselfe haue bene a souldiour. This balde uniounted chat of his (my Lord) I answered indirectly (as I said)

And I bescech you, let not this report Come currant for an accusation, Betwixt my loue and your high Maiestie. Blunt. The circumstance considered, good my Lord, What e're Harry Percie then had said To such a person, and in such a place, At such a time, with all the rest retold, May reasonably die, and neuer rise To do him wrong, or any way impeach What then he said, so he vnsay it now. King Why yet he doth deny his prisoners, But with prouiso and exception, That we at our owne charge shall ransome straight His brother in law, the foolish Mortimer, VVho in my soule hath wilfully betraid The lives of those, that he did lead to fight Against the great Magitian, damned Glendower, Whose daughter, as we heare, the Earle of March Hath lately maried. Shall our coffers then Be emptied to redeeme a traitour home? Shall we buy treason? and indent with feares, When they have lost and forfeited themselves? No, on the barren mountaine let him starue: For I shall neuer hold that man my friend, Whose tongue shall aske me for one penny cost, To ransome home revolted Mortimer. Hot. Revolted Mortimer? He neuer did fall off, my soueraigne Liege, But by the chance of war: to proue that true, Needes no more but one tongue: for all those wounds, Those mouthed wounds which valiantly he tooke, VVhen on the gentle Seuerns siedgie banke, In single opposition hand to hand, He did confound the best part of an houre, In changing hardiment with great Glendower. Three times they breathd and three times did they drinke Vpon agreement of swift Seuerns floud, VVho then affrighted with their bloudie lookes,

Ran fearefully among the trembling reedes, And hid his crispe-head in the hollow banke, Bloud stained with these valiant combatants, Neuer did bare and rotten policy Colour her working with such deadly wounds, Norneuer could the noble Mortimer Receiue so many, and all willingly: Then let not him be slandered with revolt.

King. Thou doest bely him Percy, thou doest bely him, He neuer did encounter with Glendower: I tell thee he durst as well have met the diuell alone, As Owen Glendower for an enemie. Art thou not asham'd? but sirra, henceforth Let me not heare you speake of Mortimer: Send me your prisoners with the speediest meanes, Or you shall heare in such a kinde from me As will displease you. My Lord Northumberland, We licence your departure with your sonne, Send vs your prisoners, or you will heare of it. Exit King.

Hot. And if the diuell come and rore for them, I will not send them: I will after straight And tell him so, for I will ease my heart, Albeit I make a hazard of my head.

North. What? drunke with choler? stay and pause a while. Here comes your Vncle. Enter Wor.

Hot. Speake of Mortimer. Zounds I will speake of him: and let my soule Want mercie, if I do not ioyne with him: Yea, on his part Ile emptie all these veines, And shead my deare bloud, drop by drop in the dust, But I will lift the downe trod Mortimer As high in the ayre as this vnthankfull King, As this ingrate and cankred Bullingbrooke.

North. Brother, the King hath made your nephew mad, Wor. Who strooke this heate vp after I was gone? Hot. He will forsooth haue all my prisoners, And when I vrg'd the ransome once againe Of my wives brother, then his cheeke lookt pale,

Henry the fourth.

And on my face he turn'd an eie of death, Trembling euen at the name of Mortimer. Wor. I cannot blame him, was not he proclaimd

By Richard that dead is, the next of bloud? North. He was, I heard the proclamation:

And then it was, when the vnhappy King, (Whose wrongs in vs God pardon) did set forth

Vpon his Irish expedition;

From whence he intercepted, did returne To be depos'd, and shortly murdered.

Wor. And for whose death, we in the worlds wide mouth

Liuescandaliz'd and fouly spoken off.

Hot. But soft I pray you, did King Richard then Proclaime my brother Mortimer

Heire to the crownez

North. He did, my selfe did heare it. Hot. Nay, then I cannot blame his coosen King, That wisht him on the barren mountaines starue. But shall it be that you that set the crowne Vpon the head of this forgetfull man, And for his sake weare the detested blot Of murtherous subornation? shall it be That you a world of curses vndergo, Being the agents, or basesecond meanes, The cordes, the ladder, or the hangman rather? O pardon me, that I descend so low, To shew the line and the pred cament, Wherein you range vnder this subtil King. Shall it for shame be spoken in these daies Or fill vp chronicles in time to come, That men of your nobilitie and power Did gage them both in an vniust behalfe, (As both of you God pardonit, haue done) To put downe Richard that sweete louely Rose, And plant this thorne, this canker Bullingbrooke?

And shall it in more shame be further spoken,

That you are fool'd, discarded, and shooke off

By him, for whom these shames ye underwent?

No, yet time serues, wherein you may redeeme
Your banisht honors, and restore your selves,
Into the good thoughts of the world againe:
Revenge the ieering and disdaind contempt
Of this proud King, who studies day and night
To answere all the debt he owes to you,
Even with the bloudie payment of your deaths:

Therefore I say.

Wor. Peace coosin, say no more.

And now I will vnclaspe a secret booke,
And to your quicke conceiuing discontents
Ile read you matter deepe and dangerous,
As full of perill and aduenterous spirit,
As to o'rewalke a Current roring lowd,
On the vnstedfast footing of a speare.

Hot. If he fall in, good-night, or linke or lwim, Send danger from the East vnto the West, So honor crosse it, from the North to South, And let them grapple: O the bloud more stirs

To rowse a Lyon, than to start a Hare.

North. Imagination of some great exploit

Drives him beyond the bounds of patience.

By heaven me thinks it were an easie leape,

To plucke bright honor from the pale-fac'd Moone,

Or dive into the bottome of the deepe,

Where fadome line could never touch the ground,

And plucke vp drowned honour by the locks,

So he that doth redeeme her thence might weare

Without corrivall all her dignities:

But out vpon this halfe fac't fellowship.

Wor. He apprehends a world of figures heere,
But not the forme of what he should attend,
Good coofin give me audience for a while.

Hot. I cry you mercy,

Wor. Thosesame noble Scots that are your prisoners.

Hot. Ilekeepe themalls

By God he shall not have a Scot of them, No, if a Scot would saue his soule, he shall not Henry the fourth.

He keepe them by this hand.

And lend no eare vnto my purpoles:

Those prisoners you shall keepe.
Hot. Nay, I will: thats flat:

He said he would not ransome Mortimer,
Forbad my tongue to speake of Mortimer:
But I will finde him when he lies a sleepe,
And in his eare He hollo Mortimer:
Nay, He have a starling shalbe taught to speake

Nothing but Mortimer, and give it him,

Tokeepe his anger still in motion.
Wor. Heare you coolen a word.

Hot. All studies here I solemnly desie,
Saue how to gall and punch this Bullingbrooke,
And that same sword and buckler Prince of Wales,
But that I thinke his father loues him not,

And would be glad he met with some mischance:

I would have him poisoned with a pot of Ale.

Wor. Farewell kinsman, He talke to you When you are better tempered to attend.

Nor. Why what a waspe-tongue and impatient soole.

Art thou, to breake into this womans moode,

Tying thine eare to no tongue but thine owne?

Hot. Why looke you, I am which and scourg'd with rods, Neiled, and stung with pismires, when I heare

Of this vile policition Bulling rooke.

In Richards time, what do you call the place?

A place where it is in Gloce Carfbire:

A plague vpon it, it is in Glocestershire;
T was where the mad-cap Duke his vncle kept,
His vncle Yorke, where I first bowed my knee
Vnto this King of smiles, this Bullingbrooke:

Zblood, when you and he came backe from Rauenspurgh.

Why what a candic deale of curtefie,
This fawning greyhound then did proffer me,
Looke when this infant fortune came to age,
And gentle Harry Percy, and kinde coofen:

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O, the diuell take such cooseners, God sorgiue me, Good vncle tell your tale, I haue done.

Wor: Nay, if you have not, to it againe,

We will stay your leisure.

Hot: I haue done yfaith.

Wer: Then once more to your Scottish prisoners,
Deliver them vp, without their ransome strait,
And make the Donglas sonne your onely meane
For powers in Scotland, which for divers reasons
Which I shall send you written be assured
Will easely be granted you, my lord.
Your sonne in Scotland being thus employed,
Shall secretly into the bosome creepe
Of that same noble Prelate welbelu'd,
The Archbishop.

Wor: True, who beares hard
His brothers death at Bristow the lord Scroope:
I speake not this in estimation,
As what I thinke might be, but what I know
Is ruminated, plotted, and set downe,
And onely stayes but to behold the face
Of that occasion that shall bring it on.

Hotspurre Ismellit. V pon my life it will doe well.

Nor: Before the game is afoot, thou still letst slip.

Hotspurre Why it cannot choose but be anoble plot,

And then the power of Scotland and of Yorke,

To ioyne with Mortimer, ha.

Wor. And so they shall.

Hotspurre In faith it is exceedingly well aimd.

Wor: And tis no little reason bids vs speede,
To saue our heads, by raising of a head:
For, beare our selues as even as we can,
The king will alwayes thinke him in our debt,
And thinke we thinke our selves vnsatisfide,
Till he hath found a time to pay vs home.
And see already, how he doth beginne
To make vs strangers to his lookes of love.

Henry the fourth.

Hot. He does, he does, weele be reueng'd on him.

Wor. Coosin, farewell. No further go in this,

Then I by letters shall direct your course

When time is ripe, which will be suddenly:

Ile steale to Glendower, and loe, Mortimer,

Where you and Douglas, and our powers at once,

As I will fashion it, shall happily meete,

To be are our fortunes in our owne strong armes,

Which now we hold at much vncertaintie.

Nor. Farewell good brother, we shall thriue, I trust.

Hot. Vncle adieu: O let the houres be short,

Tillsfields, and Blowes, and grones applaud our sport, Exeunt.

Enter a Carrier with a lanterne in his hand.

I Car. Heigh ho. An it be not soure by the day, lle be hangd, Charles waine is ouer the new chimney, and yet our horse not packt. What Ostler.

Oft. Anon, anon.

1 Car. I prethee Tom, beat cuts saddle, put a sew slocks in the point, poore iade is wrung in the withers, out of all cesse.

Enter another Carrier.

2 Car. Pease and beanes are as danke here as a dog, and that is the next way to give poore iades the bots: this house is turned upside downe since Robin Ostler died.

I Car. Poorefellow neuer ioyed since the price of oates rose,

it was the death of him.

2 Car. I thinke this be the most villanous house in all London roade for sleas, I am stung like a tench.

1 Car. Like a tench? by the masse there is nere a king christen could be better bit, then I have bene since the first cocke.

2 Car. Why, they will allow vs nere a jordane, and then we leake in your chimney, and your chamber-lie breedes fleas like a loach.

I Car. What Offler, come away, and be hangel, come away.

2 Car. I haue a gammon of Bacon, and two razes of ginger,

to be delivered as far as Charing Crosse.

ued: what Ostler? a plague on thee, hast thou neuer an eye in thy head? canst not heare, and t were not as good deede as drinke to

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breake

breake the pate on thee, I am a verie villaine, come & behangd, hast no faith in thee?

Enter Gads-hill.

Gadshill, Good morrow Carriers, what's a clocke?

Car. I thinke it be two a clocke.

Gad. I prethee lend me thy lanterne, to se my gelding in the stable.

I Car. Nay by God soft, Iknow a tricke worth two of that I faith.

Gad. I pretheelend me thine.

2 Car. I, when, canst tell? lend me thy lanterne (quoth he) marry He see the hange first.

Gad. Sirra Carrier, what time doe you meane to cometo

London?

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2 Car. Time enough to go to bed with a candle, I warrant thee. Come neighbour Mugs, wee'le call vp the Gentlemen, they will along with company, for they have great charge.

Enter Chamberlaine. Exeunt.

Gad. What ho: Chamberlaine.

Cham. Athand quoth picke purse.

Gad. That's even as faire, as at hand quoth the Chamberlainer for thou variest no more from picking of purses, then giving direction, doth from labouring: thou layest the plot how.

cham. Good morrow master Gadshill, it holds currant that told you yester night, there's a Franckelin in the wilde of Kent, hath brought three hundred markes with him in gold, I heard him tell it to one of his company last night at supper, a kinde of Auditor, one that hath abundance of charge too, God knowes what, they are vp already, and call for egges and butter, they will away presently.

Gad. Sirra, if they meet not with Saint Nicholas clarks, Ilegine

thee this necke.

Cham. No, Ilenone of it, I pray thee keepe that for the hangman, for I know thou worshipest Saint Nicholas, as truly as a man of falshood may.

Gs. What talkest thouse me of the hangman? if I hang, le make a fat paire of gallowes: for if I hang, old fir John hangs with me, and thou knowest hee is no starueling: tut, there are other

Troians that thou dream'st not of, the which for sport sake are content to do the profession, some grace, that would (if matters should be look tinto) for their owne credit sake make all whole. I am ioyned with no footeland rakers, no long-staffe sixpennie strikers, none of these mad mustachio purple hewed maltworms, but with nobilitie, and tranquillity, Burgomasters & great Oneyers, such as can hold in such as will strike sooner then speake, and speake sooner then drinke, and drinke sooner then pray, and yet (Zounds) I lie, for they pray continually to their saint the Common-wealth, or rather not pray to her, but pray on her, for they ride up and downe on her, and make her their bootes.

Cham. What, the Common wealth their bootes? will she hold

out water in foule way?

Gad. She will, she will, instice hath liquord her: we steale as in a castle cocksure: we have the receite of Ferneseede, wee walke invisible.

Cham. Nay, by my faith, I thinke you are more beholding to

the night then to Ferneseed, for your walking inuisible.

Gad. Giue me thy hand, thou shalt haue a share in our purchase as I am a true man.

Cham. Nay, rather let me haue it, as you are a false theefe.

Gad. Go to, homo is a common name to all men: bid the ostler bring my gelding out of the stable, farewell, ye muddy knaue.

Poin. Come shelter, shelter, I haue remooued Falstalffs horse, and he frets like a gum'd Veluet.

Prin. Stand close.

Enter Falstaiffe.

Fals. Poynes. Poynes, and be hanged Poynes.

Prince. Peace ye fat kidneyd rascall, what a brawling doest thou keepe?

Fals. What Poynes, Hal?

Prin. He is walkt vp to the top of the hill, Ile go seeke him.

hath removed my horse, and tyed him I know not where, if I travell but soure soote by the squire surther a soote, I shall breake my winde. Well, I doubt not but to die a faire death for all this, if I scape hanging for killing that rogue, I have forsworne his company hourely any time this xxij, yeere, and y t lam be-

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witcht

witcht with the rogues company. If the rascall haue not giuen me medicines to make me loue him, Ile be handg. It could not be else, I haue drunke medicines, Poynes, Hal, aplague vpon you both. Bardoll, Peto, Ile starue e're lle rob a foote further, and t'were not as, good a deede as drinke to turne true man, and to leaue these rogues; I am the veriest varlet that euer chewed with a tooth: eight yeardes of vneuen ground is threescore and ten miles afoote with me : and the stonie hearted villaines knowe it well inough, a plague vpon it when theeues cannot bee true one to

They whiftle.

Whew, a plague vpon you all, giue me my horse, your ogues, giue me my horse and be hangd.

Prince Peace ye fat guts, lie down, lay thine eare close to the

ground, and list if thou can heare the tread of Trauellers.

Fals. Haue you any leavers to lift me vp againe being downe? zbloudile not beare mine owne flesh so farre afoste againe, for all the coine in thy fathers Exchequer: what a plague meane ye to colt me thus?

Prince Thou liest, thou art not colted, thou art vacolted.

Fais. I prethee good prince Hal, helpe me to my horse, good kings sonne.

Prince Outyourogue, shall be your Ostler

Fall. Go hang thy selse in thine owne heire apparant garters: if I be tane, Ile peach for this: and I have not Ballads made on all, and fung to filthy tunes, let a cup of facke be my poison: when jeast is so forward, and afoote too, I hate it,

Enter Gaaf-hill. Fall. So I do against my will. Gad. Stand.

Poines O tis oursetter, I know his voyce: Bardol what newes?

Bar: Case yee, case yee, on with your vizardes, theres money of the Kings comming downe the hill, tis going to the kings exchequer.

Fals. You lie you rogue, tis going to the kings Tauerne.

Gad: Theresenough to make vs all.

Fals: To behanged.

another.

Prince You foure shall front them in the narrow lane: Ned Poines and I will walke lower: if they scape from your encounter, then they light on vs.

Pete: But how many be they of them?

Gad: Some eight, or ten.

Fals: Zounds, will they not rob vs?

Prince What!a eoward sir Iohn Pawnch?

Fals: Indeede I am not Iohn of Gant your grandfather, but yet no coward, Hal.

Prince Well, weele leaue that to the proofe.

Poines Sirra lacke, thy horse standes behinde the hedge, when thou needst him, there thou shalt find him: farewell, & stand fast.

Fals. Now cannot I strike him if I should be hangd.

Prince Ned, where are our disguises? Poines Here hard by, stand close.

Fals: Now my maisters, happy man be his dole, say I, euery

Enter the Trauelers man to his businesse.

Trauel: Come neighbor, the boy shall leade our horses down the hill, weele walke afoote a while, and ease our legges.

Trauel. Iesus blesse vs. Theeues Stand.

Fals. Strike, downe with them, cut the villaines throates: a horeson caterpillers! Bacon-fed knaues, they hate vs youth, downe with them, fleece them.

Trauel O, we are vndone, both we and ours, for euer.

Fall: Hang ye gorbellied knaues, are ye vndone? no ye fatte chuffes, I would your store were here: on bacons, on, what yee knaues? young men must liue, you are grand jurers, are yee? weele jure yee yfaith. Exeunt

Here they rob them, and binde them: Enter the Prince and Poines.

Prince The theeues have bound the true men: now coulde thou and I rob the theeues, and go merrily to London, it woulde be argument for a weeke, laughter for a moneth, and a good jest for cuer.

Poines Stand close, I heare them comming. Enter the theenes againe.

Fals: Come my masters, let vs share, and then to horse before day: and the Prince and Poines be not twoo arrand cowardes, theres no equitie stirring, theres no more valour in that Poines; than in a wilde ducke.

Prince

Staiffe after a blow or two runs away too, leauing the bootie behinde them.

Prin. Got with much ease. Now me rily to horse: the theeuer are scattered, and possess with feare so strongly, that they dare not meete each other, each takes his fellow for an officer, away good Ned, Falstalsfe sweares to death, and lards the leane earth as hee walkes along: wer't not for laughing I should pittie him.

Poines How the rogue roard.

Enter Hotspur solus, reading a letter.

But for mine owne part my Lord, I could be well contented to bee

there, in respect of the lone I beare your house.

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He could be contented, why is he not then? in the respect of the loue he beares our house: he shewes in this, he loues his owne barne better then he loues our house. Let me see some more.

The purpose you undertake is dangerous.

Why that's certaine, t'is dangerous to take a cold, to sleepe to drinke, but I tell you (my Lord foole) out of this nettle danger, we plucke this flower safetie.

The purpose you undertake is dangerous, the friends you have named uncertaine, the time it selfe unsorted, and your whole plot too light, for

the counterpoyse of so great an opposition,

Say you so: say you so. I say vnto you againe, you are a shallow cowardly hinde, and you lye: what a lacke-braine is this? by the Lord our plot is a good plot, as euer was laid, our friends true and constant: a good plot, good friends, & ful of expectation an excellent plot, very good friends; what a frostie spirited rogueis this?why, my Lord of Yorke commends the plot, and the generall course of the Action. Zoundes and I were now by this rascall, I could braine him with his Ladies fanne. Is there not my father, my vncle, and my selfe, Lorde Edmund Mortinner, my Lord of Yorke, and Owen Glendower? is there not besides the Dowglas? haue I not al their letters to meete me in armes by the ninth of the next month, and are they not some of them set forward already? what a pagan rascall is this, and infidel? Ha,you shall see now in very sincerity of feare and cold heart, will hee to the King, and lay open all our proceedings. O, I could divide

Henry the fourth.

my selfe, & go to buffets, for mooning such a dish of skim milke with so honourable an action. Hang him, let him tell the king, we are prepared: I will set forward to night. Enter his Lady. How now Kate, I must leaue you within these two houres?

Lady O my good Lord, why are you thus alone? For what offence haue I this fortnight bin A banisht woman from my Harries bed? Tell me, sweet Lord, what is't that takes from thee Thy stomake, pleasure, and thy golden sleepe? Why dost thou bend thine eyes vpon the earth? And start so often when thou sitst alone? Why hast thou lost the fresh bloud in thy cheekes? And given my treasures and my rights of thee To thicke eyde musing, and curst melancholy? In thy faint slumbers, I by thee have watcht, And heard thee murmure tales of yron warres, Speake tearmes of mannage to thy bounding steede, Cry courage to the field. And thou hast talkt Ofsallies, and retires, of trenches, tents, Of pallizadoes, frontiers, parapets, Of basilisks, of canon, culuerin, Of prisoners ransome, and of souldiers slaine, And all the currents of a heddy fight, Thy spirit within thee hath beene so at warre, And thus hath so bestird thee in thy sleepe, That beds of sweat have stood vpon thy brow Like bubbles in a late disturbed streame, And in thy face strange motions have appeard, Such as we see when men restraine their breath, On some great sodaine haste. O what portents are these? Some heauy businesse hath my Lord in hand, And I must know it, else he loues me not.

Hot. What ho, is Gilliams with the packet gone?

Ser. He is, my Lord, an houre agoe.

Hot. Hath Butler brought those horses from the sherisse?

Ser. One horse, my Lord, he brought euen now. Hot. What horse? a crop-eare, is it not?

Ser. Itis, my Lord.

La. But heare you my Lord. Hot. What saiest thou my Lady?

La. What is it carries you away?

Hot. Why, my horse (my loue) my horse.

La. Out you madhedded ape, a weazell hath not such a deale ofspleene, as you are tost with. In faith Ile knowe your busines Harry, that I will: I feare, my brother Mortimer doth flir about his title, and hath sent for you to line his enterprise, but if you go,

Hot. So far a foote, I shall be wearie, loue.

La. Come, come you Paraquito, answer me directly, vnto this question that I shall askerin faith lie breake thy little finger, Harry, and if thou wilt not tell me all things true.

Hot. Away, away you trifler, loue, I loue thee not, I care not for thee Kate, this is no world

To play with mammets, and to tilt with lips, We must haue bloudie noses, and crackt crownes, And passe them currant too: gods me, my horse:

What faist thou Kate? what wouldst thou have with me?

La. Do you not loue me? do you not indeede? Well, do not then? for fince you love menor, I will not loue my selfe. Do you not loue me? Nay, tell me, if you speake inieatt, or no?

Hot. Come, wilt house monde? And when I am a horsebacke, I will sweare, Houe thee infinitely. But harke you Kate, and and add and I must not haue you henceforth, question me, Whither I go: nor reason, where about: har men and a second Whither I must, I must and to conclude, This evening must I leave you gentle Kate: Iknow you wise, but yet no farther wise, Then Harry Percies wife: constant you are, But yet a woman, and for fecrecy, No Lady closer, for I well beleeue,

Thou wilt not viter, what thou dost not know:

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And so far will I trust thee, gentle Kater and so double will La. How, so far?

Henry the fourth.

Hot. Not an inch further: but hearke you Kate, Whither I go, thither shall you goe too: To day will keet forth, to morrow you: Will this content you Kate?

Exeunt. Lady It must of force. Enter Prince and Poines.

Prince Ned prethee come out of that fat roome, and lend me thy hand to laugh alittle.

Poines Where hast bin Hal?

Prince With three or foure logger-heads, amongest three or fourescore hogs-heads. I have sounded the very base string of humilitie. Sirra, I am sworne brother to a leash of drawers, and can call them all by their christen names, as Tom, Dicke, and Francis: they take it already vpon their faluation, that though I be but prince of Wales, yet I am the king of curtesie, and tell me flattely I am no prowde lacke, like Falstaffe, but a Corinthian, a lad of mettall, a good boy (by the Lord so they call mee) and when I am King of England, I shall commaund all the good lads in Eastcheape. They call drinking deepe, dying scarlet, and when you breathe in your watering, they cry hem, and bid you play it off. To conclude, I am so good a proficient in one quarter of an houre, that I can drincke with any Tinkar in his owne language, during my life. I tell thee Ned, thou hast lost much honour that thou wert not with me in this action; but sweet Ned: to sweeten which name of Ned, I giue thee this peniworth of sugar, clapt euen now into my hand, by an vnder skinker, one that neuer spake other English in his life, than eight shillings and sixe pence, and you are welcome, with this shril addition, anon, anon sir, skore a pinte of bastard in the halfe moone, or so. But Ned, to driue away the time till Falstaffe come: I prethee, doe thou stand in some by-roome, while I question my puny drawer, to what end he gaue me the sugar, and doe thou neuer leaue calling Frances, that his tale to me may be nothing but, anone: steppe aside, and ile shew thee a present.

Poines Frances.

Prince Thouart perfect.

(Ralfe.

Prince Frances. Enter Drawer. Frances. Anone anone sir; looke downe into the Pomgarnet,

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Prince Comehither, Frances. Frances My lord.

Prince Howlong hast thou to serue, Frances?

Frances Forsooth fiue yeeres, and as much as to

Poines Frances.

Frances Anone, anone sir.

Prince Fine yeeres, berlady along lease for the clincking of pewter; But Frances, darest thou be so valiant, as to play the co. ward with thy indenture, and shew it a faire paire of heeles, and runne fromit,

Frances O lord sir, ile be sworne vpon all the books in Eng.

land. I could finde in my heart

Poines Frances. Frances Anone sir.

Prince How olde arte thou, Frances?

Frances Let me see, about Michaelmas next I shal be Poines Frances.

Frances Anone sir, pray you stay alittle my lord.

Prince Nay but hearke you Frances, for the sugar thou gauest me, t'was a penyworth, wast not?

Frances Olord, I would it had bin two.

Prinee I will giue thee for it, a thousand pound, aske mee when thou wilt, and thou shalt haue it.

Poines Frances Frances Anone, anone.

Prince Anone Frances? No Frances, but to morrow Frances: or Frances, on thurseday: or indeede Frances, when thou will But Frances.

Frances Mylord.

Prince Wilt thou robbe this leatherne jerkin, cristall button, not-pated, agat ring, puke stocking, caddice garter, smooth tongue, Spanish powch?

Frances Olord sir, who doe you meane?

Prince Why then your browne bastard is your onely drinke for looke you Frances, your white canuasse doublet will fully In Barbary fir, it cannot come to fo much.

Frances What sir? Poines Frances.

Prince Away you rogue, dost thou not heare them call? Heere they both call him, the Drawer stands amazed, not knowing which way to goe. Enter Vintner.

What, standst thou still, and hearst such a calling? looke

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to the ghests within. My Lord, old sir Iohn with halfe a douzen more, are at the doore, shall I let them in?

Prin. Let them alone a while, and then open the doore: Poines.

Enter Poines. Poines. Anon, Anonsir.

Prince. Sirra, Falstaffe and the rest of the theeues are at the

doore, shall we be merry?

Poi. As merry as Crickets, my lad, but harke ye, what cunning match haue you made with this iest of the Drawer? come, what's the issue?

Prince. I am now of all humors, that have shewed themselves humors, since the olde dayes of goodman Adam, to the pupill age of this present twelve a clocke at midnight. What's a clocke Frances?

Fran. Anon, anon sir.

Prin. That euer this fellow should have fewer wordes then a Parrat, and yet the sonne of a woman. His industrie is vp staires and downe staires, his eloquence the parcell of a reckoning. I am not yet of Percies minde, the Hotspur of the North, he that kils me some sixe or seauen douzen of Scots at a breakefast, washes his handes, and sayes to his wife, Fie vpon this quiet life, I want worke. O my sweet Harry, saies she! how many hast thou kild to day? Giue my Roane horse a drench (sayes hee) and answers, some fourteene, an houre after: a triffle, a triffle. I prethee call in Falstalsfe, ile play Percy, and that damnde Brawne shall play Dame Mortimer his wife. Rino, saies the drunkard: call in Ribs, call in Tallow.

## Enter Falstalffe.

Poines. Welcome Tacke, where hast thou beene?

Falst. A plague of all cowards I say, and a vengeance too, marry and Amen: giueme a cup of sacke boy. E're I leade this life long, ile sowe neatherstockes, and mend them, and foote them too. A plague of all cowards. Giue me a cup of sacke, rogue, is there no vertue extant? be drinketh.

Prince. Didst thou neuer see Titan kisse a dish of butter, pitifull harted Titan that melted at the sweete tale of the sunne? if

thou didst, then behold that compound.

The Historie of

but rogery to be found in villanous man, yet a coward is worse then a cup of sacke with lime in it. A villanous coward, Go thy waies old tacke, die when thou wilt, if manhood, good manhood be not forgot upon the face of the earth, then am I a shotten herring there liues not three good men unhangd in England, & one of them is sat, and growes old, God helpe the while, a bad world I say, I would I were a weauer, I could sing Psalmes, or any thing. A plague of all cowards, I say still.

Prin. How now, Wolsacke, what mutter you?

Fal. A kings sonne sif I do not beate thee out of thy kingdome with a dagger of lath, and drive all thy subjects afore thee like a slocke of wilde geele, ile neuer weare haire on my face more, you Prince of Wales.

Prin. Why you horeson round-man, what's the matter?

Falst. Are you not a coward? answere me to that, and Poines there.

Poin. Zoundes yee fat paunch, and ye call me coward, by the

Falst I call thee cowarde? ile see thee damnde ere I call thee coward, but I would give a thousand pound, I could runne as fast as thou canst. You are straight enough in the shoulders, you care not who sees your backe: call you that backing of your friends? a plague vpon such backing: give mee them that will face me; give me a cup of sacke. I am a rogue if I drunke to day.

Pri. O villaine, thy lips are scarse wip't since thou drunkst last.

Fals: All's one for that.

He drinketh.

Fals: All's one for that.

A plague of all cowards still say I.

Prince What's the matter?

Fals: Whats the matter? here be foure of vs haue tane a thoufand pound this morning.

Prince Where is it? lacke, where is it?

Fals. Where is it? taken from vs it is: a hundred vpon poore foure of vs.

Prince VVhat, ahundred, man?

Fals: I am a rogue, if I were not at halfe sword, with a dozen of them two houres together. I have scaped by myracle. I am eight times thrust through the doublet, source through the hose,

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my buckler cut through and through, my sworde hack't like a hand-saw, ecce signum. I neuer dealt better since I was a man, all would not doe. A plague of all cowards, let them speake; if they would not est esse or lesse then trueth, they are villaines, and the sonnes of darkenesse.

Gad. Speake, sirs, how was it?

Ross. We soure set vpon some douzen.

Falst. Sixteene, at least, my Lord.

Ross. And bound them.

Peto. No, no, they were not bound.

Fal. You rogue, they were bound, euery man of them, or I am a Iew else, and Ebrew Iew.

Ross. As we were sharing, some 6. or 7. fresh men set vpon vs.

Falst. And vnbound the rest, and then come in the other.

Prince. What, fought ye with them all?

Falst. All? I knowe not what yee call all: but if I fought not with fiftie of them, I am a bunch of radish: if there were not two or three and fiftie vpon poore old lacke, then am I no two leg'd creature.

Prin. Pray God, you haue not murthered some of them.

them. Two I am sure I have payed, two rogues in buckrom sutes:
I tell thee what, Hal, if I tell thee a lie, spitte in my face; call mee horse: thou knowest my old ward: here I lay, and thus I bore my points source rogues in buckrom let drive at me.

Prin. What, foure? thou sayd st but two, euen now.

Fal. Foure, Hal, Itold thee foure.

Po. I, I, he said, foure,

Fal. These foure came all afront, and mainely thrust at mee; I made no more adoe, but tooke all their seuen points in my target, thus.

Prin. Seuen? why there were but foure, euen now.

Fal. In Buckrom.

Poines. I, foure, in buckrom suites.

Fal, Seuen, by these hiltes, or I am a villaine else.

Prin. Prethee let him alone, we shall have more anon.

Fal. Doest thou heare me, Hal?
Prin. I, and marke thee too, lacke.

Falst,

Prin. So, two more already.

Falst. Their points being broken,

Poines. Downe fell his hose.

Falst. Began to giue me ground: but I followed me close, came in foot and hand, and with a thought, seuen of the elenen I paid.

Prin. O monstrous! eleven buckrom men growne out of two?

Falst. But as the divel! would have it, three mis-begotten knaues, in kendall greene, came at my backe, and let drive at me, for it was so darke, Hal, that thou could st not see thy hand.

Prin. These lyes are like the father that begets them, grosse as mountaine, open, palpable. Why thou clay-brain'd guts, thou knotty-pated foole, thou horeson obscene greasse tallow-catch.

Faist. What? art thou mad? art thou mad? is not the trueth the trueth?

Prin. Why, how could'st thou know these men in Kendall greene, when it was so darke thou could'st not see thy hand? come tell vs your reason, What sayest thou to this?

Poines. Come, your reason, Iacke, your reason.

Falst. What, vpon compulsion? Zoundes, and I were at the strappado, or all the rackes in the world, I would not tell you on compulsion. Give you a reason on compulsion? if reasons were as plenty as blacke-berries, I would give no man a reason vpon compulsion, I.

Prince. Ile be no longer guiltie of this sinne. This sanguine coward, this bed-presser, this horse-backe-breaker, this huge hil of flesh.

Fal. Zbloud you starueling, you elfskin, you dried neats-tongue, buls-pizzel, you stockefish: O for breath to ytter! what is like thee? you tailers yard, you sheath, you bowcase, you vile standing tucke.

Prin. Wel, breathe a while, and then to it againe, & when thou hast tired thy selfe in base comparisons, heare me speake but this.

Poynes. Marke, Iacke.

Prin. We two, saw you foure, set on foure, and bound them, and were masters of their wealth: marke now how a plaine tale shall put you downe: then did wee two set on you foure, and with a

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word, outfac't you from your prize, & haue it, yea, & can shew it you here in the house: and Falstalffe, you carried your guts away as nimbly, with as quicke dexteritie, & roard for mercy, and still run and roare, as ever I heard bul-calfe. What a slave art thou to hacke thy sword as thou hast done? and then say it was in sight. What tricke? what device? what starting hole canst thou now sind out, to hide thee from this open and apparent shame?

Poin. Come, lets heare, lacke, what tricke hast thou now?

heare you, my masters, was it for me, to kill the heire apparant? Thould I turne vpon the true Prince? why, thou knowest I am as valiant as Hercules: but, beware instanct, the Lyon will not touch the true Prince, instanct is a great matter. I was a coward on instanct, I shall thinke the better of my selfe, and thee, during my life; I, for a valiant Lyon, and thou, for a true Prince: but, by the Lord, lads, I am glad you have the money. Hostesse, clap to the doores, watch to night, pray to morrow, gallants, lads, boyes, heartes of gold, all the titles of good fellowshippe come to you. What, shall we be merrie, shall we have a play extempore?

Prin. Content, and the argument shall be thy running away.

Fal. A, no more of that Hal, & thou louest me. Enter hostesse.

Ho. O Iesu, my Lord the Prince!

Prin. How now, my Lady the hostesse, what saist thou to me?

Ho. Marry, my L. there is a noble-man of the court, at doore would speake with you: he saies, he comes from your father.

Prin. Giue him as much, as will make him a royall man, and send him backe againe to my mother,

Fal. What manner of man is he?

Ho. Anold man.

Fal. What doth grauitie out of his bed at midnight? Shall I give him his answere?

Prin. Prethee do, Iacke. Fal. Faith, and Ile send him packing.

Exit.

Prin. Now sirs, birlady you fought faire, so did you Peto, so did you Bardol, you are Lyons too, you ran away vpon instinct.
you will not touch the true Prince, no sie.

Bar. Faith, I ran when I saw others runne.

B

Priss.

Prin. Faith, tell me now in earnest, how came Falstalffs sword so hackt?

sweare truth out of England, but hee would make you beleeue it was done in fight, and perswaded vs to do the like.

Car. Yen, and to tick le our noses with speare-grasse, to make them bleede, and then to bessubber our garments with it, and sweare it was the bloud of true men. I did that I did not this seuen yeere before, I blusht to heare his monstrous denises.

Prin. O villaine thou stolest a cup of sacke eightene yeares ago, and were then with the maner, & euer since thou hast blushe extensione, thou hadst fire and sword on thy side, and yet thou ranst away: what instinct hadst thou for it?

Bar. My Lord, do you see these meteors? do you behold these exhalations?

Prince I do.

Bar. What thinke you they portend?

Prin. Hot livers, and cold purses.

Bar. Choler, my Lord, if rightly taken.

Prin. No, if rightly taken, halter. Here comes leane Iacke, here comes bare-bone: how now my sweete creature of bumbast, how long is't ago, sacke, since thou saw'st thine owne knee?

not an Eagles talent in the waste: I could have crept into any Aldermans thumbe ring: a plague of sighing and griefe, it blowes a man vp like a bladder. Ther's villanous newes abroad, heere was sir Iohn Brajy from your father: you must to the court in the morning. That same mad fellow of the North, Percy, & he of Wales, that gave A mamon the bastinado, & made Lucifer cuckold, and swore the divell his true liegeman vpon the crosse of a Welch hooke: what a plague callyou him?

Poines O, Glendower.

Fal. Owen, Owen, the same, and his sonne in law Mornmer, and olde Northumberland, and the sprightie Scot of Scottes, Dowglas, that runnes a horse-backe vpa hill perpendicular.

Prin. He that rides at high speede, and with a pistoil killess sparrow flying,

Fals: You have hit it.

Prince So did he neuer the sparrow.

Fals: Well, that rascall hath good mettall in him, hee will not runne.

Prince Why what a rascall art thou then, to praise him so for running?

Fals: A horsebacke (ye cuckoe) but afoote he will not budge a foote.

Prince Yes lacke, vponinstinct.

Falst: I grant ye, vpon instinct: well, he is there too, and one Mordacke, and a thousand blew caps more. Workester is stolne away to night, thy fathers beard is turnd white with the newes, you may buy land now as cheape as stinking mackrel!.

Prince Then tis like, if there come a hote lune, and this civill buffeting hold, we shal buy maidenheads as they buy hobnailes,

by the hundreds.

Falf: By the masse lad, thou saist true, it is like wee shall have good trading that way: but tell me Hal, art not thou horribly afeard? thou being heire apparant, could the world picke thee out three such enemies againe, as that siend Donglas, that spirit Percy, and that diuell Glendower? art not thou horribly assaide? doth not thy bloud thrill at it?

Prince Not a whit yfaith, I lacke some of thy instinct.

Falst. V Vell, thou wilt be horribly chidde to morrow when thou commest to thy father: if thou doe loue me, practise an answer.

Prince Doethoustand for my father, and examine me vpon the particulars of my life.

Falst: Shall I? content: this chaire shall be my state, this dag.

ger my scepter, and this cushion my crowne.

Prince Thy state is taken for a loynd stoole, thy golden scepter for a leaden dagger, and thy pretious rich crowne, for a pittifull balde crowne.

Falst: V Vell, and the fire of grace be not quite out of thee, now shalt thou be mooued. Give mee a cuppe of sacke to make mine eyes looke redde, that it may be thought I have wept, for I must speake in passion, and I will doe it, in King Cambises vaine.

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Prince Well, here is my leg.

Fals: And here is my speech, stand aside Nobilitie.

Ho. O Iesu, this is excellent sport, yfaith.

Fals: Weepe not, sweet Queene, for trickling teares are vaine

Ho. O the father, how how he holds his countenance? Fals: For Gods sake Lords, conuey my trustfull Queene,

For teares doe stop the floud-gates of her eyes.

Hot. O lest, he doth it as like one of these harlotry players, as euer I sec.

Fais. Peace, good pint-pot, peace, good tickle-braine. Harry, I do not only maruell, where thou spendest thy time: but also, how thou art accompanied. For, though the cammomil the more it is troden on, the faster it growes: yet youth, the more it is wasted the sooner it we ares: thou art my sonne, I have partly thy mothers word, partly my opinion, but chiefly, a villainous tricke of thine cie, and a foolish hanging of thy neather lip, that doth warrant me. If then thou be sonne to mee, heere lieth the point: why, being sonne to me, arte thou so pointed at? shall the blessed sonne of heauen prooue a micher, and eate blacke berries? a question not to be askt. Shall the sonne of England proue a thiefe, and take purses? a question to be askt. There is a thing, Harry, which thou hast often heard of, and it is knowne to many in our land, by the name of pitch. This pitch (as antient writers doe reporte) dooth defile: so dooth the company thou keepest: for Harry, now I do not speake to thee in drinke, but in teares; not in pleasure, but in passion; not in words onely, but in wees also: and yet there is a vertuous man, whom I have often noted in thy company, but I know not his name.

Prince What maner of man, and it like your Maiestie?

Fall. A goodly portly man yfaith, and a corpulent, of a cheerfull look, a pleasing eie, and a most noble carriage, and as I think, his age some fifty, or birlady, inclining to three score, and now I remember me, his name is Falstalfe: if that man should be lewdly giuen, he deceiues me. For Harry, I see vertue in his lookes: it then the tree may be knowne by the fruit, as the fruit by the tree; then peremptorily Ispeake it, there is vertue in that Falstalfe, him keepe with, the rest banish: and tel me now, thou naughte vailet, tell me, where hast thou bin this month?

Prince Dost thou speake like a king? do thou stand for mee,

and ile play my father.

Falst. Depose me; if thou dost it halfe so grauely, so maiestically both in worde and matter, hang mee vp by the heeles for a rabbet sucker, or a Poulters Hare.

Prince Well, heere I am set.

Falst. And here I stand, judge, my masters.

Prince Now, Harry, whence come you? Faist. My noble Lord, from Eastcheape.

Prince The complaints I heare of thee, are grieuous.

Falst. Zblood my Lord, they are false: nay, ile tickle yee for a

yong Prince Ifaith.

Prince Swearest thou, vngracious boy? henceforth ne're looke on me, thou art violently carried away from grace, there is a diuell haunts thee, in the likenesse of an old fat man, a tun of man is thy companion: why dost thou converse with that truncke of humours, that boulting hutch of beastlinesse, that swolne parcell ot dropsies, that huge bombard of sacke, that stuft cloake-bag of guts, that rosted Manningtree Oxe with the pudding in his belly, that reverent vice, that gray iniquitie, that father russian, that vanitie in yeeres, wherein is he good? but to taste sacke & drinke it? wherein neat & cleanly, but to carue a capon & eat it? wherein cunning, but in craft? wherein craftie, but in villanie? wherein villanous, but in all things? wherein worthy, but in nothing?

Falst. I would your grace would take mee with you, whom

meanes your grace?

Prince That villanous abhominable misseader of youth: Falstalffe, that old white bearded Sathan.

Fal. My Lord, the man I know.

Prince I know thou doest.

Fal. But to say, I know more harme in him then in my selfe, were to fay more then I know: that hee is olde, the more the pittie, his white haires doe witnesseit: but that he is, sauing your reuerence, a whoremaster, that I vtterly deny : if sacke and sugar be a fault, God helpe the wicked: if to be old and merry be a sinne, the many an old host that I know, is damn'd: if to be fat, be to be hated, the Pharaos leane kine are to be loued. No, my good lord, banish Peto, banish Bardol, banish Poines, but for sweet lacke

Falffalffe

Falstalffe, kinde lacke Falstalffe, true lacke Falstalffe, valiant Jacke Falstalsfe, and therefore more valiant, being as hee, is olde Jacke Falstalffe, banish not him thy Harries company, banish not him thy Harries company; banish plumpe lacke, and banish all the world.

Enter Bardoll running. Prince I, do, I will.

Bar. O, my Lord, my Lord, the Sherife, with a most mon. Arous watch, is at the doore.

Fal. Out yourogue, play out the play: I haue much to say in the behalfe of that Falstalffe.

Enterise Hostesse.

Hof. O Jefu, my Lord, my Lord!

Prince Heigh, heigh, the diuell rides vpon a fiddle sticke, what's the matter?

Ho. The Sherife and all the watch are at the doore, they are come to search the house, shall I let them in?

Fal. Doest thou heare, Hal? neuer call a true piece of golda counterfet, thou art essentially made, without seeming so.

Prince And thou, a naturall coward without instinct.

Fal. I deny your Maior, if you will deny the Sherife, so, if not, let him enter. If I become not a Cartas wellas another man, a plague on my bringing vp: I hope I shall as soone bee strangled with a halter as another.

Prin. Goe, hide thee behinde the Arras, the rest walke vp aboue: now my masters, for a true face and good conscience.

Fal. Both which I have had, but their date is out, and there fore ile hide me.

Prin. Call in the Sherife.

Enter Sherife and the Carrier.

Prin. Now master Sherife, what is your will with me? She. First, pardon me, my Lord. A hue and cry hath followed certaine men vnto this house.

Prin. Whatmen?

Sher. One of them is well knowne, my gracious Lorde, a groffe fat man. THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF THE

Car. As fat, as butter.

Prin. The man. I doe assure you, is not here, For I my selfe at this time have imployed him:

And Sherife, I will ingage my word to thee, That I will by to morrow dinner time, Send him to answere thee or any man, For any thing he shall be charg'd withall, And so let me intreat you leaue the house.

Sher. I will, my Lord: there are two Gentlemen

Haue, in this robbery, lost 300 markes.

Prin. It may beso: if he hauerob'd these men,

He shall be answerable: and so farewell.

Sher. Good night, my noble Lord.

Prin. I thinke it is god morrow, is it not?

Sher. Indeed, my Lord, Ithinke it be two a clocke. Prince This oylie rascall is knowne as well as Poules: goe call him forth.

Peto Falstalle? fast asseepe behinde the Arras, and snorting

like a horse.

Prince Harke, how hard he fetches breath, search his pockets. He searcheth his pocket, and findeth certaine papers.

Prince VVhat hast thou found? Peto Nothing but papers, my lord.

Prince Letssee what they be: reade them.

2.s.ii.d. Item, a capon iiii.d. Item, sawce Item, sacke, two gallons v.s.viii.d. Item, anchaues and sacke after supper Item, bread 2.s.vi.d.

O monstrous! but one halfe peniworth of bread to this intolerable deale of sacke? what there is else, keepe close, weele reade it at more aduantage: there let him sleepe till day; ile to the court in the morning. We must all to the warres, and thy place shalbe honorable. Ile procure this fat rogue a charge of foote, and I know his death will be a march of twelue score; the money shall be payd backe againe with aduantage; be with me betimes in the morning, and so good morrow Peto.

Peto. Good morrow, good my Lord. Exeum.

Enter Hotspur, Worcester, Lord Mortiner,

Owen Glendower.

Mor. These promises are faire, the parties sure.

And

And our induction full of prosperous hope.

Hot. Lord Mortimer, & coosin Glendower wil you sit downe? and vncle Worcester; a plague vpon it, I have forgot the map.

Glendo. No, here it is; sit Coosen Piercie, sit good Coosen Hotspur, for by that name, as oft as Lancaster doth speake of you, his cheeke lookes pale, and with a rising sigh, he wisheth you in heaven.

Hot. And you in hell, as oft as he heares Owen Glendower

spoke of.

Glen. I cannot blame him; at my natiuitie
The front of heaven was full of fierie shapes
Of burning cressets, and at my birth
The frame and foundation of the earth
Shaked like a coward.

Hets. Why so it would have done at the same season, if your mothers cat had but kittened, though your selfe had never bene borne.

Glen. I say, the earth did shake when I was borne.
Hotsp. And I say, the earth was not of my mind,

If you suppose, as feating you, it shooke.

Glen. The heavens were all on fire, the earth did tremble.

Hotsp. Oh! then the earth shooke to see the heavens on fire,

And not in feare of your nativitie.

Discassed nature oftentimes breakes forth
In strange eruptions, oft the teeming earth
Is with a kinde of collicke pincht and vext,
By the imprisoning of varuly winde
Within her wombe, which for inlargement striving,
Shakes the old Beldame earth, and topples downe
Steeples and mossegrowen Towers. At your birth
Our Grandam earth, having this distemperature,

In passion shooke.

Glen. Coosen, of many men

I do not beare these crossing: give me seave

To tell you once againe, that at my birth

The front of heaven was full of sierie shapes,

The goates ran from the mountaines, and the heards

Were strangely clamorous to the frighted sields.

Hemy the fourth.

These signes have markt me extraordinarie,
And all the courses of my life do shew,
I am not in the rolle of common men:
Where is he living, clipt in with the sea,
Which calls me pepill, or hath read to me?
And bring him out, that is but womans sonne,
Can trace me in the tedious waies of Art,
And hold me pace, in deepe experiments.

Hot. I thinke, there's no man speakes better Welsh:

Ile to dinner.

Mor. Peace coosen Percy, you will make him mad.

Glen. I can call spirits from the vasty deepe.

Hot. Why, so can i, or so can any man:

But will they come, when you do call for them?

Glen. Why, I can teach you coosen, to command the deuill.

Hot. And I can teach thee, coose, to shame the deuill,
By telling truth. Tell truth and shame the diuell:
If thou have power to rase him, bring him hither,
And sle be sworne, I have power to shame him hence:
Oh while you live, tell truth and shame the deuill.

Mor. Come, come, no more of this vnprofitable chat.

Glen. Three times hath Henry Bullingbrooke made head

Against my power, thrice from the bancks of Wye,

And landy bottomd Seuerne haue I sent him

Bootles home, and weather-beaten backe.

Hot. Home without bootes, and in fowle weather too?
How scapes he agues, in the diuels name?

Glen. Come, here is the map, shall we deuide our right, According to our threefold order tane?

Mor: The Arch-deacon hath deuided it
Into three limits, very equally:
England from Trent, and Severne hitherto,
By South and East, is to my part assignd:
All Vestward, Wales beyond the Severne shore,
And all the fertile land within that bound,
To Owen Glendower: and deare coose, to you,
The remnant Northward, lying off from Trent,

Thele

And

And our indentures tripartite are drawne,
Which being sealed enterchangeably,
(A businesse that this night may execute:)
To morrow, coosen Percy, you and I,
And my good Lord of Worcester, will set forth:
To meet your father, and the Scottish power,
As is appointed vs, at Shremsbury.
My father Glendower is not ready yet,
Nor shall we neede his helpe these fourteene daies:
Within that space, you may have drawne together
Your tenants, friends, and neighbouring gentlemen.

Glen. A shorter time shall send me to you, Lords,
And in my conduct shall your Ladies come,
From whome you now must steale, and take no leave,
For there will be a world of water shed,
V pon the parting of your wives and you.

Hot. Me thinks, my moity North from Burton here,
In quantitie equals not one of yours:
See, how this river comes me cranking in,
And cuts me from the best of all my land,
A huge halfe Moone, a monstrous scantle out:
Ile haue the current in this place damd vp,
And here the sinug and silver Trent shall runne
In a new channell, faire and evenly,
It shall not wind, with such a deepe indent,
To rob me of so rich a bottome here.

Glen. Not wind?it shall,it must, you see it doth.

Mor. Yea, but marke, how he beares his conrse, and runs me vp, with like aduantage on the other side, gelding the opposed continent, as much, as on the other side, it takes from you.

Wor. Yea, but a little charge will trench him here, And on this Northside, win this cape of land,

And then he runs straight, and euen.

Hot. Ile haue it so, a little charge will doit.

Glen. Ile not haue it altred.

Hot. Will not you?

Glen. No, nor you shall not. Hot. Who shall say me nay? Hemy the fourth.

Glen. Why, that will I,

Hot. Let me not vnderstand you then, speake it in Welsh.

Glen. I canspeake English, Lord, as well as you,

For, I was traind vp in the English Court, Where, being but yong, I framed to the harpe

Many an English dittie, louely well,

And gaue the tongue a helpefull ornament:

A vertue, that was neuer seene in you.

Hot. Marry, and I am glad of it, with all my heart,

I had rather be a kitten and cry mew,

Then one of these same miter ballet-mongers:

I had rather heare a brasen cansticke turnd, Or a dry wheele grate on the axle-tree,

And that would set my teeth nothing on edge,

Nothing so much as minfing Poetry:

T'is like the forc't gate of a shuffling nag.

Glen. Come, you shall have Trent turnd.

Hot. I do not care, Ile giue thrice so much land

To any well deserving friend:

But in the way of bargaine, marke ye me:

Ile cauill on the ninth part of a haire.

Are the indentures drawne? shall we be gone?

Glen. The Moone shines faire, you may away by night:

Exit.

ile hast the writer, and withall,

Breake with your wives, of your departure hence,

I am a fraid my daughter will run mad, So much she doteth on her Mortimer.

Mor. Fie, coosen Percy, how you crosse my father.

Hot. I cannot chuse, sometime he angers me

With telling me of the Moldwarpe and the Ant,

Of the dreamer Merlin and his prophecies:
And, of a Dragon and a finle (To 60)

And, of a Dragon and a finlesse fish,

A clip-wingd Griffin and a moulten Ray

A clip-wingd Griffin and a moulten Rauen, A couching Lyon, and a ramping Cat,

And such a deale of skimble skamble stuffe,

As puts me from my faith. I tell you what, He held me last night, at least, nine houres,

In reckoning vp the severall divels names

That were his lackies: I cried hum, and well, go to,
But markt him not a word, O, he is as tedious
As a tyred horse, a railing wise,
Worse then a smoky house. I had rather line
With cheese and garlike in a Windmill far,
Then seede on cates, and have him talke to me,
In any summer house in Christendome.

Mor. In faith he was a worthy Gentleman,
Exceeding well read and profited
In strange concealements, valiant as a Lyon,
And wondrous affable; and as bountifull
As mines of India: shall I tell you, coosen,
He holds your temper in a high respect,
And curbs himselfe, euen of his natural scope,
When you come crosse his humour, faith he does:
I warrant you, that man is not aliue,
Might so have tempted him, as you have done,
Without the taste of danger and reproofe:
But do not vie it oft, let me intreat you.

Mor. In faith, my Lord, you are too wilfull blame,
And fince your comming hither have done enough
To put him quite belides his patience:
You must needes learne, Lord, to amend this fault,
Though sometimes it in the ware greatnesse, courage, blood,
And that's the dearest grace it renders you:
Yet often times it doth present harsh rage,
Defect of maners, want of government,
Pride, hautinesse, opinion, and disdaine,
The least of which, hanting a noble man,
Loseth mens hearts, and leaves behinde a staine
Vpon the beautie of all parts besides,
Beguiling them of commendation.

Hor. Well, I am schoold, good manners be your speede, Here come your wives, and let vs take our leave.

Enter Glendower with the Ladies.

Mor. This is the deadly spight that angers me,
My wife can speake no Eglish, I no welsh.

Glen, My daughter weepes, shee'le not part with you,

Henry the fourth.

Shee'le be a souldier too, shee'le to the wars.

Mor. Good father tell her, that she, and my Aunt Percy

Shall follow in your conduct speedily.

Glendower speakes to her in Welsh, and she answeres him in the same.

Glen. Shee is desperate here,
A peeuish selse wilde harlotrie, one that no perswasion can doe
good vpon.

The Lady speakes in Welsh.

Mor. I vnderstand thy lookes, that prettie Welsh,
Which thou powrest downe from these swelling heavens,
I am too perfect in, and but for shame
In such a parley should I answere thee.
The Lady againe in Welsh.

Mor. I vnderstand thy kisses, and thou mine,
And that's a feeling disputation:
But I will never be a truant love,
Till I have learn'd thy language, for thy tongue
Makes Welsh as sweete as ditties highly pend,
Sung by a faire Queene in a summers bowre,
With ravishing division to her lute.

Glen. Nay, if you melt, then will she runne mad, The Lady speakes againe in Welsh.

Mor. O, I amignorance it selfe in this.

Glen. She bids you on the wanton rushes lay you downe,
And rest your gentle head voon her lap,
And she will sing the song that pleaseth you,
And on your cyclids crowne the God of sleepe,
Charming your bloud with pleasing heavinesse,
Making such difference twixt wake and sleepe,
As is the difference betwixt day and night,
The houre before the heavenly harnest teeme
Begins his golden progresse in the East.

Mor. With all my heart, the sit and heare her sing,

By that time will our booke? hinke be drawne.

Glen. Do so, and those Messions that thall play to you,

Hang in the ayre a thousand leagues from hence,

And throught they shall be here, it and attend.

1

In. Go, ye giddy goose.

The musicke playes.

Hot. Now, I perceiue the diuell vnderstands Welsh, And t'is no maruell he is so humorous, Birlady he is a good musicion.

La. Then should you be nothing but musicall, For you are altogether gouerned by humours: Lie still, ye thiefe, and heare the Lady sing in Welsh.

Hot. I had rather heare, lady, my brache howle in Irish,

La. Would'st haue thy head broken?

Het. No.

La. Then be still.

Het. Neither, t'is a womans fault.

La. Now God helpe thee.

Hot. To the welsh Ladies bed.

La. What's that?

Hot. Peace, the fings.

Here the Ladie sings a welsh Song

Hot. Come, ile haue your song to. La. Not mine in good sooth.

Hot. Not yours in good sooth? Hart, you sweare like a comfitmakers wife, not you in good sooth, and as true as I line, and as God shall mend me, and as sure as day:

And giuest such sarcenet suretie for thy oathes. As if thou neuer walk'st further then Finsburie.

Sweare me, Kate, like a lady as thou art,

A good mouth-filling oath, and leave, in footh, And such protest of pepper ginger bread, To veluct gards, and Sunday Citizens.

Come, fing.

La. I will not fing.

Hot. T'is the next way to turne tayler, or be redbrest teachers and the indentures be drawne, ile away within these two hours, and so come in when ye will.

Glen. Come, come, Lord Mortimer, vou are as slow,

As Hot. Lord Percy, is on fire to go:

Henry the fourth.

By this, our booke is drawne, weele but seale, And then to horse immediatly.

Mor. With all my heart.

Exemnt.

Enter the King, Prince of Wales, and others.

King. Lords giue vs leaue, the Prince of Wales and I Must haue some prinate conference, but be neere at hand, For we shall presently haue neede of you. Exeuns Lords.

I know not whether God will haue it so, For some displeasing service I haue done, That in his secret doome, out of my blood,

Hee'le breed reuengement and a scourge for me:

But thou dost in the passages of life, Make me beleeue that thou art onely mark't,

For the hot vengeance, and the rod of heaven,

To punish my mistreadings. Tell me else, Could such inordinate and low desires,

Such poore, such bare, such lewd, such meane attempts,

Such barren pleasures, rude societie, As thou art matcht withall, and grafted to,

Accompany the greatnesse of thy blood,

And hold their leuell with thy princely heart? Prin. So please your Maiestie, Iwould I could

Quitall, offences with as cleare excuse, As well as I am doubtlesse I can purge My selfe of many I am charg'd withall: Yet such extenuation let me beg.

As in reproofe of many tales deuisde, Which oft the eare of greatnesse needes must heare

By smiling pick-thanks and base newes-mongers, I may for some things true, wherein my youth

Hath faulty wandred, and irregular, Finde pardon, on my true submission.

King. God pardon thee, yet let me wonder, Harry, At thy affections, which do hold a wing Quite frow the flight of all thy auncestors, Thy place in counsell thou hast rudely lost, Which by thy yonger brother is supplide, And art almost an alien to the hearts

Henry the fourth.

Of all the Court and Princes of my bloud, The hope and expectation of thy time Is ruin'd, and the soule of every man Prophetically do forethinke thy falk Had I so lauish of my presence bene, So common hackneid in the eyes of men, So stale and cheape to vulgar company, Opinion that did helpe me to the crowne, Had still kept loyall to possession, And lest me in reputelesse banishment, A fellow of no marke nor likelihoode. By being seldome seene, I could not stirre, Butlike a Comet, I was wondred at, That men would tell their children, This is he: Others would say, Where, which is Builingbrooke? And then I stole all curtesie from heauen, And drest my selfe in such humilitie, That I did plucke allegeance from mens hearts, Loud shouts, and salutations from their mouthes, Euen in the presence of the crowned King. Thus did I keepe my person fresh and new, My presence like a robe pontificall, Ne're seene, but wondred at, and so my state Seldome, but sumptuous, shewed like a feast, was a seldome, but sumptuous, shewed like a feast, was a seldome. And wan by rarenesse such solemnitie. The skipping King, he ambled vp and downe, With shallow ieasters, and rash bauin wits, Soone kindled, and soone burnt, carded his state, Mingled his royaltie with carping fooles, Had his great name prophaned with their scarnes, And gaue his countenance against his name To laugh at gibing boyes, and stand the push Of enery beardlesse vaine comparative, Grew a companion to the common streetes, Enseost himselfe to popularitie, That being dayly swallowed by menseyes, They surfetted with hony, and began to loath The talle of sweetenesse, whereof a little

\* Third Tidition 1500 Curries T.

More then 2 little, is by much too much. So when he had occasion to be seene, He was, but as the Cuckow is in Iune, Heard, not regarded : seene, but with such eyes As sieke and blunted with communitie, Affoord no extraordinarie gaze. Such as is bent on Sun-like Maiestie, When it shines seldome in admiring eyes, But rather drowzd, and hung their eye-lids downe, Stept in his face, and rendred such aspect As cloudy men vse to doe to their aduersaries, Being with his presence glutted, gorg'd, and full. And in that very line, Harry, standest thou, For, thou hast lost thy princely priviledge, With vile participation. Not an eye, But is aweary of thy common fight, Saue mine, which hath desired to see thee more, Which now doth that I would not have it doe, Make blinde it selfe with foolish tendernesse.

Prin. I shall hereafter, my thrice gracious Lord, Bemore my selse. King. For all the world, As thou art to this houre, was Richard then, When I from France set foot at Rauenspurgh, And euen as I was then, is Percy now: Now, by my scepter, and my soule to boote, He hath more worthy interest to the state, Then thou, the shadow of succession. For of no right, nor colour like to right, He doth fill sieldes with harnesse in the Realme, Turnshead against the Lyons armediawes, And being no more in debt to yeeres, then thou, Leads ancient Lords, and reuerend Bishops on To bloody battels, and to bruising armes. What neuer dying honour hath he got, Against renowmed Dowglas? Whose high deeds, Whose hot incursions, and great name in armes, Holds from all souldier: chiefe maioritie, And militarie title capitall

G

Through

Through all the kingdomes that acknowledge Christ. Thrice hath this Holfpur Mars in swathling clothes, This infant warrier, in his enterprises, Discomfited great Douglas, tane him once, Enlarged him, and made a friend of him, To fill the mouth of deepe desiance vp, And thake the peace and safetie of our throne, And what say you to this? Percy, Northumberland, The Archbishops grace of Yorke, Douglas, Mortimer, Capitulate against vs, and are vp. But, wherefore do I tell these newes to thee? Why, Harry, do I tell thee of my foes, Which art my neerest and dearest enemy? Thou that art like enough, through vastall feare, Base inclination, and the start of spleene, To fight against me, vnder Percies pay, To dog his hecles, and curtile at his frownes, To shew, how much thou art degenerate. Prin. Do not thinke so, you shall not findeit so, And God forgiue them, that so much have swayd Your Maiesties good thoughts away from me.

I will redeeme all this on Percies head, And, in the closing of some glorious day, Be bold to tell you that I am your sonne, When I will weare a garment all of bloud, And staine my fauors in a bloudie maske, Which washt away, shall scoure my shame with it. And that shall be the day, when e're it lights, That this same child of honour and renowne, This gallant Hotspur, this all praised knight, And your vnthought of Harry, chance to meete, For every honor, fitting on his helme, Would they were multitudes, and on my head My shames redoubled. For the time will come That Ishall make this Northren youth exchange His glorious deedes, for my indignities. Percy is but my factor, good my Lord, To engrosse my glorious deeds on my behalfe,

## Henry the fourth.

And I will call him to so strict account, That he shall render enery glory vp, Yea, euen the sleightest worship of his time, Or I will teare the reckoning from his heart. This, in the name of God, 1 promise here, The which, if he be pleased, I shall performe: I do beseech your Maiestie may salue The long growne wounds of my intemperance: If not, the end of life cancels all bands, And I will die, a hundred thousand deaths, E're breake the smallest parcell of this vow.

King. A hundred thousand rebels die in this, Thou shalt haue charge, and soueraigne trust herein. How now good Blunt?thy lookes are full of speed.

Enter Blunt.

Blunt. So hath the busines, that I come to speake of. Lord Mortimer of Scotland hath sent word, That Douglas and the English rebels met, The eleuenth of this moneth, at Shrewsbury, A mighty, and a fearefull head they are, (If promises be kept on euery hand,) As euer offred foule play in a state. King. The Earle of Westmerland set forth to day, With him my sonne, Lord Iohn of Lancaster, For this aduertisement is fine daies old, On Wednesday next, Harry, thou shalt set forward, On Thursday, we our selues will march. Our meeting Is Bridgenorth, and Harry, you shall march Through Glocestershire, by which account, Our busines valued some twelue daies hence, Our generall forces, at Bridgenorth shall meete: Our hands are full of busines, let's away,

Enter Falstalffe and Bardoll. Fal. Bardoll, am I not falne away vilely since this last action? do Inot bate? doe Inot dwindle? Why my skin hangs about

Aduantage feedes him fat, while men delay.

me, like an olde Ladies loose gowne. I am withered like an olde apple Iohn. Well, Ile repent, and that suddenly, while I am in

Exeunt.

And

some liking, Ishall be out of heart shortly, and then I shall have no strength to repent. And I have not forgotten what the inside of a Church is made of, I am a peppercorne, a brewers horse, the inside of a Church. Company, villanous company hath bene the spoile of me.

Bar. Sir Iohn, you are so fretfull, you cannot liue long.

Fal. Why, there is it, come, sing me a bawdie song, make me merry. I was as vertuously given, as a gentleman neede to bee, vertuous enough, swore little, dic't not aboue seven times a week, went to a bawdy house not aboue once in a quarter of an houre, paid mony that I borrowed three or soure times, lived well, and in good compasse, and now I live out of all order, out of all compasse.

Bar. Why, you are so fat, sir John, that you must needes be out

of all compasse: out of all reasonable compasse, sir Iohn.

Fal. Do thou amend thy face, and Ile amend my life: thou art our Admirall, thou bearest the lanterne in the poope, but is in the nose of thee: thou art the knight of the burning lampe.

Bar. Why, sir Iohn, my face does you no harme.

Fal. No, Ile besworne, I make as good vse of it, as many a man doth of a deaths head, or amemento mori. I neuer see thy face, but I thinke vpon hell fire, and Diues that lived in Purple: for there he is in his robes burning, burning. If thou wert any way giuen to vertue, I would sweare by thy face: my othe should bee, By this fire, thats Gods Angel. But thou art altogether given ouer: and wert indeede, but for the light in thy face, the sonne of vtter darkenesse. When thou ranst vp Gads hill in the night, to catch my horse, if I did not thinke that thou hadst bin an ignis fatum, or a ball of wilde-fire, there's no purchase in mony. O, thou art a perpetuall triumph, an euerlasting bone-fire light, thou hast faued me a thousand Markes in Link's and Torches, walking with thee in the night, betwixt Tauerne and Tauerne: but the sacke that thou hast drunke me, would have bought me lights as good cheape, at the dearest Chandlers in Europe. I haue maintained that Salamander of yours, with fire, any time this two & thirty yeeres: God reward me for it.

Bar. Zbloud, I would my face were in your belly.

Fal. Godamercy, so should I be sure to be heart burnt.

How now, dame Partlet the hen, haue you enquir'd yet who pickt my pocket?

Enter bo St.

Hos. Why sir Iohn, what do you thinke, sir Iohn? do you think I keepe theeues in my house? I have searcht, I have enquired, so haz my husband, man by man, boy by boy, servant by servant: the tight of a haire was never lost in my house before.

Fals. Yelie, Hostesse, Bardoll was shau'd and lost many a haire: and sle be sworne, my pocket was pickt: go to, you are a

woman, go.
Hos. Who I? No, I desie thee: Gods light, I was never cal'd so

in mine owne house before.

Fals. Go to, I know you well inough.

Hos. No, sir Iohn, you do not know me, sir John: I know you sir Iohn, you owe me mony, sir Iohn, and now you picke a quarrell to beguile me of it: I bought you a dozen of shirts to your backe.

Falf. Doulas, filthy doulas. Thaue giuen them away to Ba-

kers wiues, they have made boulters of them.

Hos. Now as I am a true woman, holland of viij. s. an ell: you owe mony here besides, sir Iohn, for your diet, and by drinkings, and mony lent you, xxiiij. pound.

Fall. He had his part of it, let him pay.

Hos. He?alas, he is poore, he hath nothing.

How?poore?looke vpon his face. What call you rich? le them coyne his nose, let them coyne his cheekes, lle not pay a denyer: what, will you make a yonker of me? shall I not take mine easein myne Inne, but I shall have my pocket pickt? I have lost a seale ring of my grandfathers, worth fortie marke.

Hos. O sesu! I have heard the Prince tell him, I know not how

oft, that that ring was copper.

Fals. How?the Prince is a lacke, a sneak-cup: Zbloud and he were here, I would cudgell him like a dog, if he would say so.

Enter the Prince marching, and Falstalffe meetes him playing on his trunchion like a sife.

Fall. How now, lade is the winde in that doore Ifaith? must we all march?

Bar. Yea, two, and two, Newgate fashion. Hos. My Lord, I pray you heare me. Host. Good my Lord heare me.

Falst. Prethee let her alone, and list to me.

Prin: What sayst thou Jacke?

Fals. The other night, I fell asseepe here, behind the Arras, and had my pocket pickt: this house is turn'd bawdy house, they picke pockets.

Prin. What didst thou lose, lacke?

Fals. Wilt thou beleeue me, Hal? three or foure bonds of forty pound a piece, and a seale ring of my grandfathers.

Prin. A triffe, some eight penny matter.

Host. So I told him, my Lord, and Isaid, I heard your grace say so: and my Lord hee speakes most vilely of you, like a soule mouth'd man, as he is, and said he would cudgell you.

Prince What he did not?

Host. There's neither faith, truth, nor womanhood in me else.

Falst. There's no more faith in thee, then a stued prune, nor no more trueth in thee, then in a drawne foxe; and for woman-hood, maid Marion may bee the deputies wife of the ward to thee. Go, you thing, go.

Host. Say, what thing, what thing?

Fallt. What thing? why, a thing to thanke God on,

Host. I am nothing to thanke God on, I would thou shouldst know it, I am an honestemans wife, and setting thy knighthood aside, thou art a knaue to call me so.

Falst. Setting thy womanhood aside, thou art a beast to say otherwise.

Host. Say, what beast, thou knaue thou?

Falst. What beast? why, an Otter.

Prin. An Otter, sir Iohn? why an Otter?

Falst. Why? shee's neither sish nor sless, a man knowes not where to have her.

Host. Thou art an vniust man, in saying so, thou or any man knowes where to have me, thou knaue thou.

Prin. Thou sayst true, Hostesse, and he slaunders thee most grossely.

Host. So he doth you, my Lord, and said this other day, You

ought him a thousand pound.

Prince Sirra, doe I owe you a thousand pound?

Fall. A thousand pound, Hal? a million: thy love is worth a million: thou owest me thy loue.

Host. Nay, my Lord, hee cald pou Iacke, and said hee would cudgell you.

Fals. Did I, Bardoll?

Bar. Indeed, sir Iohn, you said so.

Fall. Yea, if he said my ring was copper.

Pri. I say, t'is copper: darest thou be as good as thy word now?

Fall. Why, Hal? thou knowest, as thou art but a man, I dare, but as thou art Prince, I seare thee, as I seare the roaring of the Lyons whelpe.

Prin. And why not as the Lyon?

Fall. The king himselfe; is to bee feared as the Lyon: doest thou thinke ile feare thee, as I feare thy father? nay, and I doe, I

pray God my girdle breake.

Prin. O, if it should, how would thy guts fall about thy knees? but sirra, there's no roome for faith, trueth, nor honestie, in this bosome of thine. It is all fill'd vp with guttes, and midrisse, Charge an honest woman with picking thy pocket? why, thou horeson impudent imbost rascall, if there were any thing in thy pocket, but tauerne reckonings, memorandums of bawdy houses, and one poore peniworth of Sugar-candie to make thee long winded: if thy pocket were inricht with any other iniuries but these, I am a villaine; and yet you will stand to it, you will not pocket vp wrong: art thou not ashamed?

Fal. Doest thou heare, Hal? thou knowst in the state of innocencie, Adam sell, & what should poore Tacke Falstalse do in the daies of villany? thou seest, I have more slesh then another man, & therfore more frailty. You confesse then you pickt my pocket.

Prin. It appeares so by the storic.

Fal. Hostesse, I forgiue thee, goe make ready breakefast, loue thy husband, looke to thy servants, cherish thy ghests, thou shalt find mee tractable to any honest reason: thou seest I am pacified still: nay, prethee be gone.

Exit Hostesse.

Now, Hal, to the newes at Court for the robbery, lad? how is that

answered?

Prin.

Prin. O my sweet beosse, I must still be good angel to thee the money is paid backe againe.

Fal. O, I do not like that paying backe, t'is a double labour.

Trin. I am good friends with my father, & may do any thing.

Fal. Rob me the Exchequer the first thing thou doest, and do it with vnwash't hands too.

Bar. Do, my Lord.

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Prin. I haue procured thee, Iacke, a charge of foote.

Fal. I would it had beene of horse. Where shall I finde one that can steale well? O, for a fine thiefe of the age of xxii. or there abouts; I am hainously unprouided. Well, God be thanked for these rebels, they offend none but the vertuous; I laude them, I prayse them.

Prin. Bardoll.

Bar. My Lord.

Prin. Go, beare this letter to Lord Iohn of Lancaster, To my brother Iohn, this, to my Lord of Westmerland.

Go, Peto, to horse, for thou and I

Haue thirtie miles to ride yet e're dinner time: Iacke, meete me to morrow in the temple hall At two a clocke in the afternoone,

There shalt thou know thy charge, and there receive

Money and order for their furniture.
The land is burning Derey Oct 1

The land is burning, Percy stands on high, And either we or they must lower lie.

Fal. Rare words, braue world. Hostesse, my breakefast, come, Oh, I could wish this Tauerne were my drum. Exeunt.

Hot. Well said, my noble Scot, if speaking trueth In this fine age were not thought flattery, Such attribution should the Douglas haue, As not a souldier of this seasons stampe, Should go so generall current through the world: By God, I cannot flatter, I desie The tongues of soothers, but a brauer place In my hearts love hath no man then your selfe: Nay, taske me to my word, approve me, Lord.

Douglas. Thou art the King of honour,
No man so potent breathes vpon the ground,
But I will beard him.

Enter one with letters.

Berry the fourth.

Hot. Do so, and t'is well: What letters hast thou there? I can but thanke you.

Mes. These letters come from your father.

Hot. Letters from him? why comes he not himselfe?
Mes. He cannot come, my Lord, he is grieuous sicke.

Hot. Zounds, how haz he the leisure to be sicke

Insuch a iustling time? who leads his power? Vnder whose gouernment come they along?

Mes. His letters beares his mind, not I his mind.

Wer. I prethee, tell me, doth he keepe his bed? Mes. He did, my Lord, foure daies e're I set forth,

And at the time of my departure thence, He was much feard by his Phisicions.

Wor. I would the state of time had first bin whole,

E're he by sicknes had bin visited:

His health was neuer better worth then now.

Het. Sicke now, droope now, this ficknes doth infect.
The very life-bloud of our enterprise,
T'is catching hither, even to our campe:
He writes me here, that inward ficknesse,
And that his friends by deputation

Could not so soone be drawne, nor did he thinke it meete,
To lay so dangerous and deare a trust
On any soule remou'd, but on his owne,
Yet doth he give vs bold advertisement,

That with our small conjunction, we should on, To see how fortune is dispos'd to vs:

For, as he writes, there is no quailing now,
Because the King is certainely possess

Of all our purposes: what say you to it?

Wor. Your fathers sieknes is a maime to vs.

And yet, in faith, it is not his present want Seemes more, then we shall find it: were it good, To set the exact wealth of all our states,

All at one cast? to set so rich a maine, On the nice hazzard of one doubtfull houre, It were not good, for therein should we reade

H

The

The very botome and the soule of hope, The very list, the very vtmost bound Of all our fortunes.

Doug. Faith, and so we should,
Where now remaines a sweete reuersion,
We may boldly spend, vpon the hope, of what t'is to come in
A comfort of retirement lines in this.

Hot. A randeous, a home to flie vnto, If that the Diuell and mischance looke big Vpon the maiden-head of our affaires.

Wor. But yet I would your father had bene here: The qualitie and haire of our attempt Brookes no division, it will be thought By some, that know not why he is away, That wisedome, loyalty, and meere dislike Ofour proceedings, kept the Earle from hence. And thinke, how such an apprehension May turne the tide of fearefull faction, And breede a kinde of question in our cause: For, well you know, we of the offring side, Must keepe aloofe from strict arbitrement, And stop all fight-holes, euery loope, from whence The eye of reason may prie in vpon vs. This absence of your fathers drawes a curtaine, That shewes the ignorant, a kinde of feare Before not dreamt of.

Hot. You straine too far.

I rather of his absence make this vse,

It lends a lustre and more great opinion,

A larger dare to your great enterprize,

Then if the Earle were here: for men must thinke,

If we without his helpe can make a head

To push against a kingdome, with his helpe

We shall or turne it, topsie turuy downe,

Yet all goes well, yet all our joynts are whole.

Dong. As heart can thinke, there is not such a word

Spoke of in Scotland, as this tearme of feare.

Enter Sir Ri, Vernon.

Henry the fourth.

Het. My coosen Vernon, welcome by my soule.

Ver. Pray God my newes be worth a welcome, Lord.

The Earle of Westmerland, seuen thousand strong,

Is marching hitherwards, with Prince Iohn.

Hot. No harme, what more?

Ver. And further I have learnd,

The King himselfe in person hath set forth,

Or hitherwards intended spedily,

With strong and mighty preparation.

Hot. He shall be welcome too: where is his sonne,
The nimble footed madcap, Prince of Wales?
And his Cumrades, that dast the world aside,
And bid it passe?

All plumde like Estridges, that with the winde
Baited like Eagles having lately bath'd,
Glittering in golden coates like images,
As full ofspirit as the month of May,
And gorgeous as the sunne at Midsomer,
Wanton as youthfull goates, wilde as yong bulse
Isaw yong Harry with his beuer on,
His cushes on his thighs, gallantly armde,
Rise from the ground like feathered Mercury,
And vaulted with such ease into his seat,
As if an Angell dropt downe from the clouds,
To turne and wind a fiery Pegasus,
And witch the world with noble horsemanship.

Hor. No more, no more, worse then the sun in March,
This praise doth nourish agues, let them come,
They come like sacrifices in their trim,
And to the fire-eyd maid of smoky war,
All hot and bleeding will we offer them:
The mailed Mars shall on his alters sit
Vp to the eares in bloud. I am on fire
To heare this rich reprizall is so nigh,
And yet not ours: Come, let me take my horse,
Who is to beare me like a thunderbolt,
Against the bosome of the Prince of Wales,

Harr

Oh, that Glendower were come. Ver. There is more newes,

Ilearnd in Worcester, as I rode along,

He can drawe his powershis fourteene daies.

Doug. That's the worst tidings, that I heare of it. Wor. I by my faith, that beares a frossie sound.

Hot. What may the Kings whole battell reach vnto?

Ver. To thirty thousand.

Hot. Fortielet it be,

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My father and Glendower being both away, The powers of vs may serue so great a day.

Come let vs take a muster speedily, Doomes day is neere, die all, die merily.

Dong. Talke not of dying, I am out offeare

Of death or deaths hand, for this one halfe yeare.

Exeunt, Enter Falstalffe and Bardoll.

Fall. Bardoll, get thee before to Coventry, fill me a bottle of facke, our souldiours shall march through. Wee'le to Sutton cop. hill to night.

Bar. Will you giue me money, Captaine?

Fal. Lay out, lay out.

Bar. This bottle makes an angell.

Fal. And if it do, take it for thy labour, and if it make twenty, take them all, Ile answere the coynage, bid my Liuetenant Peto meete me at Townes end.

Bar. I will, Captaine, farewell.

Fal. If I be ashamed of my souldiers, I am a sowst gurnet, haue misused the Kings presse damnably. I haue got in exchange of 150 souldiers, 300. and odde pounds. I presseme none, but good housholders, Yeomens sonnes, inquire me out contracted batchielers, such as had beene askt twice on the banes, such a commodity of warme slaues, as had as lieue heare the Diuell as a drumme, such as feare the report of a Caliner, worse then a strooke foule, or a hurt wild-ducke: I prest me none, but such tosts and butter, with heartes in their bellies no bigger then pins heads, and they have bought out their services, and

Henry the fourth.

now my whole charge consists of Ancients, Corporals, Lieutenants, gentlemen of companies, slaues as ragged as Lazarus in the painted cloth, where the gluttons dogs licked his fores: and such as indeede were neuer souldiers, but discarded, vniust seruingmen, yonger sonnes to yonger brothers, reuolted tapsters, and Oslers tradefalne, the cankers of a calme world, and a long peace, ten times more dishonourable ragged, then an old fazde ancient, and such haue I to fill vp the roomes of them as haue bought out their services, that you would thinke, that I had a hundred and fiftie tottered prodigals, lately come from swine-keeping, from eating draffe and huskes. A madde fellow mette mee on the way, and told me I had vnloaded all the gibbets and prest the dead bodies. No eie hath seene such skar-crowes. Ile not martch through Couentrie with them, that's flatte: nay, and the villaines march wide betwixt the legs, as if they had gyues on, for indeede, I had the most of them out of prison, there's not a Thirte and a halfe in all my company, and the halfe shirte is two napkins tack't together, and throwne ouer the shoulders like a Heralds coate without seeues, and the shirte, to say the trueth, stolne from my host at S. Albones, or the red nose Inkeeper of Dauintry, but that's all one, thei'le finde linnen enough on eucry hedge.

Enter the Prince, and the Lord of Westmerland. Prin. How now, blowne Iacke? how now, quilt?

Fal, What, Hal? how now, mad wag? what a divel dost thou in Warwickeshire? My good L. of Westmerland, I cry you mercie, I thought your honour had already bene at Shrewesburie.

West. Faith, sir Iohn, t'is more then time that I were there, and you too, but my powers are there already: the king I can tell you, lookes for vsall, we must away all night.

Fals. Tut, neuer seare me, I am as vigilant as a Cat, to steale Creame.

Prin. I thinke to steale Creame indeed, for thy theft hath already made thee butter: but tell me, lacke, whose fellowes are these that come after?

Fals. Mine, Hal, mine,

Prin. I did neuer see such pitifull rascals.

Fals. Tut, tut, good mough to tosse, foode for powder, foot

West. I, but, sir Iohn, me thinkes they are exceeding poore

and bare: too beggarly.

Fal. Faith, for their pouertie, I know not where they had that; and for their barenesse, I am sure they never learn't that of me.

Pri. No, ile be sworne, vnlesse you call three singers on the ribs bare: but sirra, make haste, Percy is already in the sield, Exit.

Fall. What, is the king incamp't?

West. Heis, sir Iohn, I feare we shall stay too long.

Falst. Well, to the latter end of a fray, and the beginning of a feast, sits a dull sighter, and a keene guest.

Exeunt.

Enter Hotspur, Worcester, Douglas, and Vernon.

Hot. Wee'le fight with him to night.

Wor. It may not be.

Dougl. You giue him then aduantage.

Ver. Nota whit.

Hot. Why, say you so? lookes he not for supply?

Ver. Sodowc.

Hot. His is certaine, ours is doubtfull.

Wor. Good coosen be aduisde, stir not to night.

Ver. Do not, my Lord.

Doug. You doe not counsell well: You speake it out of feare, and cold heart.

Ver. Do me no slander, Douglas, by my life, And I dare well mainraine it with my life; If well respected honor bid me on,

I hold as little counsell with weake feare,

As you, my Lord, or any Scot that this day liues:

Let be seene to morrow in the battell, which of vs feares.

Yea, or to night.

Ver. Content.

Yea, or to night. Ver. Het. To night, say I.

Ver. Come, come, it may not be.

I wonder much, being men of such great leading as you are,

That you foresee not what impediments
Drag backe our expedition: certaine horse

Of my coosen Vernons are not yet come vp,

Henry the fourth.

Your Vnckle Worcesters horses came but to day,
And now their pride and mettall is asseepe,
Their courage with hard labour tame and dull,
That not a horse is halfe the halfe of himselfe.

Hot. So are the horses of the enemie,

In generall iourney bated and brought low: The better part of ours are full of rest.

Wor. The number of the king exceedeth our:

For Gods sake, coosen, stay till all come in.

The trumpet sounds a parley. Enter sir Walter Blunt.

Blunt. I come with gracious offers from the king,

If you vouchsafe me hearing, and respect.

Hot. Welcome, sir Walter Blunt: and would to God

You were of our determination; Some of vs loue you well, and euen those some Enuie your great deseruings and good name,

Because you are not of our qualitie, But stand against vs like an enemie.

Blunt: And God defend, but still I should stand so,

So long as out of limit and true rule You stand against anoynted Maiestie.

But to my charge. The king hath sent to know The nature of your grieues, and whereupon

You conjure from the breast of civill peace, Such bold hostilitie, teaching his dutious land

Audacious crueltie. If that the king Haue any way your good deserts forgot,

Which he confesseth to be manifold, He bids you name your grieues, and with all speed,

You shall haue your desires with interest

And pardon absolute for your selfe, and these

Herein missed by your suggestion.

Hot. The king is kind: and well we know, the king Knowes at what time to promise, when to pay: My father, my vnckle, and my selfe, Did giue him that same royaltie he weares, And when he was not sixe and twentie strong,

Sicke in the worldes regard, wretched and low,

A

Henry the fourth.

A poore vnminded outlaw sneaking home, My father gaue him welcome to the shore: And when he heard him sweare and vow to God, He came but to be Duke of Lancaster, To sue his linery, and beg his peace With teares of innocencie, and tearmes of zeale, My father in kind heart and pittie mou'd, Swore him assistance, and perform'd it too. Now, when the Lords and Barons of the realme, Perceiu'd Northumberland did leane to him, The more and lesse came in with cap and knee, Met him in Boroughs, Cities, Villages, Attended him on bridges, stood in lanes, Laid giftes before him, proffer'd him their oathes, Gaue him their heires, as Pages followed him, Euen at the heeles, in golden multitudes, He presently, as greatnesse knowes itselfe, Steps me a little higher then his vow Made to my father, while his blood was poore, Vpon the naked shore at Rauenspurgh, And now for sooth takes on him to reforme Some certaine edicts, and some streight decrees That lie too heavie on the Common-wealth, Cries out vpon abuses, seemes to weepe Ouer his Countrie wrongs, and by this face, This seeming brow of instice, did he winne The hearts of all that he did angle for: Proceeded further, cut me off the heads Of all the fauourites that the absent king In deputation lest behind him here, When he was personall in the Irish warre. Blunt. Tut, I came not to heare this. Hot. Then to the point. In short time after, he depos'de the King, Soone after that, depriu'd him of his life, And in the necke of that, task't the whole state:

To make that worse, suffred his kinsman March,

(Who is, if cuery owner were well plac'd,

Indeede his King) to be ingag'd in Wales,
There without ransome to lie forfeited.
Disgrac't me in my happy victories,
Sought to intrap me by intelligence,
Rated mine vnckle from the counsell boord,
In rage dismiss my father from the Court,
Broke othe on othe, committed wrong on wrong,
And in conclusion, droue vs to seeke dut
This head of safetie, and withall to prie
Into his title, the which we find
Too indirect for long continuance.

Blunt Shall I returne this answere to the King?

Hot. Not so, sir Walter. Wee'le withdraw a while.

Go to the King, and let there be impawnd

Some suretie for a safe returne againe,

And in the morning early shall my vnckle

Bring him our purposes, and so farewell.

Blunt I would you would accept of grace and loue,

Hot. And may be, so we shall.

Blunt Pray God you do.

Arch. Hie, good sir Mighell, beare this sealed briefe With winged haste to the Lord Marshall,
This to my coolen Scroope, and all the rest
To whom they are directed. If you knew
How much they do import, you would make haste.

Sir M. My good Lord, I gesse their tenor.

Arch. Like enough you do.
To morrow, good sir Mighell, is a day,
Wherein, the fortune of ten thousand men
Must bide the touch. For sir, at Shrewsbury,
As I am truly given to vnderstand,
The King with mighty and quicke raised power,
Meetes with Lord Harry: And I feare, sir Mighell,
What with the sicknesse of Northumberland.
Whose power was in the first proportion,
And what Owen Glendowers absence thence,
Who with them was a rated sinew too,

Indecd

And

And comes not in, ouer-rulde by prophecies,
I feare, the power of Percy is too weake,
To wage an instant triall with the King.

Sir M. Why, my good Lord, you neede not feare,

There is Douglas, and Lord Mortimer.

Arch. No, Mortimer is not there.

Sir M. But there is Mordake, Vernon, Lord Harry Percy,

And there is my Lord of Worcester, and a head Of gallant warriours, noble gentlemen.

Arch. And so there is, but yet the king hath drawne

The speciall head of all the land together.

The Prince of Wales, Lord Iohn of Lancaster,

The noble Westmerland, and warlike Blunt,

And many mo coriuals and deare men Of estimation, and command in armes.

Sir M. Doubt not, my L. they shall be well oppos'd

Arch. I hope no lesse, yet, needfull t'is to feare, And to preuent the worst, sir Mighell, speede:

For if Lord Percy thriue not, e're the king Disnisse his power, he meanes to visit vs,

For he hath heard of our confederacy,

And, t'is but wisedome, to make strong against him:

Therefore make haste, I must go write againe

To other friends, and so farewell, sir Mighell. Exeunt.

Enter the King, Prince of Wales, Lord John of Lancaster, Earle

of Westmerland, Sir Walter Blunt, and Falstalffe.

King. How bloudily the sunne begins to peare, Aboue you busky hill, the day lookes pale

At his distemperature.

Prin. The Southeren wind

Doth play the trumpet to his purposes, And, by the hollow whistling in the leaves, Foretels a tempest and a blustring day.

King. Then, with the losers let it simpathize, For nothing can seeme foule to those that winne.

The trumpet sounds, Enter Worcester.

King. How now, my Lord of Worcester? t'is not well, That you and I should meete vpon such tearmes Henry the fourth.

As now we meete. You have deceiu'd our trust,
And made vs dosse our easie robes of peace,
To crush our old limmes in vngentle steele:
This is not well, my Lord, this is not well.
What say you to it? will you againe vnknit

This churlish knot of all abhorred war?

And moue in that obedient orbe againe.

Where you did giue a faire and naturall light,

And be no more an exhal'd meteor, A prodigie of feare, and a portent

Of broched mischiete to the vnborne times?

Wor. Heare me, my Liege:
For mine owne part, I could be well content,
To entertaine the lag end of my life
With quiet houres. For I protest,

Thaue not sought the day of this dislike.

King You have not sought it: how comes it then?

Fal. Rebellion lay in his way, and he found it.

Prin. Peace, chewet, peace.

Wor. It pleas'd your Maiestie to turne your lookes

Of fauour, from my selfe, and all our house,
And yet I must remember you, my Lord:
We were the first and dearest of your friends,
For you my staffe of office did I breake

In Richards time, and posted day and night To meete you on the way, and kisse your hand,

When yet you were in place and in account Nothing so strong and fortunate as I.

It was my selfe, my brother and his sonne, That brought you home, and boldly did outdate

The dangers of the time. You swore to vs, And you did sweare that othe at Dancaster,

That you did nothing purpose gainst the state, Nor claime no further, then your new falne right,

The seate of Gaunt, Dukedome of Lancaster: To this, we swore our aid: but in short space

It raind downe fortune showring on your head, And such a floud of greatnesse fell on you,

STIL .

Henrie the fourth.

What with our helpe, what with the absent King, What with the injuries of a wanton time, The seeming sufferances that you had borne, And the contrarious winds that held the king So long in his vnluckie Irish wars, That all in England did repute him dead: And from this swarme of faire aduantages, You tooke occasion to be quickly wooed To gripe the generall sway into your hand, Forgot your otheto vs at Dancaster, And being fed by vs, you vs'd vs fo, As that vngentle gull the Cuckowes bird Vseth the sparrow, did oppresse our neast, Grew by our feeding to so great a bulke, That even our love durst not come neere your sight, For feare of swallowing: but with nimble wing We were enforc't for safetie sake, to flie Out of your sight, and raise this present head, Whereby we stand opposed by such meanes, As you your selfe haue forg'd against your selfe By vnkind vsage, dangerous countenance, And violation of all faith and troth Sworne to vs in your yonger enterprize. King. These things indeede you have articulate, Proclaimed at market Crosses, read in Churches, To face the garment of rebellion, With some fine colour that may please the eye Of fickle changelings and poore discontents, Which gape and rub the clbow at the newes Of hurly burly innouation, And neuer yet did insurrection want Such water colours, to impaint his cause, Nor moody beggars, staruing for a time, Ofpell mell hauocke and confusion. Prin. In both your armies there is many a soule,

Shall pay full dearely for this encounter,

If once they ioyne in tryall, tell your nephew,

The Prince of Wales doth ioyne with all the world

In praise of Henry Percy, by my hopes, This present enterprise set of his head, I doe not thinke a brauer Gentleman, More actiue, more valiant, or more valiant young, More daring, or more bold is now aliue, To grace this latter age with noble deedes: For my part, I may speake it to my shame, I haue a trewant been to chiualrie, And so I heare, he doth account me too; Yet this before my fathers Maiestie, I am content that he shall take the oddes Of his great name and estimation, And will, to saue the blood on eyther side, Try fortune with him, in single fight.

Kin. And Prince of Wales, so dare we venture thee, Albeit, considerations infinite Do make against it: No good Worcester, no: Weloue our people well, euen those we loue, That are missed vpon your coosens part, And will they take the offer of our Grace, Both he, and they and you, yea euery man Shall be my friend againe, and ile be his. So tell your coosen, and bring me word What he will doe. But if he will not yeeld, Rebuke and dread correction wait on vs, And they shall doe their office. So be gone: We will not now be troubled with replie, We offer faire, take it aduisedly. Exit Worcester.

Prin. It will not be accepted on my life, The Douglas and the Hotspur both together, Are confident against the world in armes.

King. Hence therefore, euery leader to his charge, For on their answere will we set on them,

And God befriend vs, as our cause is iust. Exeunt: manent Fal. Hal, if thou see me downe in the battell Prin. Falft. And bestride me, so, t'is a poynt of friendship.

Prin. Nothing but a Colossus can doe thee that friendship. Say thy prayers, and farewell.

Fall. I would it were bed time, Hal, and all well.

Prin. Why? thou owest God a death.

Fals. T'is not due yet, I would be loath to pay him before his day: what neede I bee so forward with him that cals not on mee! Well, t'is no matter, honor pricks me on : yea, but how if honor pricke me off when I come on how then? can honor set to a leg! no: or an arme? no: or take away the griefe of a wound? no: ho. nor hath no skill in surgery then? no: What is honour? a worde: what is in that word honor? what is that honour? aire: a trim reckoning. Who hath it? he that dyed a Wednesday: doth he feele it? no: doth he heare it!no: t'is insensible then? yea: to the dead: but will it not line with the lining? no: why? detraction will not suffer it, therefore ile none of it, honour is a meere skutchion, and so ends my Catechisme. Exit.

Enter Worcester and sir Richard Vernon.

Wor. Ono, my nephew must not know, sir Richard,

The liberall kind offer of the king.

Ver. T'were best he did.

Wor. Then are we all vnder one.

It is not possible: it cannot be,

The king should keepe his word in louing vs,

He will suspect vs still, and finde a time

To punish this offence in other faultes,

Supposition, all our liues, shall be stucke full of eyes,

For treason is but trusted like the Foxe,

Who neuer so tame, so cherish't and lock't vp,

Will haue a wild tricke of his ancesters:

Looke how we can, or sad or merrily;

Interpretation will misquote our lookes,

And we shall feede like oxen at a stall,

The better cherisht, still the neerer death.

My nephewes trespasse may be wellforgot,

It hath the excuse of youth, and heat of blood,

And an adopted name of priviledge,

A hair-braind Hotspur gouerned by a spleene:

All his offences liue vpon my head

And on his fathers. We did traine him on,

And his corruption being tane from vs,

Henrie the fourth.

We as the spring of all, shall pay for all: Therefore good coosen, let not Harry know,

In any case the offer of the king.

Enter Hotspur.

Ve. Deliuer what you wil, ile say t'is so. Here comes your coosen.

Hot. My vnckle is return'd.

Deliuer vp my Lord of Westmerland,

Vnckle, what newes.

Wor. The King will bid you battell presently, Dong. Desie him by the Lord of Westmerland.

Hot. Lord Douglas, go you and tell him so.

Dong. Marry and shall, and very willingly. Exit Dong.

Wor. There is no seeming mercy in the king.

Hot. Did you beg any? God forbid.

Wor. Itoldhim gently of our grieuances,

Of his oath-breaking, which he mended thus,

By now forswearing that he is forsworne,

He calls vs rebels, traitors, and will scourge With hawtie armes, this hatefull name in vs.

Enter Dong.

Dong. Arme, gentlemen, to armes: for I haue throwne

A braue desiance in king Henries teeth,

And Westmerland that was ingag'd did beare it, Which cannot chuse but bring him quickly on.

Wer. The Prince of Wales stept forth before the king,

And, nephew, challeng'd you to single fight.

Hot. O, would the quarrell lay vpon our heads, And that no man might draw short breath to day,

But I and Harry Monmouth: tell me, tell me,

How shewd his talking? seemd it in contempt? Ver. No, by my soule, I neuer in my life Did heare a challenge vrg'd more modestly,

Vnlesse a brother should a brother dare To gentle exercise and proofe of Armes.

He gaue you all the duties of a man,

Trim'd vp your prayses with a Princely tongue,

Spoke your deseruings like a Chronicle, Making you euer better then his praise,

By still dispraising praise, valued with you: And which became him like a Prince indeed.

He made a blushing citall of himselfe.

And chid his trewant youth with such a grace,
As if he mastred there a double spirit

Of teaching and of learning instantly:
There did he pause; but let me tell the world,
If he outline the ennie of this day,
England did neuer owe so sweete a hope,
So much misconstrued in his wantonnesse.

On his follies: neuer did I heare.

Of any Prince so wild a libertie:

But be he as he will, yet once e're night,
I will imbrace him with a souldiers arme,
That he shall shrinke vnder my courteste.

Arme, arme with speed, and fellowes, souldiers, friendes,
Better consider what you haue to doe,
That I that haue not well the gift of tongue
Can lift your blood up with perswasion.

Enter a messenger.

Mes. My Lord, here are letters for you.

Hot. I cannot reade them now.

O, Gentlemen, the time of life is short:

To spend that shortnes basely, were too long,

If lite did ride vpon a dials point,

Still ending at the arrivals of an house,

And if we live, we live to tread on kings,

If die, brave death, when princes die with vs.

Now for our consciences, the armes are faire,

When the intent of bearing them is just.

Emer another.

Mes. My Lord, prepare, the King comes on apace,
Hot. I thanke him, that he cuts me from my tale:
For I professe not talking, onely this,
Let each man doe his best: and here draw I a sword,
Whose temper I intend to staine
With the best blood that I can meet withall,
In the aduenture of this perillous day.
Now esperance Percy, and set on,
Sound all the lostic instruments of war,
And by that musicke let vs all embrace,

... inry the fourth.

For heauen to earth, some of vs neuer shall A second time do such a courtesse.

Here they embrace, the trumpets sound, the King enters with his power, alarme to the battell, then enter Douglas, and Sir Walter Blunt.

Blunt What is thy name, that in battell thus thou crossest me? What honour dost thou seeke vpon my head?

Doug. Know then, my name is Douglas,
And I do haunt thee in the battell thus,

Because some tell me that thou art a King.

Blunt They tell thee true.

Doug. The Lord of Stafford deare to day hath bought Thy likenesse, for in stead of thee, King Harry, This sword hath ended him, so shall it thee,

Vn'esse thou yeelde thee as my prisoner.

Blunt I was not borne a yeelder, thou proud Scot:

And thou shalt find a king that will revenge

Lord Staffords death.

They fight, Douglas kils Blunt, then enter Hotspur.

Hot. O Douglas, hadst thou fought at Holmedon thus,
Incuer had triumpht ouer a Scot,

Doug. Als done, als won: here breathles lyes the king.

Hot. Where?

Doug. Here.

Hot. This, Douglas?no, I know this face full well, Agallant knight he was, his name was Blunt, Semblably furnisht like the king himselfe.

Doug. Ah foole, go with thy soule whither it goes, A borrowed title hast thou bought too deare.

Why didst thou tell me, that thou wert a king?

Hot. The king hath many marching in his coates.
Doug. Now by my sword, I will kill all his coates:

He murther all his wardrobe, piece by piece,

Untill I meete the King.

Hot. Vp, and away,

Our souldiours stand full fairely for the day.

Fal. Though I could scape shot-free at London, I seare the shot here, here's no scoring but vpon the pate. Soft, who are you? sir Walter Blunt, ther's honor for you, here's no vanity: I am as

For

hot as molten lead, and as heauy too: God keepelead out of me. Ineede no more weight then mine owne bowels. I haue led my rag of Mussins where they are pepperd: there's not three of my 150. lest aliue, and they are for the townes end, to beg during life: but who comes here? Enter the Prince.

Prin. What, standst thou idle here? lend me thy sword?

Many a noble man lies starke and stiffe, Vnder the hooues of vaunting enemies,

Whose deaths are yet vnreueng'd. I pretheelend me thy sword. Fal. O Hal, I prethee gine me leaue to breathe a while: Turke Gregory neuer did such deeds in armes, as I haue done this day, Ihaue paid Percy, Ihaue made him sure,

Prin Heis indeed, and huing to kill thee.

I prethee lend me thy sword.

Fal. Nay, before God, Hal, if Percy be aliue, thou getst not my sword, but take my pistoll if thou wilt,

Prin. Giueit me: what? is it in the case?

Fal. I Hal, t'is hot, t'is hot, there's that will sacke a Citie. The Prince drawes it out, and finds it to be a bottle of sacke. Prin. What? is it a time to least and dally now?

He throwes the bottle at him. Exit.

Fal. Well, if Percy be aliue, Ile pierce him, if he do come in my way: so, if he do not, if I come in his willingly let him make a Carbonado of me. Ilike not such grinning honour as sir Walter hath: giue me life, which if I can saue, so: if not, honour comes vnlookt for, and there's an end.

Alarme, excursions, Enter the King, the Prince, Lord Iohn of Lancaster, and Earle of Westmerland.

King. I prethee Harry, withdraw thy selfe, thou bleedest too much, Lord John of Lancaster, go you with him.

P. Iohn. Not I, my Lord, vnlesse I did bleede too.

Prin. I beseech your Maiestie make vp, Least your retirement do amaze your friends

King I will do so: my Lord of Westmerland, lead him to his

West. Come, my Lord, Ile lead vou to your tent.

Prin. Lead me, my Lord? I do not neede your helpe, And God forbida shallow scratch should drive

Henry the fourth.

The Prince of Wales from such a field as this, Where stain'd nobilitie lies troden on, Andrebels armes triumph in massacres.

10h. We breathe too long, come, coosen Westmerland,

Our ductie this way lies: For Gods lake come. Prin. By God, thou hast deceiu'd me, Lancaster,

I did not thinke thee Lord of such a spirit: Before, I lou'd thee as a brother, Iohn, Butnow, I doe respect thee as my soule.

King. I saw him hold Lord Percy at the poynt, Wich lustier maintenance, then I did looke for

Of such an vngrowne warrior.

Prin. O, this boy lends mettall to vs all.

Dong. Another king, they grow like Hydras heads,

I am the Douglas, fatall to all those

That weare those colours on them. What art thou

That counterfetst the person of a king?

Kin. The king himselfe, who Douglas grieues at heart, So many of his shadowes thou hast met And not the very king: I haue two boyes

Seeke Percie and thy selfe about the field, But seeing thou fal'st on me so luckily, I will assay thee, and defend thy selfe.

Doug. I seare thou art another counterfet, And yet, in faith, thou bearest thee like a king, But mine, I am sure, thou art, who er'e thou be: And thus I winne thee.

They fight, the King being in danger, Enter Prince of Wales. Prin. Hold vp thy head, vile Scot, or thou art like

Neuer to hold it vp againe, the spirits

Of valiant Sheely, Stafford, Blunt, are in my armes:

It is the Prince of Wales, that threatens thee, VVhoneuer promiseth, but he meanes to pay.

They fight, Douglas flieth. Cheerely my Lord, how fares your grace? Sir Nicholas Gawley hath for succour sent, And so hath Clifton: ile to Clifton straight.

King. Stay, and breathe a while:

Thou hast redeemed thy lost opinion, And shew'd thou makest some tender of my life,

In this faire rescue thou hast brought to me.

Prin. O God, they did me too much iniurie, That euer said, I harkened for your death. If it were so, I might have let alone The insulting hand of Douglas ouer you, Which would have bene as speedy in your end, As all the poisonous potions in the world, And sau'd the trecherous labour of your sonne. King. Make vp to Clifton, lle to S. Nicholas Gawley. Exit Ki.

Enter Hotspur.

Hot. If I mistake not, thou art Harry Monmouth. Prin, Thouspeakst, as if I would deny my name.

Hot. My name is Harry Percy.

Prin. Why, then I see a very valiant rebell of that name;

I am the Prince of Wales, and thinke not, Percy,

To share with me in glory any more:

Two stars keepe not their motion in one sphere, Nor can one England brooke a double raigne

Of Harry Percy, and the Prince of Wales.

Hot. Now, shall it, Harry? for the houre is come,

To end the one of vs, and would to God

Thy name in armes, were now as great as mine.

Prin. Ile make it greater, e're I part from thee, And all the budding honours on thy crest,

Ile crop to make a garland for my head.

Hot. I can no longer brooke thy vanities.

They fight: Enter Falstaiffe. Fal. Well said, Hal, to it, Hal. Nay you shall find no boyes

play here, I can tell you.

Enter Douglas, he fighteth with Falfalffe, he fals downe as if he were dead, the Prince killeth Percy.

Hot. Oh Harry, thou hast rob'd me of my youth, I better brooke the losse of brittle life, Then those proud titles thou hast won of me,

Henry the fourth.

They wound my thoughts, worse then thy sword my sless: But thought's the slave of life, and life times foole, And time that takes survey of all the world, Must haue a stop. O, I could prophecie, But that the earth and cold hand of death Lies on my tongue: no Percy, thou art dust

And food for

Prin. For wormes, braue Percy. Fare thee well, great heart, Ill wean'd ambition, how much art thou thruncke? When that this body did containe a spirit, A kingdome for it was too small a bound, But now two paces of the vilest earth Is roome inough: this earth that beares the dead, Beares not aliue so stout a gentleman. If thou wert sensible of curtesie, I should not make so great a shew of zeale: But let my fauours hide thy mangled face, And even in thy behalfe ile thanke my selfe, For doing these faire rites of tendernesse. Adiew, and take thy praise with thee to heaven, Thy ignominy sleepe with thee in the graue, But not remembred in thy Epitaph.

He spieth Falstalffe on the ground. What, old acquaintance! could not all this flesh Keepe in a little life? poore lacke, farewell, I could haue better spar'd a better man. O, I should haue a heavy misse of thee, If I were much in loue with vanitie: Kanadi Illa Char Death hath not strooke so faire a Deere to day, Though many dearer, in this bloody fray. Inbowel'd will I see thee by and by, Till then, in blood by noble Percy lie. Exit.

Falstalffe riseth up.

Fal. Inbowel'd? if thou inbowell me to day, ile give you leave to powder mee and eate me too to morrow. Zblood, t'was time to counterfet, or that hot termagant Scot had paid mee scot and lot too. Counterfet? I lie, I am no counterfet: to die 1s to be a counterfet, for hee is but the counterfer of a man, who hath not

Henry the fourth.

the life of a man: but to counterfet dying when a man thereby lineth, is to be no counterfet, but the true and perfect image of life indeed. The better part of valour is discretion, in the which better part I have saved my life. Zounds I am afraid of this gun. powder Percy, though he be dead!: how if he should counterfet too and rise? by my faith, I am afraid he would prove the better counterfet: therefore ile make him sure, yea, and ile sweare I kild him. Why may not he is easwell as I? nothing consutes me but eyes, and no body sees me: therefore sirra, with a new woundin your thigh, come you along with me.

He takes up Hotspur on his backe. Enter Prince and
Iohn of Lancaster.

Prin. Come, brother Iohn, full brauely hast thoussessit

John. But sost, whom have we here?
Did you not tell me this fat man was dead?

Prin. I did, I saw him dead,
Breathlesse and bleeding on the ground. Art thou aliue?
Or is it fantasie that playes vpon our eie-sight?
I prethee speake, we will not trust our eies

Without our eares, thou art not what thou seem's.

Falst. No, that's certaine, sam not a double man: but if thee not lacke Falstalsse, then am la lacke: there is Percie, it your father will doe mee any honour, so: if not, let him kill the next Percy himselse: I looke to be either Earle or Duke, scan assure you.

Prin. Why, Percy I kild my selfe, and saw thee dead. In I.

Fal. Didst thou? Lord, Lord, how this world is given tolying? I grant you, I was downe, and out of breath, and so was hee, but wee rose both at an instant, and fought a long houreby Shrewesburie clocke, if I may be believed, so: if not, let them that should rewarde valour, beare the sinne vpon their owne heads. He take it vpon my death, I gave him this wound in the thigh: if the man were alwe, and would denie it, Zounds I would make him eate a piece of my sword.

Prin. This is the strangest tale, that ever I heard.

Prin. This is the strangest fellow, brother John,

Come, bring your luggage mobly on your backe.

For my part, if a lie may doe thee grace, lle guild it with the happiest termes I haue.

A retraite is sounded.

Prin. The Trumpet sounds retrait, the day is ours.

Come, brother, let vs to the highest of the field,

To see what friends are living, who are dead.

Exeunt.

Fal. Ile follow, as they say, for reward. Hee that rewards me, God reward him. If I doe growe great, ile growe lesse, for ile surge and leaue Sacke, and liue cleanely as a noble manshould Exit.

The Trumpets sound, Enter the King, Prince of Wales, Lorde Iohn of Lancaster, Earle of Westmerland, with Worcester, and Vernon, prisoners.

King. Thus ever did rebellion finde rebuke.

Illspirited Worcester, did not we send grace,
Pardon, and termes of love to all of you?

And wouldst thou turne our offers contrary,
Misuse the tenor of thy kinsmans trust?

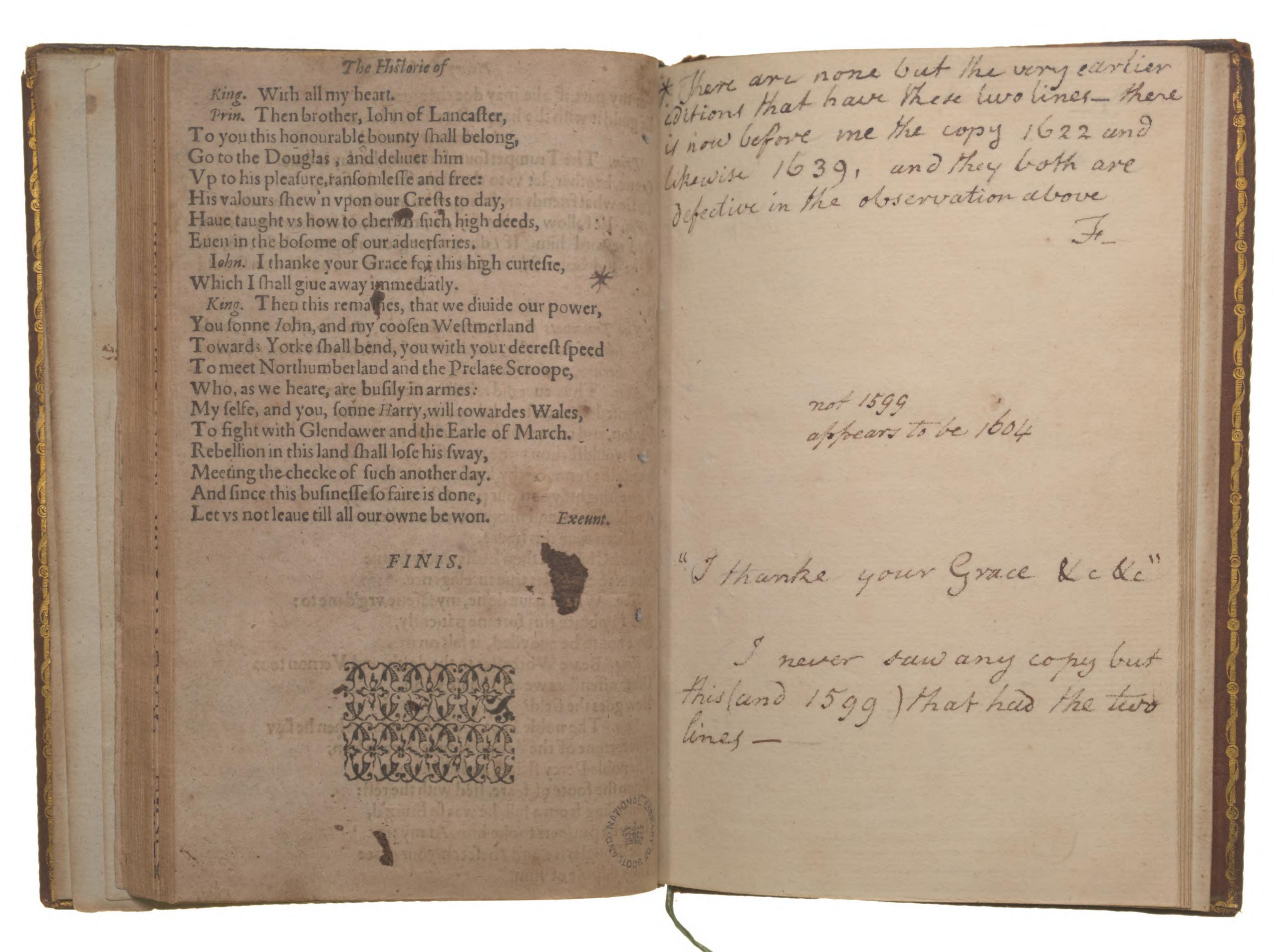
Three knights vpost our partie staine to day,
A noble Earle, and many a creature else,
Had been alive this houre,
If like a Christian thou hadst truely borne
Betwixt our armies true intelligence.

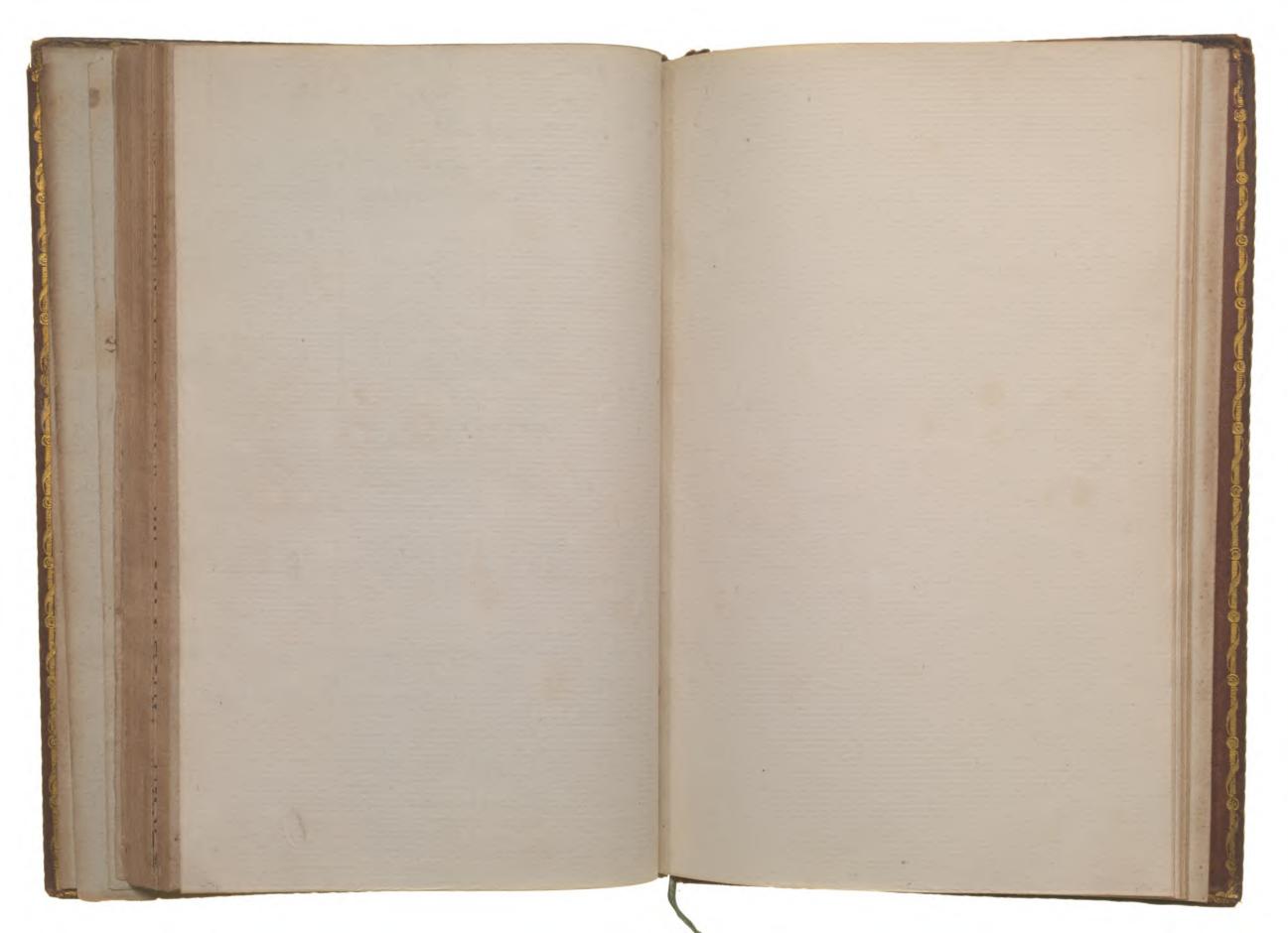
Wor. What I have done, my safetie vrg'd me to:
And I imbrace this fortune patiently,
Since not to be auoyded, it fals on me.

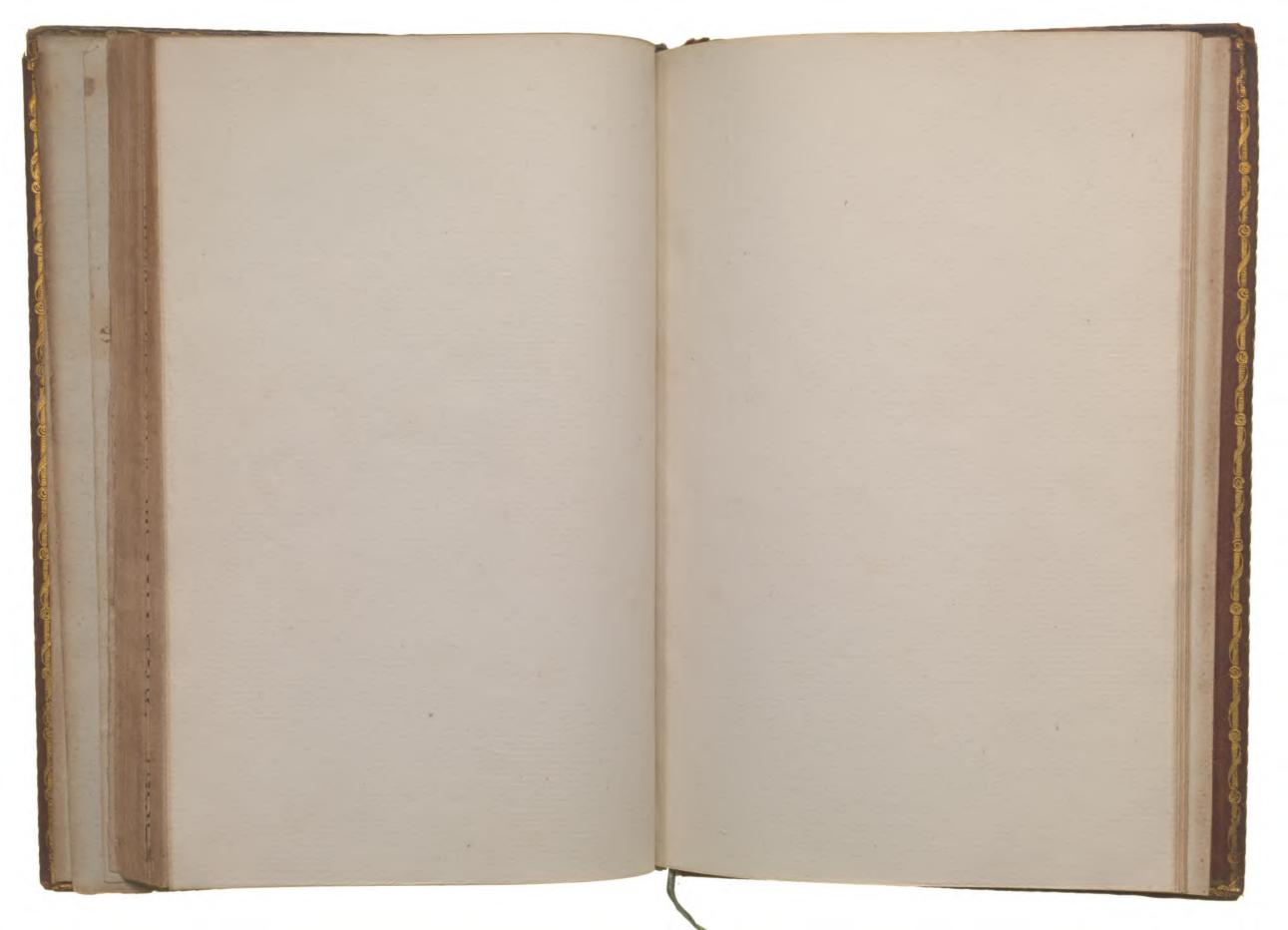
King Beare Worcester to the death, and Vernon too: Other offenders we will pause vpon.
How goes the field?

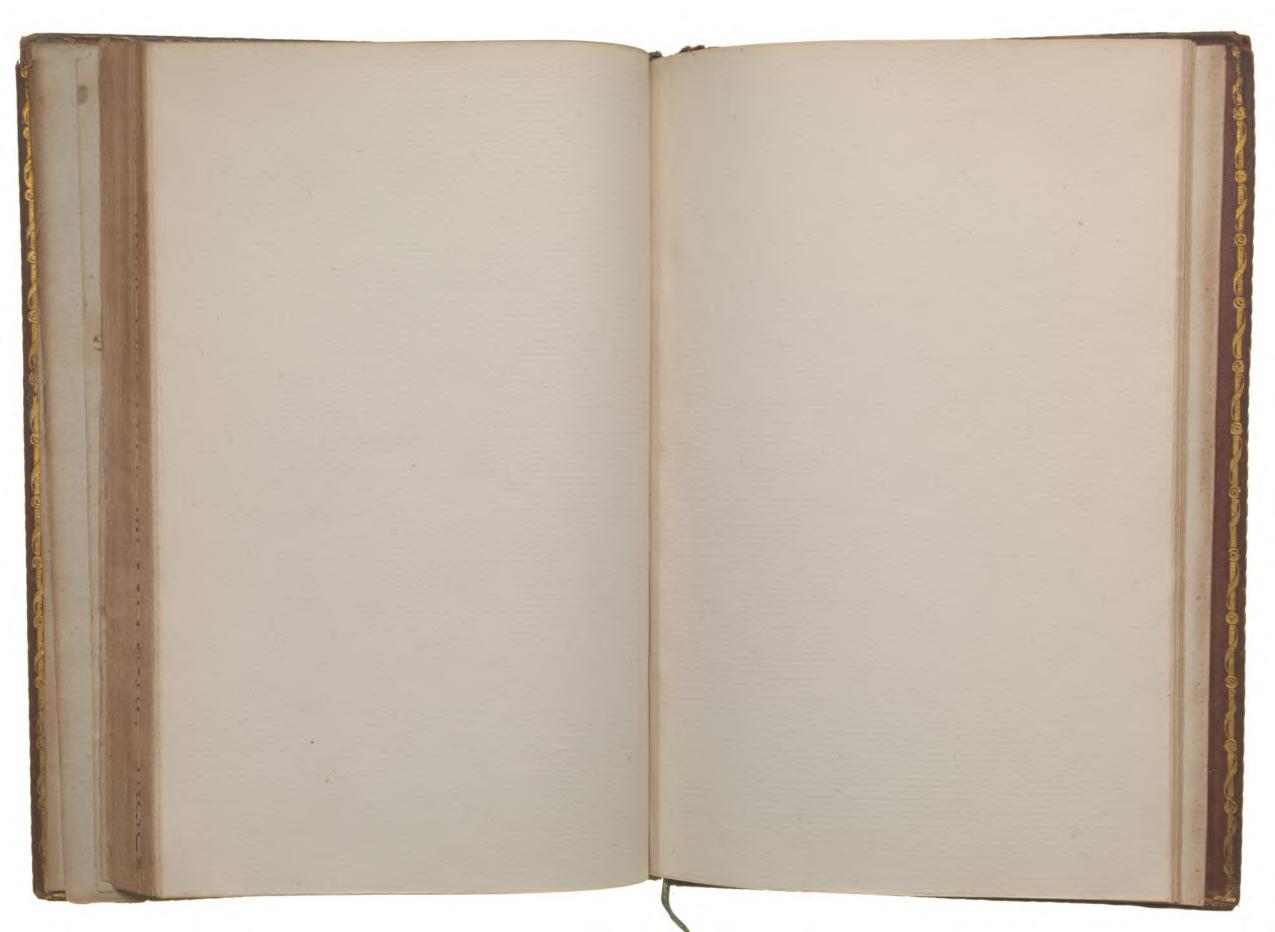
Prin. The noble Scot, Lord Douglas, when he saw
The fortune of the day quite turn'd from him,
The noble Percy slaine, and all his men
Vponthe foote of feare, fled with the rest:
And falling from a hill, he was so bruiz'd,
That the pursuers tooke him. At my tent
The Douglas is: and I befeech your grace
I may dispose of him.

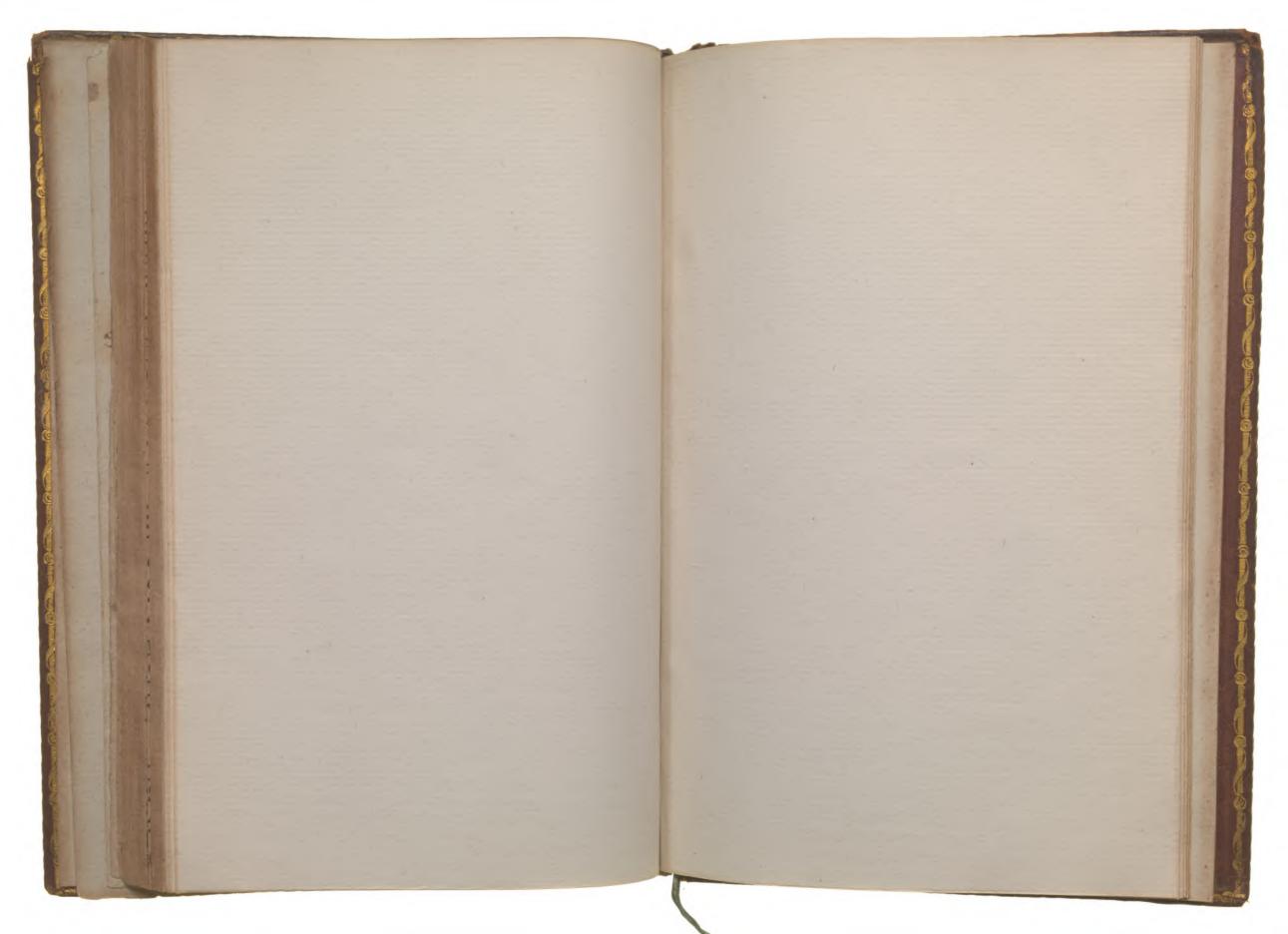
King.

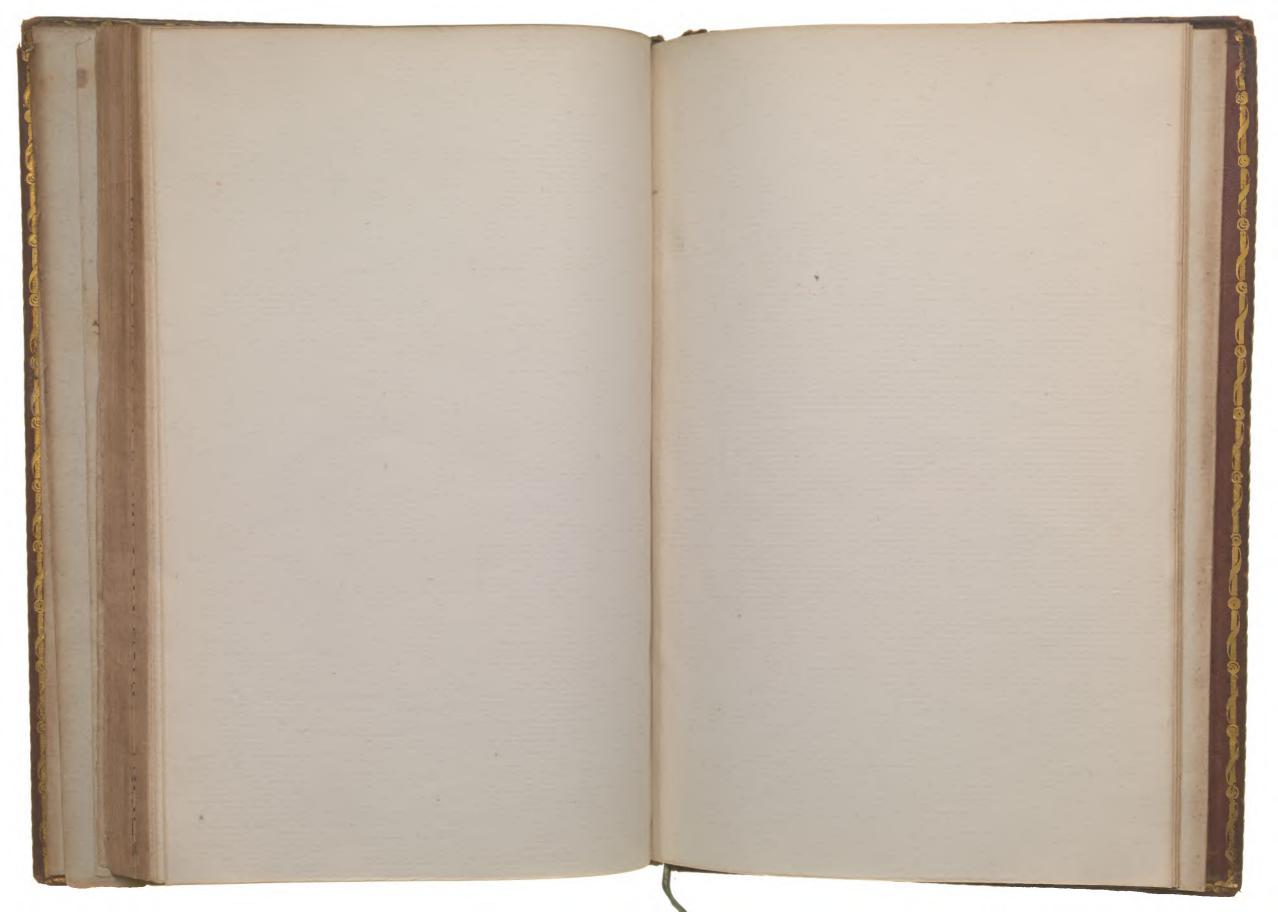


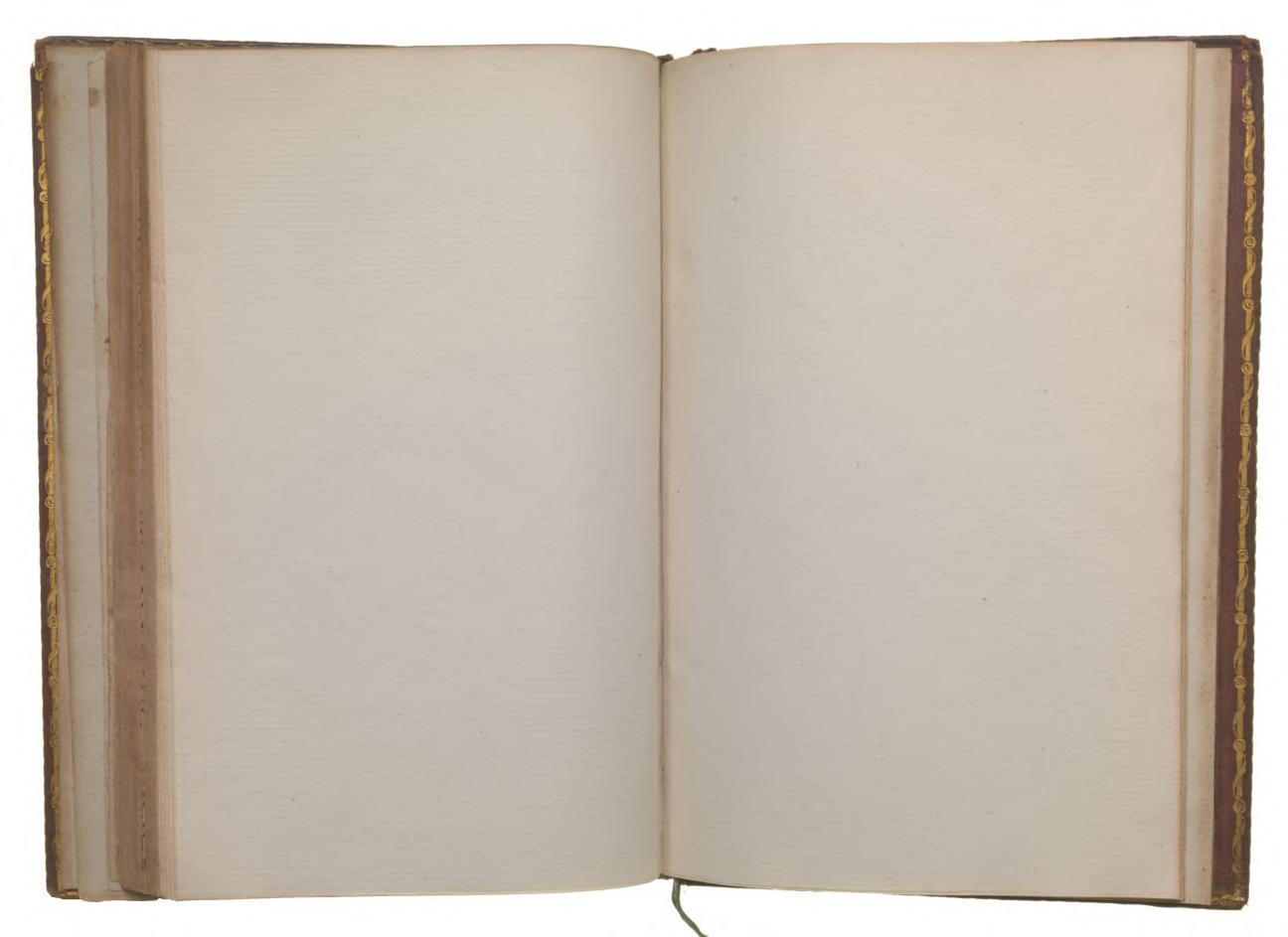


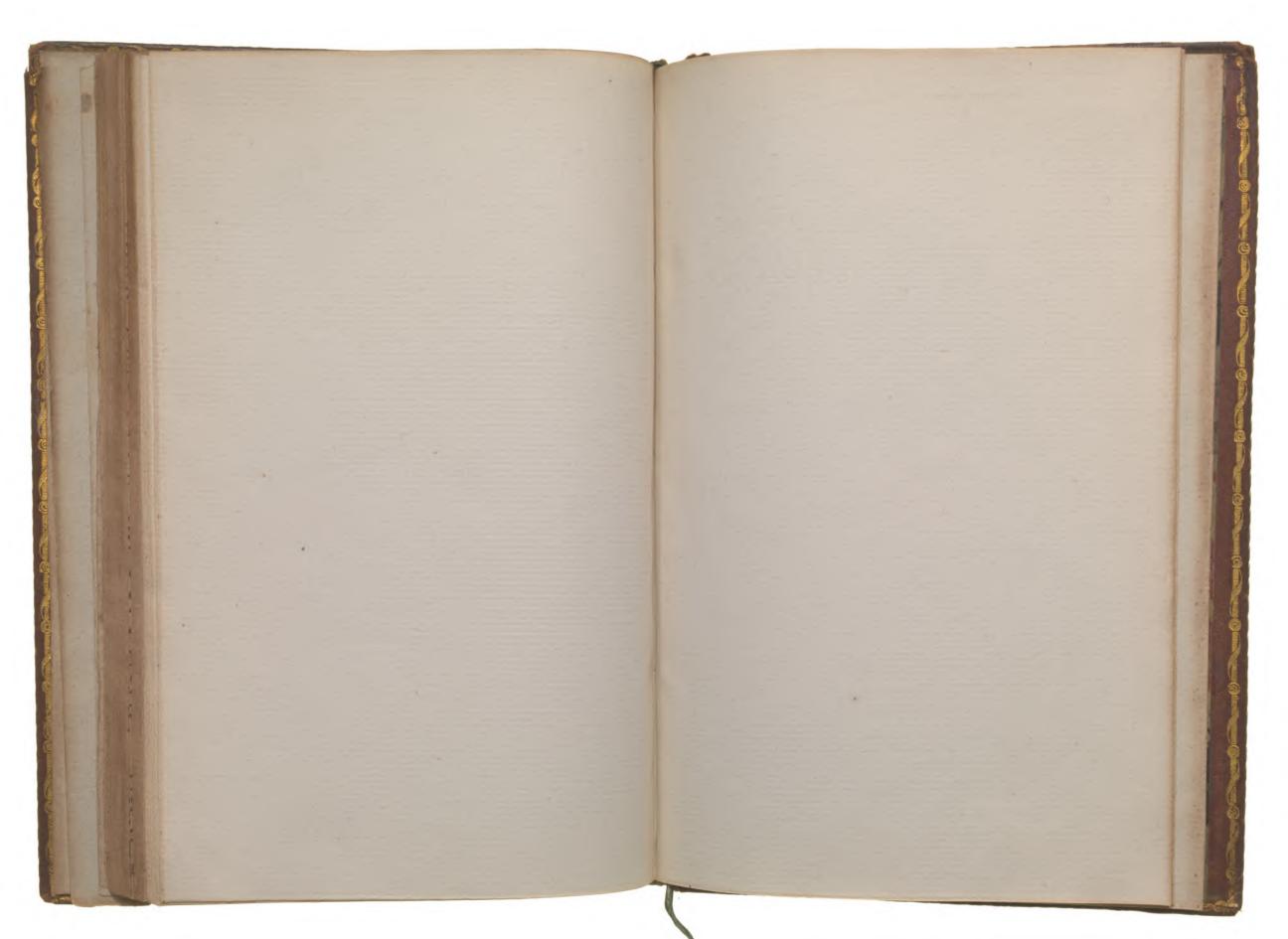


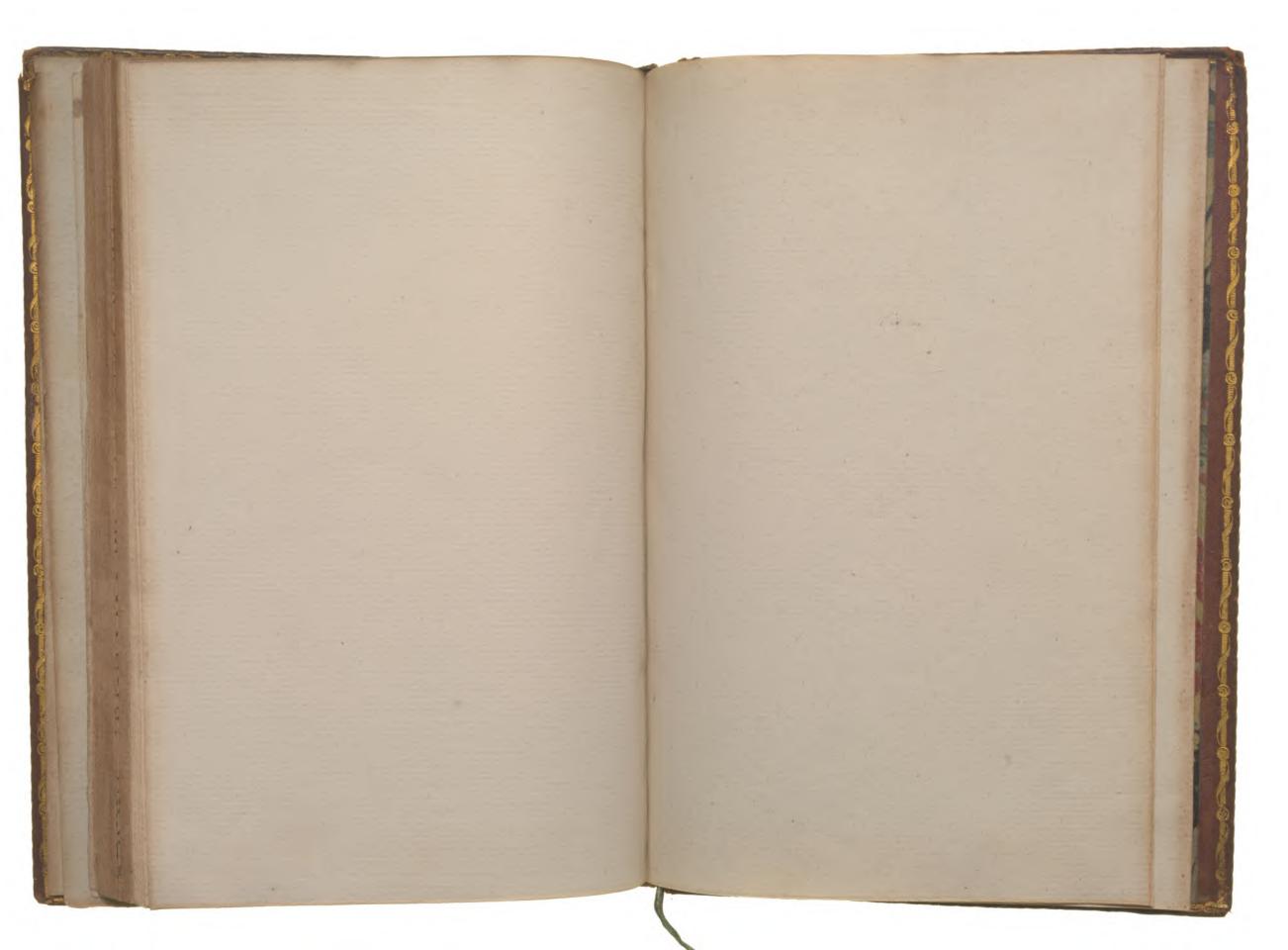


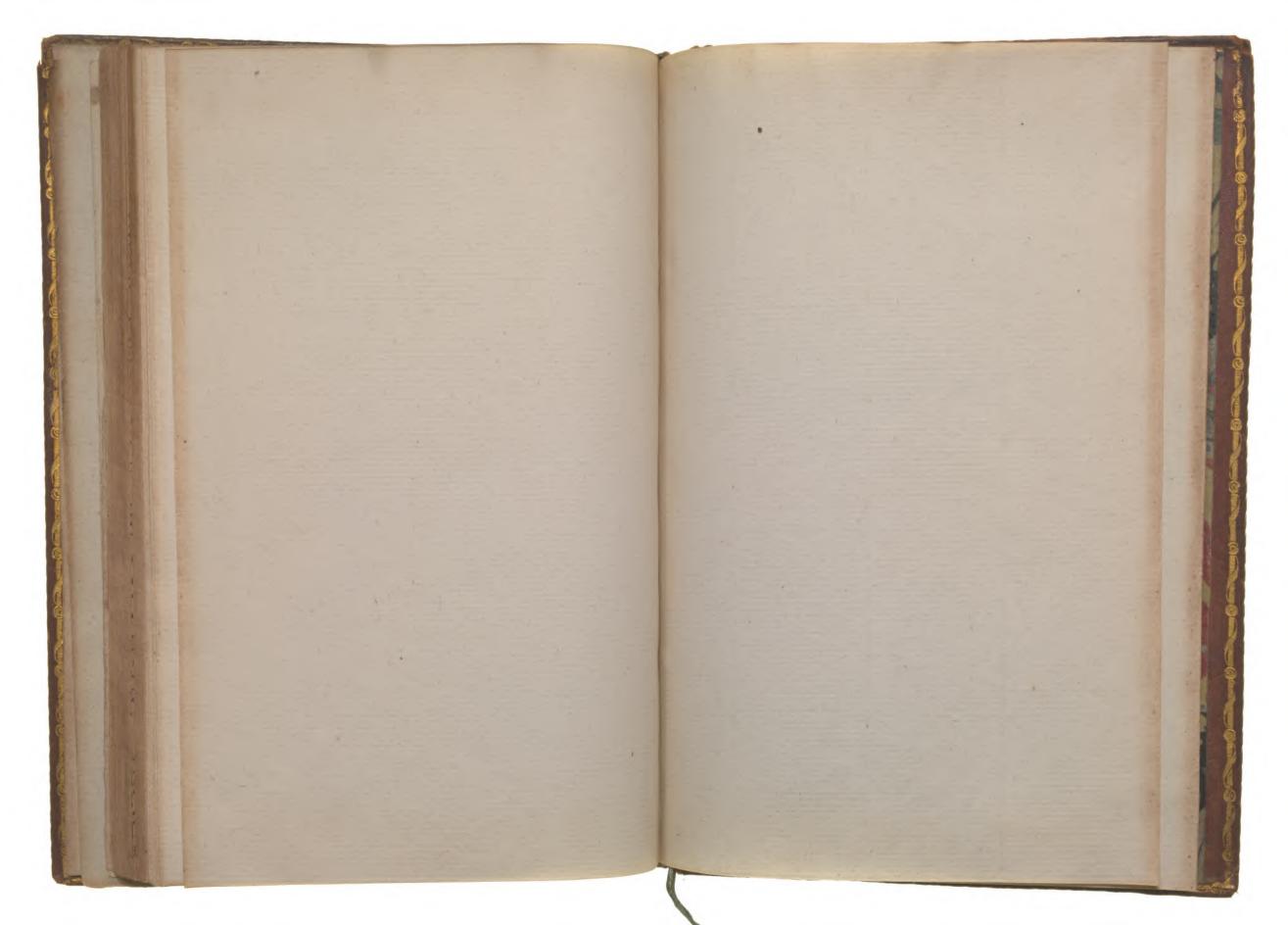


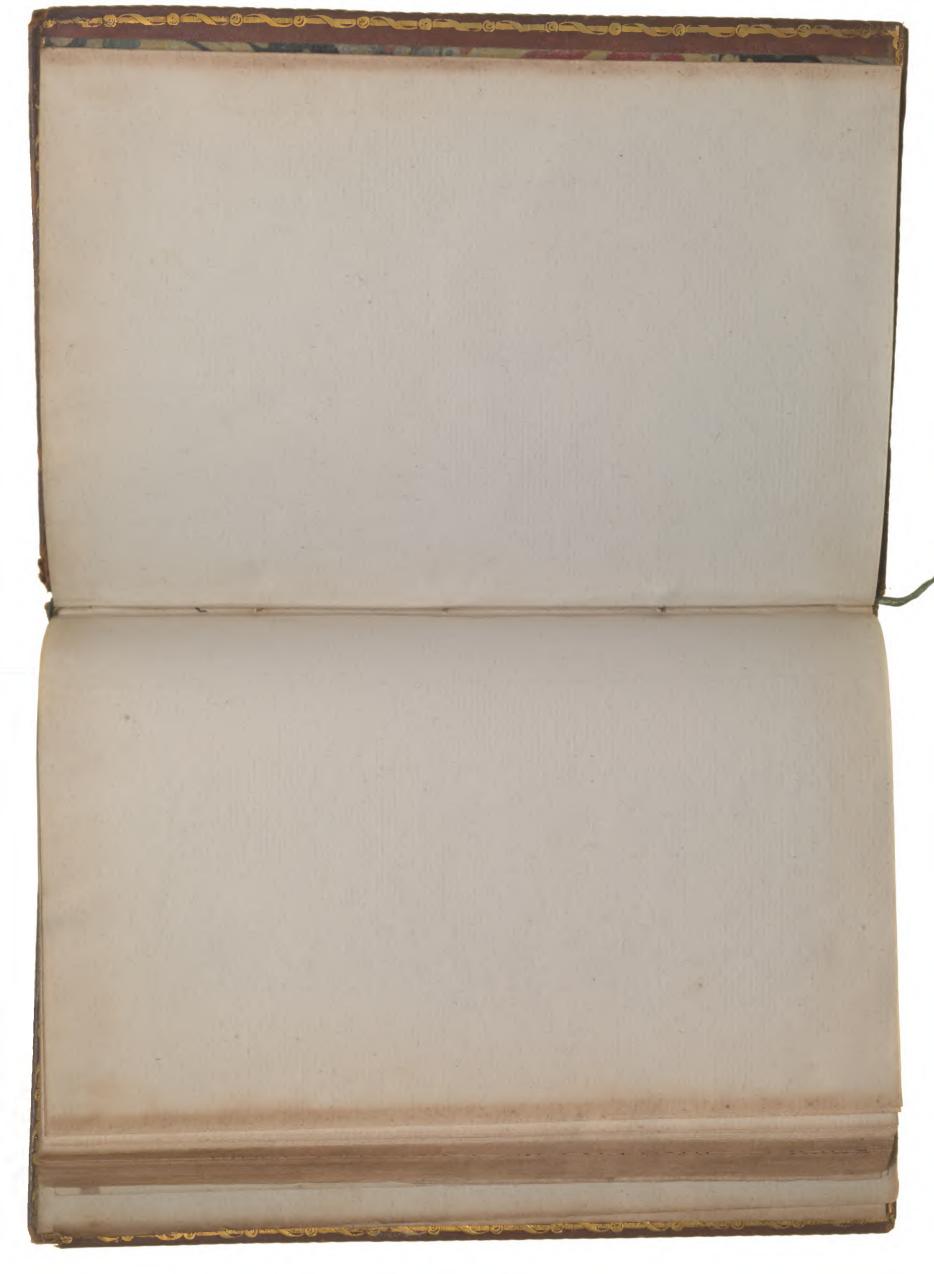


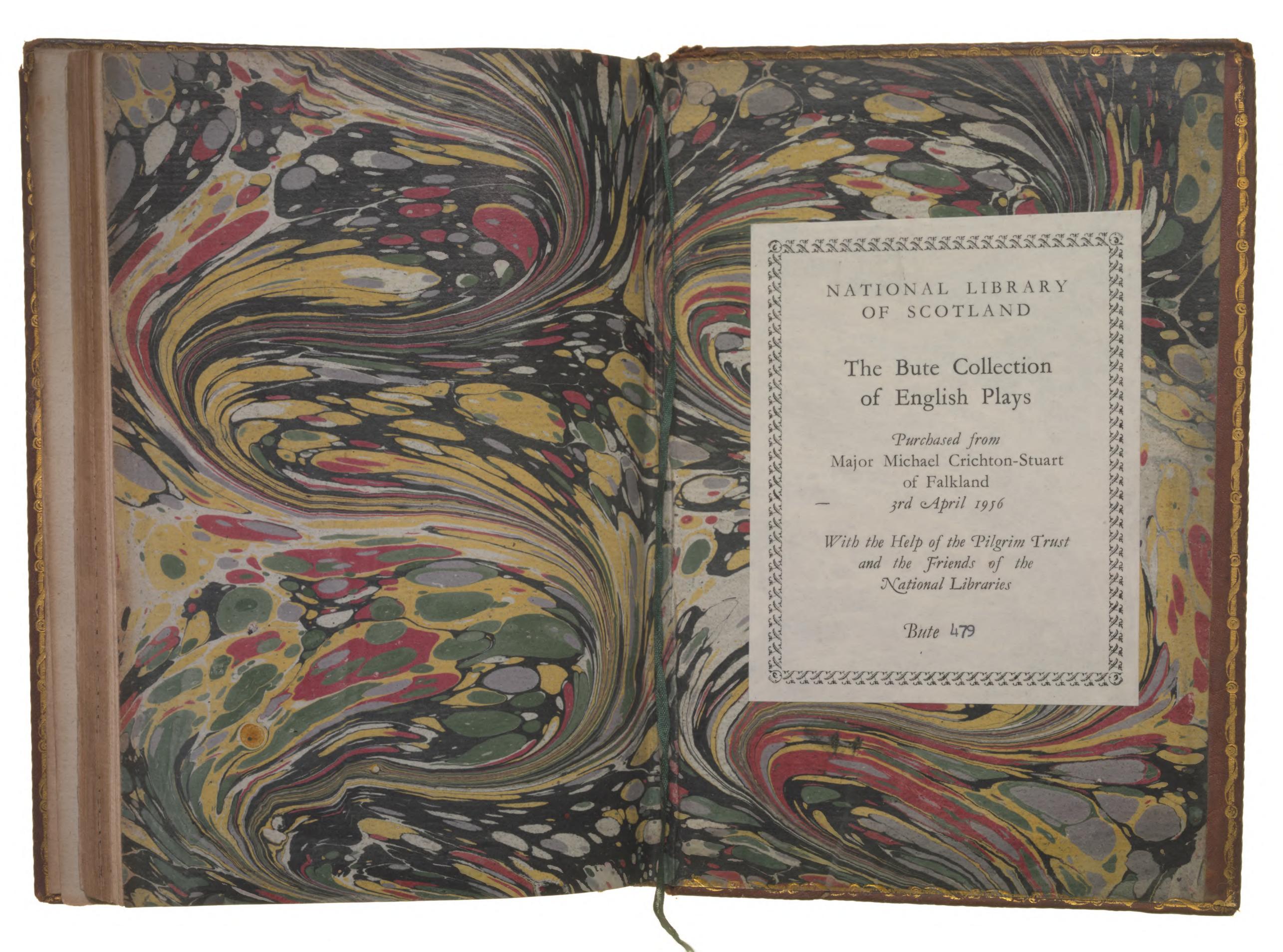


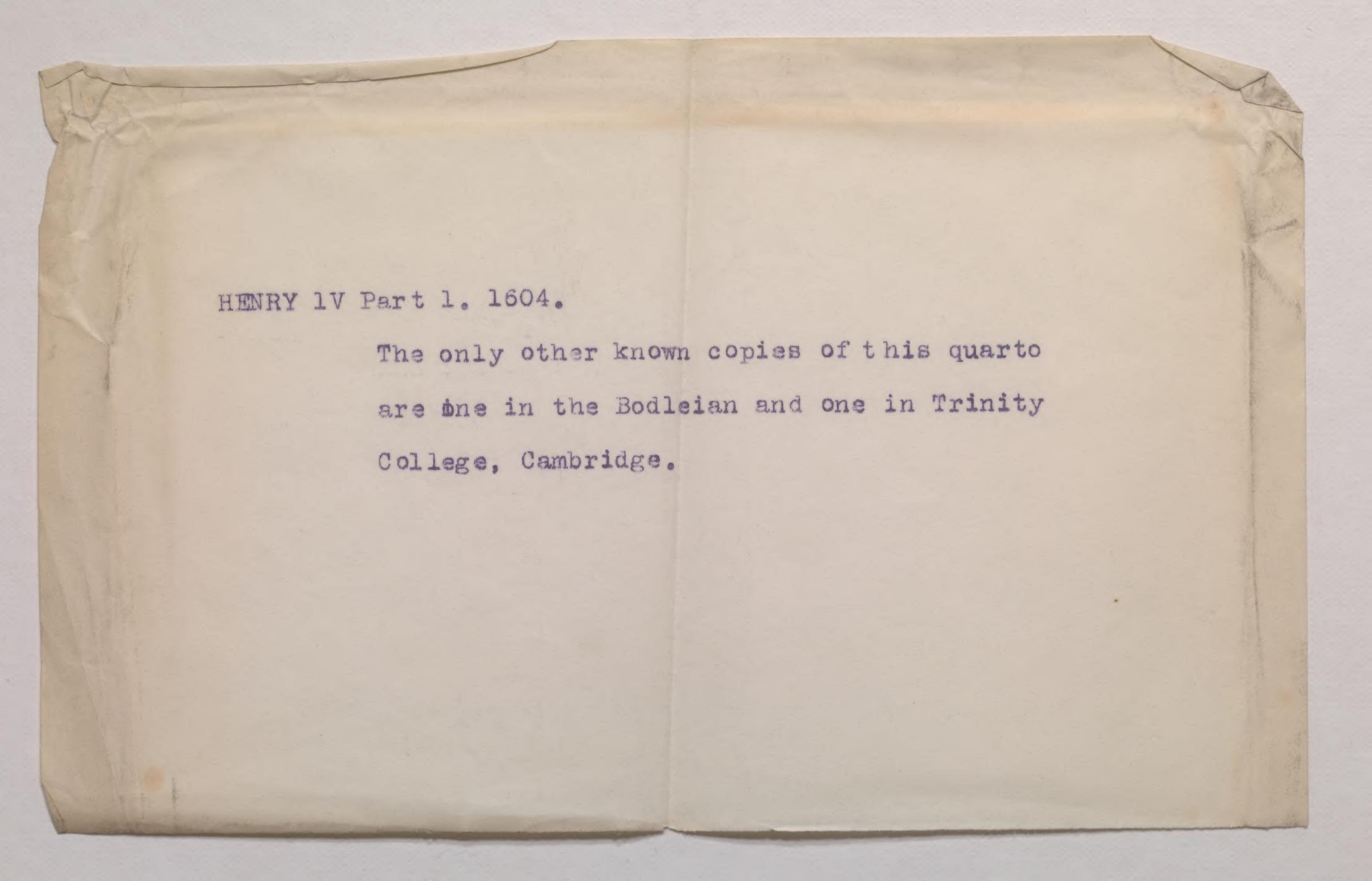














500 FOURTH THE