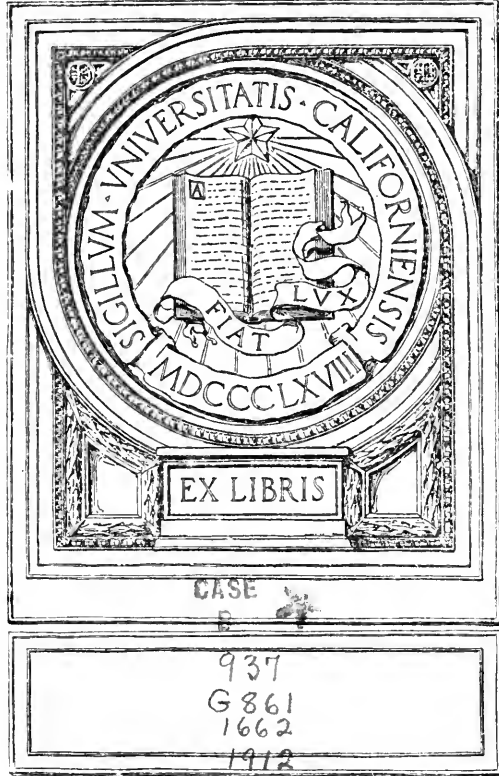


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The Tudor Facsimile Texts

Grim the Collier of Croydon

Date of first known edition 1662

(From the British Museum copy)

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The Tudor Facsimile Texts

Under the Supervision and Editorship of

JOHN S. FARMER

Grim the Collier of Croydon

1662

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THE TUDOR FACSIMILE TEXTS

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AIRBORNE

Grim the Collier of Croydon

1662

This play is reproduced from an original now in the British Museum ; copies of the play are exceedingly scarce, and they occur only in a collection with the following title :—

Gratie Theatrales, or A choice Ternary of English plays, Composed upon especial occasions by several ingenious persons ; . . . Grim the Collier of Croydon, or The Devil and his Dame ; with the Devil and St. Dunstan : a Comedy, by I.T. Never before published : but now printed at the request of sundry ingenious friends. R.D. 1662. 12mo.

As regards this play I have pointed out, in another place, that great uncertainty exists as to date. The probability is that it is a Restoration play founded on an older one, recognisable by such traces as “the plains of new America” (p. 16) and similar allusions.

The “I. T.” of the title-page was an adaptor, who, I strongly suspect, was John Tatham (1632-64) and who succeeded John Taylor and Thomas Heywood in the office of laureate to the Lord Mayor’s Shows. He was thus largely concerned in stagecraft, and was otherwise engaged in revising plays besides preparing pageants. The play is doubtless very old, but the Seventeenth Century adaptor adapted “without restrictions.” As regards authorship Collier suggests Edwards ; Fley, William Haughton. For the rest, the play is choked with anachronisms ; Fulwell’s “Like to Like” should be borne in mind. Finally, I must personally explain that the presentment here made of the facsimile is due to the obvious desirability of introducing no new sizes into this series, and “Grim” with one exception—Brandon’s “Virtuous Octavia,” a 12mo—stands alone as regards size.

The B.M. example lacks the prologue. This I shall give, from the Bodley copy, in one of the volumes of “Dramatic Fragments.”

The reproduction of this play from the original is equal in every respect to the standard attained in this series of facsimiles ; there is little, if anything, to find fault with.

JOHN S. FARMER

7th G R I M
The Collier of Croyden;
OR,
The Devil and his Dame:
WITH
The Devil and Saint Dunston.

By I. T.



LONDON, Printed in the year. 1662

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The Actors Names.

St. Dunston, Abbot of *Glassenbury*.

Morgan, Earle of *London*.

Lacy, Earle of *Kent*.

Honorea, *Morgan's* Daughter.

Marian, her Waiting-maid.

Nan, *Marian's* Maid.

Musgrave, a young Gentleman.

Captain *Clinton*.

Miles Forrest, a Gentleman.

Ralph Harvie, an Apothecary.

Grim, the Collier of *Croyden*.

Parson *Short-hose*.

Clack, a Miller.

Joan, a Country May.

Pluto

Minos.

Eacus.

Rhadamantus.

Belpagor.

Akercock, or *Robin Good-fellow*.

Malbecco his Ghost.

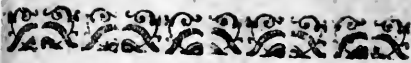
Officers, Attendants, &c.

The Stage is *England*.



} Devils.

NO. VIII
ANNONIAO



Grim the Collier of Croydon.

Actus primus. Scæna prima.

*A place being provided for the Devils Consistory, enter
S Dunstan with his Beads, Book, and
Crozier Staff, &c.*

S. Dunst. **E**Nvy that alwayes waits on Vertu's
trayn,

And tears the Graves of quiet sleeping Souls,
Hath brought me, after many hundred years,
To shew my self again upon the earth.

Know then (who list) that I am *English* born,
My name is *Dunston*; whilst I lived with men,
Chief Primate of the Holy *English* Church:
I was begotten in *West Saxony*:

My Fathers name was *Heorston*, my Mothers *Gi-
nsfred*.

Endow'd with my Merit's legacy,
I flourish'd in the reign of Seven great Kings;

The first was *Adelstane*, whose Neece *Elfrida*
Malicious tongues reported, I defied:

Next him came *Edmond*, then *Edred*, and *Edwin*:

And after him reign'd *Edgar*, a great Prince,
But full of many Crimes which I restrain'd:

Edward his Son, and lastly *Egheh*.

With all these Kings was I in high esteem,

Gr

And

4 GRIM THE COLLIER

And kept both them, and all the Land in awe;
And had I liv'd, the *Danes* had never boasted
Their then beginning Conquest of this Land;
Yet some accuse me for a Conjuror,

By reason of those many miracles
Which Heaven for holy life endowed me with.
But who so looks into the golden Legend,

(That sacred Register of holy Saints)
Shall find me by the Pope canoniz'd,
And happily the cause of this Report

Might rise by reason of a Vision,
Which I beheld in great King *Edgar's* dayes,

Being that time Abbot of *Glaffenbury*,
Which (for it was a matter of some worth)

I did make known to few, untill this day:
But now I purpose that the World shall see

How much those Slanderers have wronged me;
Nor will I trouble you with Courts and Kings;

Or drive a feined Battel out of breath;
Or keep a coy'e my self upon the Stage;

But think you see me in my secret cell,
P Arm'd with my Tortase, bidding of my Beads,

But on a sudden I'm o'recome with sleep!
If ought ensue, watch you, for *Dunston* dreams.

*He layeth him down to sleep; Lightning and Thunders,
the Curtains drawn, on a sudden Pluto, Minos,
Æacus, Rhadamantus set in Counsell, be-
fore them Malbecco his Ghost guarded with
Furies.*

Pluto. You ever dreaded Judges of black Hell,
Grim *Minos*, *Æacus*, and *Rhadaman*,
Lords of *Cocytus*, *Styx*, and *Phlegion*,
Prince, of *Darkness*, *Pluto's* Ministers,
Know that the greatness of his present Cause

Hath

OF CROYDON.

Hath made our self in person set as judge,
To hear the arraignment of *Malbecco's* Ghost;
Stand forth thou gashly pattern of Despair,
And to this powerfull Synod tell thy tale;
That we may hear if thou canst justly say
Thou wert not Author of thy own decay.

Malb. Infernal Love, great Prince of Tartary,
With humble reverence poor *Malbecco* speaks
Still trembling with the fatal memory
Of his so late concluded Tragedy.

I was (with thanks to your great bounty) bred
A wealthy Lord, whilst that I liv'd on Earth;
And so might have continued to this day,
Had not that plague of mankind fall on me:
For I (poor man) joyn'd woe unto my name,
By choosing out a Woman for my Wife.

A Wife! a curse ordained for the World.
Fair Helena I fair she was indeed,
But foully stain'd with inward wickedness,
I kept her bravely, and I loved her dear;
But that dear love did cost my Life, and all
To reckon up a thousand of her pranks,
Her pride, her wastfull spending, her unkindness,
Her false dissembling, seeming sanctity,

Her scolding, pouting, prating, meddling,
And twenty hundred more of the same stamp,
Were but to reap an endless Catalogue
Of what the World is plagu'd with every day.

But for the main of that I have to tell,
It chanced thus: Late in a rainy night
A crew of Gallants came unto my House,
And (Will I, Nill I) would forsooth be lodg'd;
I brought them in, and made them all good
chear,

(Such as I had in store) and lodg'd them soft.
Amongst them one, ecclepp'd *Paridell*,

GRIM THEE COLLIER.

(The falsest Thief that ever trod on ground)
Rob'd me, and with him stole away my Wife.
I (for I loved her dear) pursu'd the Thief.
And, after many daies in travel spent,
Found her amongst a crew of Satyrs wilde,
Kissing, and coling all the live-long night;
I spake her fair, and pray'd her to return:
But she in scorn commands me to be gone;
And glad I was to fly, to save my life.

But when I backward came unto my House,
I find it spoyled and all my treasure gone.
Desprate and mad, I ran I knew not whither,
Calling and crying out on Heaven, and Fate,
Till seeing none to pity my distress.

I threw my self down head-long on a Rock,
And so concluded all my ills at once.
Now, judge you, *Iustice Benchers*, if my Wife
Were not the instrument to end my life.

Plut. Can it be possible (you Lords of Hell)
Malbecco's tale of Women should be true;
Is Marriage now become so great a Curse,
That Whilome was the comfort of the World?

Minc. Women, it seems, have lost their na-
tive shame.

As no man better may complain than I,
Though not of any whom I made my Wife,
But of my Daughter who procur'd my fall.

Luc. 'Tis strange what Complaints are brought
us every day.

Of men made miserable by marriage;
So that amongst a thousand, scarcely ten
Have not some grievous actions gainst their
Wives.

Rhad. My Lord, if *Rhadaman* might counsell
you,

Your Grace should send some one into the
World;
That

OF CROYDON.

That might make proof if it be true or no.

Plu. And wisely hast thou counsell'd *Tha.*
Call in *Belphagor* to me presently. *(dramm,*

One of the Furies goes for Belphagor.
He is the fittest that I know in Hell
To undertake a task of such import,
For he is patient, mild, and pittifull:
Humour: but ill agrees with our Kingdom.

Enter *Belphagor*.

And here he comes; *Belphagor*, so it is,
Wein our awfull Synod have decreed.

(Upon occasions to our selves best known)
That thou from hence shall go into the world,
And take upon thee the shape of a man;
In which estate thou shalt be married;
Choose thee a Wife that best may please thy self,
And live with her a twelvemonth and a day;
Thou shalt be subject unto humane chance
So far as common wit can not relieve thee;
Thou shalt of us receive ten thousand pounds,
Sufficient stock to use for thy increase;

But whatsoever happens in that time,
Look not from us for succour or relief;
This shalt thou do, and when the time's expired,
Bring word to us what thou hast seen and done.

Tha. With all my heart (my Lord) I am content,
So I may have my Serjan: *(sketch)* *(sent,*
To wait upon me as if he were my man,
That he may witness likewise what is done.

Plu. We are contented, he shall go with thee.
Mi. But what meantime decees your Majesty
of poor *Malbecco*?

Plu. He shall rest with us
Unill *Belphagor* do return again,
And as he finds, so will we give his doom.
Come let us go and set out Spyal forth.

G 4

Who

GRIM THE COLLIER

Who for a time must make experiment,
If Hell be not on Earth, as well as here. *Exeunt.*

*It thunders and lightens; the Devils go forth;
Dunston rising, runneth about the Stages
laying about him with his Staff.*

Dun. Satan avaunt, thou art mans enemy,
Thou shalt not live amongst us so unseen,
So to betray us to the Prince of Darkness:
Satan avaunt, I do conjure thee hence. *(deed.*
What dream'st thou *Dunston*? yea I dreamt in-
Must then the Devil come into the world?
Such is belike the infernal Kings decree;
Well, be it so, for *Dunston* is content,
Mark well the process of the Devil's disguise,
Who happily may learn you to be wise.
Women beware, and make your bargains well,
The Devil, to choose a Wife, is come from hell.
Exit.

SCENE 2d.

Enter *Morgan Earl of London, Lady Earl
of Kent, with Miles Forrest.*

Mor. My Lord of *Kent*, your Honor knows
my mind,
That ever have, and still do honour you,
Acting in my Daughter's happiness,
(Amidst her other infelicities)
That you vouchsafe to love her as you do
How gladly I would grant your Lordships suite,
The Heavens can witness, which with ruthless
care
Have often heard my yet unpitied Plaints;
And

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✓ send

S.H.

OF CROYDON. 3

And could I find some means for her recovery,
None but your self should have her to your
Wife,

Lacy. My Lord of London, now long time it is
Since *Lacy* first was suiter to your Daughter,
The fairest *Honora*, in whose eyes
Honor it self in Love's sweet bosome lyes:
What shall we say, or seem to strive with heaven,
Who speechless sent her first into the world;
In vain it is for us to think to loose
That which by Natures self we see is bound:
Her beauty, with her other vertues joynd,
Are gifts sufficient, though she want a tongue;
And some will count it Vertue in a woman
Still to be bound to un-offending Silence;
Though I could wish with half of all my Lands,
That she could speak: but since it may not be,
'Twere vain to impute Beauty with her speech.

For. Have you not heard (my Lords), the
wondrous fame
Of holy *Dunston*, Abbot of *Glassenbury*,
What miracles he hath achieved of late,
And how the rood of *Devocous* did speak,
Confirming his opinion to be true,
And how the holy Consistory fell
With all the Monks that were assembled there,
Saving one beam, whereon this *Dunston* sat,
And other more such miracles as these.
They say he is of such religious life,
That Angels often use to talk with him,
And tell to him the secrets of the Heavens.
No question, if your Honors would but try,
He could procure my Lady for to speak.

Mor. Believe me *Forrest*, thou hast well advised,
For I have heard of it so much talk of him

Lacy. Is not that *Dunston* he, who check'd the
King. G s About.

38 GRIM THE COLLIER

About his pravy dealing with the Nun,
And made him to do penance for the fault?

Mor. The same is he, for whom I straight will
Miles Forrest shall in poste to *Glassenbury*, (send
And gently pray the Abbot for my sake
To come to London: sure I hope the Heavens
Have ordain'd *Dunston* to do Me good.

Lacy. Let us discourse him thither presently,
For I my self will stay for his return.
And see some end or other ere I go.

Mor. Come then Lord *Lacy*, *Forrest* come away.
Exeunt.

SCENE 3d.

Enter *Belpagor* attired like a Physician;
Akercock his man in a Tawny Coat.

Bel. Now is *Belpagor* an incarnate Devil:
Come to the earth to seek him out a Dame:
Hell be my speed, and so I hope it will.
In lovely London are we here arrived
Whereas I hear the Earl hath a fair Daughter
So full of vertue, and soft modesty,
That yet she never gave a man soul word.

Ak. Marry indeed they say she cannot speak.

Bel. For this cause have I taken this disguise.
And will profess me a Physician,
Come upon purpose for to cure the Lady;
Marry no way shall bind me but her self,
And she I do intend shall be my wife.

Ak. But Master, tell me one thing by the way.
Do you not mean that I sha'l marry too?

Bel. No *Akercock*, thou shalt be still unwed,
For if they be as bad as is reported,
One wife will be enough to tire us both.

AK O

Ak. O then you mean that I shall now and then,

Have, as it were a course at base with her.

Bel. Nor so, nor so, that's one of Marriage-plagues,

Which I must seek to shun amongst the rest,

And live in sweet contentment with my wife,

That when I back again return to hell

All women may be bound to reverence me,

For saving of their Credits as I will.

But who comes here? Enter *Capt. Clinton.*

Clm. This needs must tickle *Musgrave's* the quirk,

And stretch his heart-string farther by an inch,

That *Lacy* must be married to his Love;

And by that March my marker is near made,

For *Mariana*, whom I most affect;

But I must cast about by some devise

To help my self, and to prevent the Earle.

Bel. This Fellow fitly comes to meet with me,

Who seems to be acquainted with the Earle;

Good Fortune guide you Sir.

Clm. As much to you.

Bel. Might I intreat a favour at your hands?

Clm. What's that?

Bel. I am a stranger here in *England*, Sir,

Brought from my native home upon report,

That the Earle's Daughter wants the use of speech,

I have been practis'd in such Cures ere now,

And willingly would try my skill on her:

Let me request you so to favour me.

As to direct me to her Father's house. *Be.*

Clm. With all my heart, and welcome shall you

To that good Earle, who mourns his Daughter's want;

But

But they have for a holy Abbot sent,

Who can (mea say) do many miracles,

In hope that he will work this wondrous cure.

Bel. What ere he be, I know 'tis past his skill,

Nor any in the world, besides my self,

Did ever sound the depth of that devise.

Enter *Musgrave.*

Clm. *Musgrave* well met; I needs must speak

Musg. I came to seek you. (with you.

Clm. Tarry you a while.

Shall I intreat you sir to walk before

With this same Gentleman, and overtake you.

Exeunt *Bel. Ak.*

This is the newes, the Earle of *Kent* is come,

And in all hast the marriage must be made,

Your Lady weeps, and knows not what to do,

But hopes that you will work some means or other

To stoppe the cross proceedings of the Earle.

Musg. Alas poor *Clinton*, what can *Musgrave* do?

Unless I should by stealth convey her thence,

On which a thousand dangers do depend.

Clm. Well (to be brief, because I cannot stay)

Thus stands the case, if you will promise me,

To work your Cousen *Marian* to be mine;

I'll so devise that you shall purchase her,

And therefore tell me if you like the match?

Musg. With all my heart Sir, yea and thank you too.

Clm. Then say no more but leave the rest to me;

For I have plotted how it shall be done;

I must go follow you fair Gentleman,

On whom I build my hopes. *Musgrave* adue.

Musg. *Clinton* farewell, I'll with thee good fellows. Exeunt.

SCENE

SCENE IV.

Enter Morgan, Lacy, Dunston, Forrest,
Honorea, Marian.

Mor. Thou holy man, to whom the highest
Powers.

Have given the gift of Cures beyond conceit;
Welcome thou art unto Earl *Morgan's* house!
The house of sorrow yet, unless by thee.
Our joys may spring anew, which if they do,
Reward and praise shall both attend on thee.

Lacy. And we will ever reverence thy name,
Making the Chronicles to speak thy praises;
So *Honorea* may but have her speech.

Dun. My Lords, you know the hallowed
gifts of Tongues,
Comes from the self-same power that gives us
breath.

He binds and looseth them at his dispose,
And in his name will *Dunston* undertake
To work this cure upon fair *Honorea*,
Hang there my Harp, my solitary muse,
Companion of my Contemplation.

He hangs his Harp on the wall.

And, Lady, kneel with me upon the earth,
That both our Prayers may ascend to Heaven.

*They kneel down, then enters Clinton, with
Belphegor, serving himself Castilano,
and Akercock as Robin Goodfellow.*

Clm. So shall you do the Lady a good turn,
And bind both him and me to you for ever.

2d. F.

GRIM THE COLLIER

Bel. I have determin'd what I mean to do.

Clm. Here be the Barles, and with them is the

Bel. What is he praying? *Fryer,*

Clm. So me thinks he is;

But I'll disturb him: by your leave my Lords,

Here is a Stranger from beyond the Seas

Will undertake to cure your Lordships daughter.

Morg. The holy Abbot is about the Cure.

Bel. Yes, but my Lord hee'l never finish it.

Morg. How canst thou tell, what Country-man

Bel. I am by birth, my Lord, a Spaniard, born,

And by descent came of a Noble house,

Though for the love I bare to secret Arts,

I never car'd to seek for vainglory,

Yet by my skill I have increased my wealth:

My name *Castilano*, and my birth

No baser than the best blood of *Castile*.

Hearing your Daughter's strange infirmity,

Ioy'd with such matchless beauty and rare vertue,

I cross'd the Seas on purpose for her good (true,
Dun. Fond man presuming on thy weaker
skill,

That thinkst by Art to over-rule the Heavens:

Thou know'st not what it is thou undertak'st.

No, no, my Lord, your daughter must be cur'd

By fasting, prayer, and religious works;

My self for her will sing a solemn mass,

And give her three sips of the holy Chalice,

And turn my Beads with Aves and with Creeds,

And thus, my Lord, your Daughter must be
help'd.

1st. Zowder! what a prating keeps the bald-
pate Fryer?

My Lord, my Lord, here's Church work for an

Earl, I will cure her in a minutes space, (see!

That she shall speak as plain as you or I.

Dunston's

OF CROYDON.

15

Dunstons Harp sounds on the wall.

For. Hark, hark my Lord, the holy Abbots Harp
SOUNDS by it self so hanging on the wall!

Dun. Unhallowed man, that scorn'st the sacred read.

Hark how the testimony of my truth
SOUNDS heavenly musick with an Angel's hand,
To testify *Dunstons* integrity,
And prove by active boast of no effect.

Cf. Tush Sir, that musick was to welcome me;
The Harp hath, or an other Master new,
I warrant you 'twill never tune you more.

Dun. Who should be Master of my Harp but I?
Caf. Try then what service I will do for you.

He tries to play, but cannot.

Dun. Thou art some Sorcerer, or Nigromancer.

Who by thy Spells dost hold these holy strings.

Caf. Cannot your Holyness unbind the bonds?
Then I perceive my skill is most of force;
You see, my Lord, the Abbot is but weak,
I'm the man must do your Daughter good.

M. What wilt thou ask for to work thy cure?
Caf. That without which I will not do the

Cure;
Her self to be my Wife, for which intent
I came from *Spain*: then if she shall be mine,
Say so, or keep her else for ever dum.

Mor. The Earle of *Kent*, mine honourable friend,

Hath to my Daughter been a Suiter long,
And much it would displease both her and him
To be prevented of their wished love;
Ask what thou wilt beside, and I will grant it.

Caf. Alas

GRIM THE COLLIER

Caf. Alas my Lord, what should the crazy Earle

Do with so young a Virgin as your Daughter?
I dare stand to her choyce 'twixt him and me.

Lacy. And I will pawn mine Earldome with my Love,

And loose them both, if I loose *Honora*.

Caf. A match my Lords, wee'll stand unto the Choyce.

Mor. I am contented, if the Earle be pleased.

Lacy. I were not worthy of her did I doubt.

Caf. Then there it goes, fetch me a bowle of Wine,

This is the match my Lord, before I work,
If the refuse the Earle, she must be mine.

Mor. It is

One brings him a Cup of Wine, he straynes the joyce of the Herb into it.

Caf. Now shall your Lordships see a *Spaniards* Who from the plains of new *America* (skill.
Can find out sacred Symples of esteem
To bind, and unbind Nature's strongest Powers:
This Herb, which mortal men have seldome found,

Can I with ease procure me when I list;
And by this joyce shall *Honora* speak;
Here Lady, drink the freedom of thy heart,
And may it teach thee long to call me Love.

She drinks.

Now lovely *Honora* thou art free,
Let thy Celestiall voyce make choyce of me.

Hon. Base Alien, mercenary Fugitive,
Presumptuous *Spaniard*, that with shameless
pride Dart

OF CROWDON.

17

Dar'st ask an English Lady for thy Wife.
 I scorn, my Slave should honour thee so much,
 And for my self, I like my self the worse,
 That thou dar'st hope the gaining of my Love;
 Go, get thee gone, the shame of my esteem,
 And seek some drudge that may be like thy self.
 But as for you, good Earle of *Kent*,
 Me thinks your Lordship being of these years
 Should be past dreaming of a second Wife.
 Py, fy, fy, my Lord, 't is lust in doting age;
 I will not patronize so foul a sin.
 An old man dote on youth 't is monstrous;
 Go, home, go home, and rest your weary head,
 'T were pity such a brow should learn to bud.
 And lastly unto you my Lord, and Father,
 Your love to me is too much overseen,
 That in your care and counsell should devise,
 To tye your Daughter's choyce to two such
 Grooms.

You may elect for me, but I'll dispose
 And fit my self far better than both those;
 And so I will conclude, you as you please.

Exit Honora in a chaise.

Rob. Call you this making of a Woman speak?
 I think they all wish she were dumb again.

Cast. How now my Lord, what are you in a
 muse?

Lacy. I would to God her Tongue were tyed
 again.

Cast. I marry Sir, but that's an other thing,
 The Devil cannot tye a woman's tongue,
 I would the Fryer could do that with his Beads.
 But 't is no matter, you my Lord have promis'd,
 If she refuse the Earle, she should be mine.

Mer. Win her, and wear her man with all my
 heart.

Cast. Oh!

18 GRIM THE COLLIER

Cast. Oh! I'll haunt her till I make her stoop,
 Come, come my Lord, This was to try her
 voyce,

Let's in and court her; one of us shall speed.

Rob. Haopy man be his do'e that misse.h her,
 say I.

Dunst. My weaker Senses cannot apprehend
 The means this Stranger us'd to make her speak;
 There is some secret mystery therein, (veal,
 Conccald from *Dunston*! which the Heavens re-
 That may scourge this bold blaspheming man,
 Who holds religious works of little worth.

Exeunt, maist Clinton and Forrest.

For. Now Captain *Clinton* what think you of
 me?

Clm. My thinks, as yet, she left holds pretty
 The one hath taught her to deny himself,
 The other woo'd so long he cannot speed,

For. This Newes will please young *Musgrave*.

Clm. Marry will it,

And I will hasten to acquaint him with them,
 Come let's away

Exeunt.

*Enter Parson Shorthouse, and Grim the
 collier.*

Grim No, Mr. Parson, grief hath made my
 heart and me a pair of Ballance, as heavy as lead;
 every night I dream I am a town top, and that I
 am whipt up and downe with the scourge-stick of
 Love, and the mettell of Affection; and when I
 work, I find my self stark naked and as cold
 as a stone: now judge how I am tumbled
 and tost; poor *Grim the Collier* hath witht himself
 burnt up amongst his Coles.

Par. Shorth. ☉

Par. North. O *Grim* be wise dream not of Love
Thy sorrows cannot Fancy move,
If *Jug* love thee, love her again;
If not thy kindness then refrain.

Grim. I am not skill'd in your rhyming Mr.
Parson; but that which is bred in the Flesh will
never out of the Bone; I have seen as much as
another man, my travel should teach me, there's
never a day in the Week but I carry Cole from
Croydon to *London*; and now when I rise in the
morning to harness my Horses, and load my
Cart, methinks I have a Tayler sewing stitches
in my Heart; when I am driving my Cart, my
Heart that wanders one way my Eyes they leere
another, my Feet they lead me I know not whi-
ther, but now and then into a Slew over head
and eares; so that poor *Grim* that before was over
shoes in Love, is now over head and eares in
Dute and Mire.

Par. Sher. Well *Grim* my counsell shall suffice
To help thee, but in any wise
Be rul'd by me, and thou shall see,
As thou lovest her, she shall love thee.

Grim. A laz'd I but do you think that will be
so, I should laugh till I tickle to see that day, and
forswear sleep all the next night after; Oh Mas-
ter Parson, I am so haltr'd in affection, that I
may tell you in secrete, here's no body else hears
me, I take no care how I fill my Sacks; every
time I come to *London* my Coles are found fault-
ty; I have been five times piffred, my Coles
given to the Poor, and my Sack burnt before
my face. It were a shame to speak this, but
Truth will come to light; O *Jona* I thou hast
thrown the Cole-dust of thy love into my eyes
and stricken me quite blind.

Sherh. Now

Par. Sherh. Now afore God the Collier choo-
seth well;

For beauty, *Jug*, doth bear away the bell;
And I love her; then Collier thou must miss,
For Parson *Sherh's* vows, *Jug* shall be his.
But he'll thou *Grim*, I have that in my head:
To plot that how thou shalt the Maiden wed.

Grim. But are you sure you have that in your
head? O for a hammer to knock that out; one
blow at your Pate would lay all open to me, and
make me as wise as you.

Sherh. Think'st thou I do so often look
For nothing on my learned book,
As that I cannot work the feat;
I wantan 'le the Miller cheat,
And make *Jug* thine, in spite of him;
Will this content thee neighbour *Grim*.

Grim. Content me! Ay and so highly, that if
you do this feat for me, you hire me to you at
one hireth an Oxe or an Ass to use to ride, to
spur, or any thing; yours to demand, misfe-
rable *Grim*! *Jona*'s Handmaid for so I have cal-
led my self ever since last *May* day, when she gave
me her hand to kiss.

Sherh. Well, let's away, and in all haste,
About it ere the day be past;
And ever after, if thou hast her,
Acknowledge me to be thy Master.

Grim. I woofe Sir; Come let's away, the best
drink in *Croydon*'s yours, I have it for you, even
a dozen of lugs to *Jug*'s health. Ex. both.

Enter *Earl* Morgan, *Earl* Lacy, *Mariana*.

Morg. My Lord of *Kent*, the latter motion
Doth

Doth bind me to you in a higher degree,
Than all those many favours gone before;
And now the issue of my help relies
Only on *Mariana's* gentleness,

Who, if the Will in such a common good
Put to her helping hand the Match is made.

Lacy. You need not make a doubt of *Marian*,
Whose love unto her Lady were enough;
Besides her Cozens and her own content,
To move her to a greater thing than this.

Mary. My Lords, if ought there be in *Marian*,
That may or pleasure you, or profit her,
Ye shall not need to doubt of my consent.

Mor. Gramercy *Marian*, and indeed the thing
Is, in it self, a matter of no moment:
If it be weigh'd aright; and therefore this,
Thou know'st the bargain 'twixt me and the
Doctor,

Concerning Marriage with my only Daughter,
Whom I determin'd that my Lord of *Kent*
Should have espoused; but I see her mind
Is only set upon thy Cozin *Musgrave*,
And in her Marriage to use constraint
Were bootless; therefore thus we have devised;

Lord *Lacy* is content to loose his part,
And to resign his Title to young *Musgrave*.
But now the Doctor will not yield his right;
Thus we determin to begin his hopes:
Thou shalt this night be brought unto his bed,
Instead of her, and he shall marry thee,
Musgrave shall have my Daughter, she her will.
And so shall all things sort to our content.

Lacy. And this thou shalt be sure of *Marian*,
The Doctor's wealth will keep thee royally;
Besides, thou shalt be ever near thy Friends,
That will not see thee wrong'd by any man.

Say

Say then wilt thou resolve to marry him?

Mor. My Lords, you know I am but young,
The Doctor's fit for one of riper years,
Yet in regard of *Honora's* good,
My Cozins profit, and all your contents,
I yield my self to be the Doctor's wife.

Morg. 'Tis kindly spoken, gentle *Marian*,

Enter Calliano.

But here the Doctor comes.

Lacy. Then I leave away,

Lest he suspect ought by my bring here.

Morg. Do, and let me alone to dote with him.

Cal. May he ne'er speak that makes a VVo-
man speak,

She talks now, sure for all the time that's past,
Her Tongue is like a Scare-crow in a tree,
That clatters still with every puff of winde;
I have haunted her from place to place,
About the hall, from thence into the parlet,
Up to the Chamber, down into the Garden,
And still she rails, and chafes, and scoulds,
As if it were the Sessions day in hell,
Yet will I haunt her with an open mouth,
And never leave her till I force her love me.

Morg. Now, Master Doctor, what a match or
no.

Cal. A match, quoth you, I think the Devil
himself

Cannot match her, for if he could, I should.

Morg. Well, be content, 'tis I must waik the
mean.

To make her yield whether she will or no:
My Lord of *Kent* is gone hence in a chafe,
And now I purpose that she shall be yours,
Yet to her self unknown, for she shall think
That *Musgrave* is the man, but it shall be you;

Scena

Seem you still discontented and no more;
Go *Mariana* call hy *Mistress* hither,
Now when she comes, dissemble what you
know.

And go away, as if you car'd not for her,
So will she be the sooner brought unto te.

Exit Mariana.

Cassil. My Lord, I think you for your honest
care.

And, as I may, will study to requite it.

Enter Honora and Mariana.

But here your Daughter comes: No, no, my
Lord.

'Tis not for favour I regard nor her,
Your Promise 'tis I challenge, which I'll have;
It was my Bargain No man else should have her,
Not that I love her, but I'll not bewrong'd
By any one, my Lord, and so I leave you.

Exit Cassil.

Morg. He's passing cunning to deceive him-
But all the better for the after sport. (self,

Hon. Sir did you find for me.

Morg. Honora, for thee.

And this it is, how e unworthily
I have bestowed my love so long upon thee,
That wilt so manifestly contradict me;
Yet, that thou may'st perceive how I esteem
I make thy self the Guardian of thy Love, (thee,
That thine own fancy may make choyce for
I have perswaded with my Lord of *Kent*, (thee;
To leave to love thee. Now the previlish Doctor
Swear, that his interest he will ne're resign;
Therefore we must by Policy deceive him,
He shall suppose he lyeth this night with thee,
But *Mariana* shall supply thy room,
And thou with *Misgrave* in another Chamber,
Shalt

Shalt secretly belodg'd; when this is done,
Twill be too late to call that back again,
So shalt thou have thy mind, and he a wife.

Hon. But wilt thou, *Mariana*, yield to this.

Mar. For your sake, Lady I will undertake it.

Hon. Gramercy *Marian*, and my noble Father,
Now I acknowledge that indeed you love me.

Morg. Well, no more words, but be you both
prepar'd,

The night draweth on, and I have sent in secret
For *Misgrave*, that he may be brought unteem,
To hide suspicion from their jealous eyes.

Hon. I warrant you, come *Marian*, let us go.

Exeunt Hon. & Mar.

Morg. And then, my Lord of *Kent*, shall be
my Sonne,

Should I go wed my Daughter to a Boy?

No, no, young Girls must have their Wills re-
strain'd,

For if the Rule be theirs, all runnes to nought.
Exit.

Enter Clack the Miller, with Ione.

Clack. Be not *Iug*, as a man would say, finer
than Five pence, or that it you are more proud
than a Peacock, that is, to seem to scorn to call
in at *Clack*'s mill as you pass over the bridge,
there be as good Wenches as you be glad to pay
me toll.

Ione. Like enough *Clack*, I had as live they as I,
and a great deal rather too; you that take roll of
so many Maids, shall never roule me after you:
Oh God! what a dangerous thing 'tis but to peep
once into Love! I was never so haunted with
my

my hatvest-work as I am with Love's passions.

Clack I but *Ione*, bear old Proverbs in your memby, soft and fair; now fir, if you make too much hast to fall foul, I and that upon a fount one too, there fades the flower of all *Croydon*, tell me but this, is not *Clack* the Miller as good a name as *Grim* the Collier?

Ione. Alas, I know no difference in names; To make a Maid, or choose, or to refuse.

Clack. You were best to say, No, nor in men nother. Well, I'll be sworn I have; but I have no reason to tell you so much, that care so little for me, yet hark:

*Clack speaketh in her ear: enter Grim,
Parson Shortnose.*

Grim. O Mr. Parson, there he stands like a Seare-crow to drive me away from her, that sticks as close to my heart, as my shirt to my back, or my hose to my heel; O Mr. Parson *Shortnose*, *Grim* is but a man as another man is. Colliers have but lives as other men have; all's gone, if she go from me, *Grim* is no body without her, my heart is in my mouth, my mouth is in my hand, my hand threatens vengeance against the Miller, as it were a Beadle with a whip in his hand, triumphing o're a Feggar's back.

Short. Be silent *Grim*, stand close and see, So shall we know how all things be.

Grim. In wisdom I am appeas'd, but in anger I broyle as it were a rasher upon the coles.

Ione. I'll not despise the Trades ye either have, Yet *Grim* the Collier may, if he be wife, 21
Lives even as merry as the day is long;

H

For

For, in my judgement, in his mean estate
Consists as much content, as in more wealth.

Grim. O Mr. Parson, write down this sweet saying of her in *Grim's* commendations; she hath made my heart leap like a hobby horse; O *Ione* this speech of thine will I carry with me even to my grave.

Short. Be silent then.

Clack. Well, then I perceive you mean to lead your life in a Colepit, like one of the Devil's drudges, and have your face look like the outside of an old iron pot, or a blacking box.

Grim. He calleth my Trade into question, I cannot forbear him.

Short. Nay then you spoyle all neighbour *Grim*, I warrant you she will answer him.

Ione. What I intend I am not bound to shew To thee, nor any other but my Mother, To whom in duty I submit my self; Yet this I tell thee, though my birth be mean; My honest vertuous life shall help to mend it, And if I marry any in all this life, He shall say boldly he hath an honest wife.

Grim. O that 'twere my fortune to light upon her, on that Condition my Horses were dead, and my Cart broken, and I bound to carry Coles as long as I live from *Croydon* to *London* on my bare shoulders; Mr. Parson the Flesh is frayle, he shall tempt her no longer; she is but weak, and he is the stronger; I'll upon him. Miller thou art my neighbour, and therein charity hold my hands; but me thinks you having a water-gapp of your own, you may do as other Millers do, grind your grist at home, knock your cogs into your own Mill, you shall not cogg with her. She doth dicy thee, and I defie thee to a mortal fight.

OF CROYDON.

27

fight, and so, Miller, good night. And now Sweet *Ione*, be it openly known thou art my own.

Clack. Well *Grim*, since thou art so Collier-like chollick.

Grim. Miller, I will not be mealy mouth'd.

Clack. I'll give thee the fewer words now, because the next time we meet I'll pay thee all in dry blowes, carry Coles at a Collier's hands! and I do let my Mill be drown'd up in water, and I hang'd in the roof.

Ione, And if thou lovest me *Grim*, forbear him now.

Grim. If I love thee! dost thou doubt of that? nay ripp me up, and look into my heart, and thou shalt see thy own face pictur'd there as plainly as in the proudest Looking glass in all *Croydon*; if I love thee! then tears gush out, and show my love.

Clack. What Mr. Parson are you there? you remember you promis'd to win *Ione* for my own wearing?

Short. I warrant thee *Clack*; but now be gone, Leave me to work that here alone.

Clack. Well, farewell Mr. *Shorthose*, be true when you are trusted.

Ex Clack.

Short. She shall be neither his nor thine, For I intend to make her mine.

Grim. If I love thee *Ione*; those very words see a purgation to me, you shall see desperation in my face, and death marching in my very countenance; if I love!

Short. What *Grim* hath grief drown'd thee, Are all thy joys over cast?

(Exit)

h *Ione* in place, and thou so sad, Her presence, man, should make thee glad.

Ione. Good Master Parson, 'twere no fault of mine,

H z

He

GRIM THE COLLIER

He takes occasion where there none was given; I will not blab unto the World, my love I owe to him, and shall do whilst I live.

Grim. Well *Ione*, without all ifs or Ands, E-persefe, A-persefe, or Tittle-tattles in the world, I do love thee, and so much, that in thy absence I cry when I see thee, and rejoyce with my very heart when I cannot behold thee.

Short. No doubt, no doubt thou lovest her But listen now to what I tell;

(well)

since ye are both so well agreed, I wish you make more hast and speed,

To morrow is *Holy-road* day,

When all a nutting take their way,

Within the Wood a Close doth stand,

Incompast round on either hand,

With Trees and Bushes, there will I

Dispatch your marriage presently.

Grim. O Master Parson, your deviling Fate hath blest me for ever; *Ione* we'll have that so; the shorter the work, the sweeter.

Ione. And if my Mother give but her consent, My absence shall in no case hinder it.

Grim. Shee! quotha, she is mine already, we'll to her presently. Mr. Parson; 'tis a match; we'll meet you: now Miller do I go beyond you; I have stript him of the Wench, as a Cook would strip an Eele out of her skin, or a Pudding out of the Case thereof; now I talk of a Pudding, O 'tis my only food, I am old dog at it; Come *Ione*, let's away, I'll pudding you.

Short. Well, if my Fortune luckily ensue, As you shall cozen him, I'll cozen you.

Exeunt.

Exit

Enter Castiliano at one door with Mariana, Earle Lacy, at an other door with Honorea.

Cast. Come lovely Honorea, bright as day,
As *camo Alcmena* from her sacred bed
With *Iupiter*, thapt like *Amphitruo*: (here?)
So show my Love, my Love! whom have we
Hon sweet *Musgrave*; out alas! I am betray'd!
Cast. Thou art my Love?

Lacy. No, mine?

Hon. Nor yours, nor yours:

But *Musgrave's* Love; O *Musgrave* where art thou?

Lacy. Be not displeas'd my Dear, give me thy hand,

Hon. My hand, false Earle, nor hand nor heart of mine;

Couldst thou thus cunningly deceive my hopes,
And could my Father give consent thereto,

Well, neither he nor thou shalt force my Love.

Cast. 'Tis I saiz *Honorea* am thy Love,

For sake the worthless Earle, give me thy hand.

Mari. Whose hand would you have sir? this hand is mine,

And mine is yours, then keep you to your own.

Mari. Yet are you mine, sir, and I mean to keep you;

What, do you think to shake me off so soon?

No gentle Husband, now it is too late;

You should have look'd before you came to bed.

Enter Rob. Goodf. with his Masters Gown.

Rob. Many good morrows to my gentle Master,
H; And

And my new Mistress. God give you both joy;
What say you to your Gown's sir, this cold morn-
(ing?)

Cast. Robin I am undone, and cast away.

How Master, cast away upon a Wife!

Cast. Yea Robin cast away upon a Wife.

Rob. Cast her away then Master; can you not?

Mar. No, sir he cannot, nor he shall not do it.

Rob. Why, how know you? I am sure you are not she.

Mar. Yes sir, I am your Mistress as it falls.

Rob. As it falls! quoth ye, marry a foul fall is it.

Mar. Base Rascal, dost thou say that I am foul?

Rob. No, 'twas foul play for him to fall upon you.

Mar. How know you that he fell, were you so nigh.

She giveth Robin a box on the eare.

Rob. Mads it should seem 'twas he that fell if any.

For you me thinks are of a mounting nature;

What, at my Eares at first! a good beginning.

Lacy. My dear Delight, why dost thou stain thy Checks?

Those rose Beds with this unseemly dew;

Shake off those Tears that now untimely fall,

And smile on me, that am thy Summers joy.

Hon. Hapless am I to loose so sweet a prison,

Thus to obtain a weary liberty;

Happy had I been for to have remain'd,

Of which estate I ne're should have complain'd.

Rob. Whoop whoop! more Marrisges! and all of a sort; happy are they, I see, that live without them; if this be the beginning, what will be the ending?

Enter

Enter to them Earle Morg. and Dunst.

Mar. Look *Dunsten* whete they be, displeas'd
no doubt,

Try if thou canst work reconciliation.

Cas. My Lord. I challenge you of breach of
promise.

And claim your Daughter here to be my wife.

Lacy Your claim is nought, sir, she is mine
already.

Hon. Your claim is nought Sir, I am none of
yours.

Mar. Your claim is here Sir, *Marion* is yours.
What Husband, newly married, and inconstant!

'Greed we so well together all this night,
And must we now fall out? for shame, for shame.

A man of your years, and be so unstay'd!

Come, come away, there may no other be,

I will have you, therefore you shall have me.

Rob. This is the bravest Country in the world,

Where men get wives whether they will or no;

I now e're long some Wench will challenge me.

Cas. Oh! is not this a goodly consequence,

I must have her, because she will have me?

Dunsten. Ladies and Gentlemen, here *Dunsten*
Speak:

Marriage, no doubt, is ordain'd by Providence,

Is sacred, not to be, by vain affect,

Turn'd to the idle humours of mens brains;

Besides, for you my Ladie *Honora*,

Your dutie binds you to obey your Father,

Who better knows what fits you than your self;

And 'twere, in you, great folly to neglect

The Earle's great love, whereof you are unwor-

thy,

H-4

Should

GRIM THE COLLIER

Should you but seem offended with the match;
Therefore submit your self, to make amends;
For 'tis your fault, so may you all be friends.

Morg. And Daughters, you must think what
I have done,

Was for your good, to wed you to the Earle,
Who will maintain and love you royally;

For what had *Musgrave* but his idle shape?
A shadow to the substance you must build on.

Rob. She will build substances on him I trow,
Who keeps a shrew against her will, had better
let her go.

Mar. Madam conceal your grief, and seem
content,

For, as it is, you must be rul'd perforce;
Dissemble till convenient time may serve

To think on this despite and *Musgrave's* love.

Lacy. Tell me my Dear, will thou at length be
pleas'd?

Hon. As good be pleas'd, my Lord, as not be
eas'd;

Yet though my former love did move me much,
Think not swift, the same love may be yours.

Cas. What! is't a Match? may then since you
agree,

I cannot mend my self, for ought I see;

And therefore, 'tis as good to be content

Come Lady, 'tis your lot to be my Dame.

Lording adieu. God send ye all good speed;

Some have their Wives for pleasure, some for
need.

Lacy. Adieu *Casiliano* we are friends?

Cas. Yes, yes; my Lord, there is no remedy.

Rob. No remedy, my Masters for a Wife?

A note for young beginners, mask it well.

Exeunt all.
Enter

Enter Forrest, Capt. Clinton, Harvey.

For. Now Gallants what imagine you of this.
Our notes are all flitt; for *Mariana*,
The Spanish Doctor hath her to his wife;
And *Musgraves* hopes are dead for *Honorea*,
For she is married to the Earle of *Kent*,
'Twill be good sport to see them when they rise,
If so they be not gotten up already?

Clin. I say the Devil go with them all for me,
The Spanish Doctor marry *Marian*!
I think that Slave was born to cross me still;
Had it not been last day before the Earle,
Vpon my Conscience I had crack'd his Crowne;
When first he ask'd the Lady for his Wife;
Now hath he got her too: whom I desir'd.
Why, he'll away with her e're long to *Spain*,
And keep her there to disposse our hopes.

For. No, I can comfort ye for that suppose;
For yesterday he hir'd a dwelling house;
And here he means to tarry all this year,
So long at least, what e're he doth hereafter.

Clin. A sudden plot-form comes into my
minde,
And this it is, *Miles Forrest*, thou and I
Are partly well acquainted with the Doctor.
Ralph Harvey shall along with us to him,
Him we'll prefer for his Apothecary:
Now, Sir, when *Ralph* and he are once acquaint-
His wife may often come unto his House, (ed,
Either to see his Garden, or such likes;
For doubt not Women will have means enough
If they be willing, as I hope she will;
There may we meet her, and let each one plead,
He that speaks best, why let him carry it.

H 3

Fcr. L.

14. GRIM THE COLLIER.

For. I needs must laugh, to think how all we
three,

In the contriving of this feat, agree;
But having got her, every man will strive,
How each may other of her love deprive.

Clin. Tut, *Forrest*, Love admits these friendly
siftes;

But say, How like you of my late devise?

For. Surpassing well, but let's about it streight,
Lest he, before our coming be provided.

Clin. Agreed.

Exeunt.

Enter Musgrave and Mariana.

Musg. Tush Cozen, tell not me; but this devise
Was long ago concluded 'twixt you two,
Which divers reasons move me to imagine;
And therefore these are toys to blind my eyes,
To make me think the only loved me,
And yet is married to another man.

Mar. Why Cozen *Musgrave*, are your eyes so
blinde,

You cannot see the truth of that report;
Did you not know my Lord was alwaies bene,
Whatever came, to wed her to the Earle:
And have you not, besides, heard the devise
He us'd to marry her against her will,
Betray'd, poor Soul, unto Earle *Lacy's* bed,
She thought she held young *Musgrave* in her
armes.

Her morning tears might testify her thoughts;
Yet thou shalt see she loves thee more than him,
And thou shalt taste the sweets of her delights;
Mean time my House shall be thy mansion,
And thy abode, for thither will she come;
Use thou that opportunity, and try

Whether

OF CROYDON.

15

Whether she loved thee, or did but dissemble.

Musg. If she continue kind to me hereafter I shall imagine well of her and you. *Ens. Cast.*

Cast. Now Dame, in talk, what Gentleman is this?

Mar. My Cozen *Musgrave*, Husband, comes to see you.

Cast. *Musgrave*! now on my Faith heartily welcome:

Give me thy hand, my Cozen, and my Friend, My Partner in the loss of *Honora*,

(like:

We two must needs be Friends, our Fortune's Marry, yet I am richer by a Shrew.

Marian. 'Tis better be a Shrew, sir, than a Sheep;

You have no cause I hope yet to complain.

Cast. No Dame, for yet you know 'tis honey moone;

What, we have scarcely settled our acquaintance.

Musg. I doubt not, Cozen, but ye shall agree; For she is mil'd enough if she be pleas'd.

Cast. So is the Devil, they say, yea Cozen, yea, My Dear and I, I doubt not, shall agree.

Enter Robin.

Rob. Sir, here be two or three Gentlemen at the door would gladly speak a word with your Worship.

Enter Clinton, Forrest, Harvey.

They need no bidding me thinks, they can come alone.

Clin. God save you Signior *Castilano*.

Cast. O Captain *Comesta*, Welcom all my friends.

For. Sir, we are come to bid God give you joy,

And see your House.

Mar. Welcome Gentlemen:

'Tis kindly done to come to see us; etc.

This

GRIM THE COLLIER

Re. This kindness makes me fear my Master's head; Such hot spurs must have game, how else they get it.

Clin. We have a suite to you, *Castilano*.

Cast. What is it, Sir, if it lyes in me, 'tis done.

Chu. Nay, but a trifle Sir, and that is This same young man, by trade Apothecary, Is willing to retaine unto your Cures.

Castil. Marry with all my heart and welcome too.

What may I call your name my honest friend?

Har. Ralph Harvey Sir, your neighbour here hard by,

The Golden Lyon is my dwelling place, Where what you please shall be with care, perform'd.

Cast. Gramercies *Harvey*; welcome all my Friends,

Let's in and hadd sell our new mansion house With a carousing round of Spanish wine.

Come Cozen *Musgrave*, you shall be my Guest, My Dame, I trow, will welcome you her self.

Marian. No Boy, Lord *Lacy's* wife shall welcome thee.

Rob. So now the game begins; here's some Cheer toward;

I must be skinked then, let me alone; They all shall want ere *Robin* shall have none.

Exeunt all but Clin & Harv.

Clin. Sirra, *Ralph Harvey*, now the entry is made, Thou only hast access without suspect,

Be not forgetfull of thy Agent here, Remember *Clinton* was the man that did it.

Har. Why Captain, now you talk in jealousy.

Re.

Do

OF CROYDON.

Do not misconster my true meaning heart
Clinton. Ralph. I believe thee, and rely on thee,
 Do not too long absent thee from the Doctor;
 Go in, carowse, and raynt his Spanish brayne,
 I'll follow and my *Marian's* health maintain.
Har. Captain, you well advise me, I'll go in,
 And for my self, my love-suites I'll begin.

Exeunt.

A C T. III.

Enter Rob. Goodfellow with his head broken

Rob. The Devil himself take all such Dames
 for me.

Zounds, I had rather be in hell than here;
 Nay, let him be his own man if he list.

Robin means nor to stay to be used thus.

The very first day in her angry spleen,

Her nimble hand began to greet my Eares

with such unkind salutes as I ne'er felt;

And since that time there hath not past an hour

Wherein she hath not eicher rayl'd upon me,

Or laid her anger's lead upon my limbs;

Even now for no occasion in the world,

But as it pleas'd her Ladiship to take it,

She gave me up a staff and breaks my head;

But I'll no longer serve so curs'd a Dame,

I'll run as far first as my leggs will bear me:

What shall I do? to Hell I date not go!

Untill my Master's Twelve months be expired.

And here to stay with Mistress *Marian*,

Better to be so long in purgatory.

Now farewell Master, but shewd Dame fare ill

13. GRIM THE COLLIER.

I'll leave you, though the Devil is with you.
Exit Robin.

Enter Mariana alone chafing.

Mar. My heart still pants within; I am so
 chaf't,

The Rascal slave my man, that sneaking Rogue:

Had like to have undone us all for ever;

My Cozen *Musgrave* is with *Honora*,

Set in an Arbour in the Summer Garden,

And he, forsooth, must needs go in for hearbs;

And told me further, that his Master bid him;

But I laid hold upon my Younker's pate,

And made the blood run down about his ears:

I trow he shall ask me leave ere he go;

Now is my Cozen Master of his Love,

The Lady at one time reveng'd and pleas'd;

So speed they all that marry Maids perforce;

Enter Castiliano.

But here my Husband comes.

Cas. What Dame alone?

Mar. Yes Sir, this once for want of company.

Cas. Why, where's my Lady, and my Cozen

Musgrave?

Mar. You may go look them both for ought I

know.

Cas. What are you angry Dame?

Mar. Yes, so it seems.

Cas. VVhat is the cause I prethee?

Mar. VVhy would you know?

Cas. That I might ease it, if it lay in me.

Mar. O, but it belongs not to your trade.

Cas. You know not that.

Mar. I know you love to prate, and so I leave

you. *Exit Mar.*

Cas. VVell,



Capt. VVell, go thy way; oft have I raked hell
To get a wife, yet never found her like:
VVhy this it is to marrie with a Shrew.
Yet, if it be, as I presume it is,
There's but one thing offends both her and me;
And I am glad if that be it offends her.
'Tis so no doubt, I read it in her brow,
Lord *Lacy* shall, with all my heart, enjoy
Fair *Honora*, *Marian* is mine;
VVho though she be a Shrew, yet is the honest;
So is not *Honora*, for even now,
VValking within my Garden all alone,
she came with *Musgrave*, stealing closely by,
And follows him that seeks to flye from her;
I spied this all unseen, and left them there;
But sure my Dame hath some conceit thereof;
And therefore she is thus angry, honest Soul!
VVell, I'll streight hence unto my Lord of *Kings*.
And warn him watch his wife from these close-
meetings.
VVell *Marian*, thou livest yet free from blame,
Let Ladies go, thou art the Devil's Dame.

Exit Castilj.

Enter the Devil like Musgrave with Honora.

Musg. No Lady, let thy modest vertuous life
Be alwaies joined with thy comely shape.
For Lust eclipseth Nature's ornameat.
Hon. Young heady Boy, think'st thou thou
shalt recall
Thy long made Love, which thou so oft hast
sworn?
Making my Maiden-thoughts to dote on thee.
Musg. With patience hear me, and if what I
say
shall

Shall jump with reason, then you'll pardon me:
The time hath been when my Soul's libertie
Vow'd servitude unto that heavenly face,
VVhilst both had equal libertie of choice:
But since the holy bond of marriage
Hath left me single, you a wedded wife,
Let me not be the third, unlawfully
To do Earle *Lacy* so foul Injurie;
But now at last,

Hon. I would that last
Might be thy last, thou Monster of all men.

Musg. Hear me with patience.

Hon. Cease, I'll hear no more;

'Tis my Affection, and not Reason speaks;
Then *Musgrave* turne the hardnes of thy heart,
And now at last incline thy love to mine.

Musg. Nay now I see thou wilt not be reclaim'd,
Go, and bestow this hot love on the Earle,
Let not these loose affects, thus scandalize
Your fair report; go home and learn to live
As chaste as *Lucres*, Etadam so I leave you.

She pulls him back.
Hon. O Ray a little while, and hear my roogue
Speak my hearts words, which cannot choose but
tell thee.

I hate the Earle, only because I love thee.

Exit Musgrave.

Musgrave return, hear *Honora* speak:
Disdain hath left him wings to flye from me,
Sweet Love lend me thy wings to overtake him,
For I can Ray him with kind dalliance!
All this is but the blindness of my fancy;
Recall thy self, let not thy honour bleed
VVith the foul wounds of Infamie and Shame:
My proper Home shalt call me home again,
I will here my dear Lord bewailes as much as I,

Exit

His

OF CROYDON.

41

His too much love to her that loves not him.
Let none hereafter fix her maiden love
Too firm on any, lest she feel with me,
Musgrave's revolt, and his unconquancy. *Exit*

Enter Forrest with Marian.

For. Tut, I'll remember thee, and straight re-
turn, But heres the Doctor.

Mar. Where? *Forrest*, farewell,
I would not have him see me for a world.

For. Why? he is not here, well now I see you
fear him.

Mar. Marry bestrew thee for thy false alarum,
I fear him? no, I neither fear nor love him.

For. But where's my Lady, she is gone home
before.

And I must follow after, *Marian* farewell.

Mar. I shall expect your coming.

For. Presently, and hearest thou *Marian*, nay it
shall be so.

He whispers in her ear.

Mar. O Lord, sit, you are wed I warrant you,
We'll laugh, be merry, and it may be kis,
But if you look for more, you aime amifs.

For. Go to, go to, we'll talk of this anon.

Exit Forrest.

Mar. Well go thy way, for the true heartedst
That livest, and as full of honesty, (man
And yet as wanton as a pretty Lamb;
He'll come again, for he hath loved me long,
And so have many more besides himself:

But I was coy and proud, as Maids are wont,
Meaning to match beyond my mean estate,
Yet have I favoured youths, and youthful
sports, Although

42 GRIM THE COLLIER.

Although I durst not venture on the main;
But now it will not be so soon espy'd.
Maids cannot, but a wife a fault may hide.

Enter Nan.

What *Nan*!

Nan. Anon forsooth.

Mar. Come hither Maid,

Here take my keyes, and fetch the galley pot,
Bring a fair Napkin, and some fruit dishes,
Dispatch and make all ready presently.

Miles Forrest will come straight to drink with me.

Nan. I will forsooth.

Exit Nan.

Mar. Why am I young, but to enjoy my years?
Why am I fair, but that I should be loved?

And why should I be loved, and not love others?
Tut, she is a fool, that her affection smothers:

'Twas not for love I was the Doctor's wife,
Nor did he love me when he first was mine;

Tush, tush, this Wife is but an idle name,

I purpose now to try another Game.

Art thou return'd so soon? O 'tis well done.

Enter Nan with the Banquet.

And hearest thou *Nan*, when *Forrest* shall return,
If any happen to enquire for me,

Whether't be Captain *Clinton*, or *Ralph Harvey*,

Call presently, and say thy Master is come,

So I'll send *Forrest* o're the Garden pale.

Nan. I will forsooth.

Mar. Mean time stay thou and make our ban-
quet readie.

Me to my Closet, and be here again,

Esfore *Miles Forrest* shall come visit me. *Ex. Mar.*

Nan. I wonder what my Mistress is about,
Somewhat she would not have my Master
know;

What e're it be, it's nothing unto me,

She.

She is my good Mistress, and I'll keep her
Counsell,

I have oft seen her kiss behind his back,
And laugh and toy when he did little think it:
O what a winking eye the Wanton hath
To cozen him, even when he looks upon her.
But what have I to do with what she doth?
I'll taste her Tonquets, since I am alone,
That which is good for them, cannot hurt me,
I marry this is sweet, a cup of Wine
Will not be hurtfull for digestion. *Ent. Cast.*

Cast. I would I had been wiser once to day,
I went on purpose to my Lord of *Kens*,
To give him some good counsell for his *Wife*,
And he, poor Heart, no sooner heard my newes,
But turns me up his *VWhites*, and falls flat down:
There I was fain to rub and chafe his veins,
And much ado we had to get him live;
But for all that he is extremely sick,
And I am come in all the haste I may
For Cordials to keep the Earle alive:
But how now, what a Banquet what means this?

Nan. Alas my Master is come home himself;
Mistress, Mistress, my Master is come home.

He stops her mouth.

Cast. Peace you young Strumpet, or I'll stop
your speech:

Come hither Maid, tell me, and tell me true:
What means this Banquet? what's your Mistress
doing? *(coming)*

Why cam'st thou out, when as thou saw'st me
Tell me, or else I'll hang thee by the heels,

And whip thee naked: come on, what's the mat-
ter? *(text)*

Nan. Forsooth I cannot tell. *(text)*

Cast. Can you not tell: come on, I'll make
you tell me.

Nan. O Master! I will tell you. *(Cast.)*

Cast. Then say on.

Nan. No thing in stuth forsooth but that she
means:

To have a Gentleman come drink with her.

Cast. What Gentleman?

Nan. Forsooth 'tis Mr. Forrest as I think:

Cast. Forrest! nay then I know how the Game
goeth,

Who ever loose is I am sure to win
By their great kindness, thought't be but the
Hornes:

*Enter Forrest at one door,
Marian at another.*

But here comes he and she, come hither Maid,
Upon thy life give not a word, a look,
That she may know ought of my being here;
Stand still, and do what e're she bids thee do.
Go, get thee gone, but if thou dost betray me,
I'll cut thy Throat, look to it; for I will do it;
I'll stand here close to see the end of this,
And see what Reaks she keeps when I'm abroad.

Mar. 'Tis kindly done *Miles* to return so soon,
And so I take it. *Nan.* is our Banquet ready?

Welcome my Love, I see you'll keep your word.
Nan. 'Tis better for yee both he had not
kept it.

For. Yea *Mariana*, else I were unworthy,
I did but bring my Lady to the door,
And there I left her full of melancholly,
And discontented.

Mar. Why, 'twas kindly done.
Come, come sit down, and let us laugh a while.

Maid, fill some Wine

Nan. Alas my Breach makes Buttons,
And so would theirs, know they as much as I.

He

He may change the sweet-meats; and put
purging comfits in the Dishes.

Mar. Here's to my Lady, and my Cozen *Maf-*
grave.

For. I pray remember gentle Master Doctor,
And good Earle *Lacy* too among the rest.

Cast. O sir, we find you kind, we thank you
for it.

The time may come when we may cry you quit,
Nan. Master, shall I steal you a cup of wine?

Cast. Away you Baggage, hold your peace you
Wretch.

For. But I had rather walk into your Orchard,
And see your Gallary so much commended,
To view the VVorkmanship he brought from

Spain,

Wherein's describ'd the banquet of the gods.

Mar. Is there's one piece exceeding lively done,
Where *Mars* and *Venus* lye within a net,
Inclor'd by *Vulcan*, and he looking on.

Cast. Better and better yet, 'twill mend anon.

Mar. Another of *Diana* with her Nymphes,
Bathing their naked bodies in the streams,
Where fond *Atheon*, for his eyes offence,
Is turn'd into a Hart's shape, horns and all;
And this the Doctor hangs right o're his bed.

For. Those Hornes may fall and light upon his
head.

Cast. And if they doe, worse Luck, what re-
medy?

For. Nay *Marian*, we'll not leave these sights
unseen,
And then we'll see your Orchard and your
fruit;

For now there hangs Queen apples on the trees,
And one of them are worth a score of these.

Mar. Well,

Mar. Well, you shall see them, least you loose
your looging.

Exeunt Marian and Forrest.

Cast. Nay, if ye fall alonging for green fruit,
Childe-bearing is not far of I am sure:
Why this is excellent, I feel the buds,
My Head groweth hard, my Horns will shortly
spring,

Now who may lead the Cuckold's dance but I?
That am become the head man of the Parish:
O! this it is to have an honest wife,
Of whom so much I boasted once to day.
Come hither Minks, you know your Mistress's
minde,

And you keep secret all her villanies,
Tell me, you were best, where was this Plot de-
vised?

How did these Villaines know I was abroad?

Nan. Indeed forsooth I knew not when it
was,

My Mistress call'd me from my work of late,
And bad me lay a Napkin; so I did,
And made this Banquer ready: but in truth
I knew not what she did intend to do.

Cast. No, no, you did not watch against I
came,

To give her warning to dispatch her Knave:
You cryed not out, when as you saw me come.
All this is nothing but !'le rouse you all.

Nan. In truth good Master.

Enter Marian, Forrest,

Cast. Peace I say, they come.
Whisper not, and you do, I'll use you worse:
Behold

OF CROYDON.

47

Behold that wicked Strumpet with that Knave,
O that I had a pistoll for their sakes,
That at one shot I might dispatch them both:
But I must stand close yet, and see the rest.

Mar. How like'st thou *Miles* my Orchard, and
my House.

For. Well, thou art seated to thy hearts con-
tent,

A pleasant Orchard, and a House well furnisht,
There nothing wants; but in the Gallery
The Painter shews his art exceedingly.

Mar. Yer is there one thing goeth beyond all
these,

Contented life, that giveth the Heart his ease.
And that I want. *One knocketh at the door.*

For. Sweet Love, adieu. *Ex. For.*

Mar. Farewell Sweetheart. VWho is that at
the door?

Clin. A Friend. *Enter Clinton.*

Mar. Come near. What Captain is it you?

Clin. Even I, fair *Marian* watching carefully
The blessed step of opportunity.

Mar. Good, good! how Fortune glues me
with excess?

Still they that have enough shall meet with
more.

Clin. But where's the Doctor?

Mar. Ministring abroad

Physick to some sick Patients he retells.

Clin. Let him abroad, I'll minister at home,

Such Physick shall content my *Marian*.

Cas. O monstrous! now the VWorld must see
my shame,

This Head must bear whatever likes my Dame.

Mar. I have no malladie requires recure.

Clin. Why, then must I assume a sick man's
part, And

GRIM THE COLLIER.

And all my sickness lyeth at my heart,
T'is the heart-burning that torments me so.

Marian. There is no cure for fire but to be
quench'd.

Clin. Thou hast prescrib'd a sovereign remedy.

Cas. O who the Devil made her a Physician?

Clin. Let's not obscure what Love doth ma-
nifest,

Nor let a Stranger's bed make thee seem strange
To him that ever loved and honoured thee.

Mar. A Captain made a Captive by loose
Love,

And gadding Fancie; fie, 'twere monstrous
shame

That *Cupid's* bow should blemish *Mars* his name;
Take up thy Armes, recall thy drooping
thoughts,

And lead thy Troops into the spacious Fields.

Cas. She counsels others well, if she would
take it.

Clin. Thou counsell'st the blinde to lead the
blinde;

Can I lead them that cannot guide my self?

Thou, *Marian*, must release my captive Heart.

Mar. With all my heart. I grant thee free re-
lease.

Clin. Thou art obscure too much; but tell me,
Love,

Shall I obtain my long-desired Love?

Mar. Captain, there is yet somewhat in thy
mind

Thou would'st reveal, but wantest utterance;

Thou better knowest to front the braving foe,

Then plead Love suites.

Clin. I grant 'tis even so,
Extremity of Passions fill are dum.

No

No tongue can tell Love's chief perfections,
 For 'twas thy self my Love-sick thoughts are
 thine,
 Thou only mayest those drooping thoughts re-
 fine.

Mar. Since at my hands thou seek'st a remedy,
 I'll ease thy grief, and cure thy malady;
 No drugg the Doctor hath shall be too dear,
 His antidote shall flye to do thee good,
 Come in and let thy eye make choyle for thee,
 that thou may'st know how dear thou art to me.

Exeunt Clinton, Marian.

Casf. Is this obedience, now the Devil go with
 them,

And yet I dare not; Oh she's mankind grown!
 O miserable men that must live so,
 And damned Strumpets, Authors of this woe!

Enter Clint. Mar.

But peace! be still! they come! O shameless shame,
 Well may the world call thee the Devil's dame.

Mar. Captain thy skill hath pleased me so well,
 That I have vowed my service to *Bellona*.

Casf. Her service to *Bellona*! turn'd stark *Ruffiant*,
 she'll be call'd *Cavelero Marian*.

Clint. And I will trayn thee up in feats of arms,
 And teach thee all the orders of the field,
 That whilst we, like to *Mars* and *Venus*, jest,
 The Doctor's head may get a gallant crest.

Casf. I can no longer linger my disgrace,
 Nor hide my shame from their detested sight,
 How now thou Whore, dishonour to my bed,
 Disdain to Womanhood, shame of thy sex,
 Infatiate monster, corizive of my Soul,
 What makes this Captain revelling in my house?
 My House! nay, in my Bed! you'l prove a Soul
 diet,

- I

Follow

Follow *Bellona*, turn a Martialist!
 I'll try if thou hast learnt to ward my blowes.

Mar. Why how now man! is this your mad-
 ding month?

What, sir, will you forbid me in good sort,
 To entertain my friends.

Casf. Your Friends, you Whore!

They are no Friends of mine, nor come they
Clinton avaunt, my House is for no such. (here:

Mar. Alas good sir, are you grown so suspici-
 Thus on no proofs to nourish jealousy; (ous,
 I cannot kifs a man, but you'l be angry.
 In spite of you, or who so else sayeth nay,

My Friends are welcome as they come this way,
 If thou mislike it, mend it as thou may:

What do you think to pin up *Marian*,
 As you were wont to do your Spanish gilles,

No sir, I'll be half Mistress of my self,
 The other half is yours, if you deserve it.

Clint. What madness mov'd thee be displeas'd
 with me,

That alwayes us'd thee with so kind regard,
 Did I not at thy first arrival here

Conduct thee to the Earle of *London*'s house?

Mar. Did I not, being unsolicited,
 Bestow my first pure Maiden-love on thee?

Clint. Did I not grace thee there in all the Court,
 And bear thee out against the daring Abbot?

Mar. Did I forsake many young Gallant
 Courtiers,

Enamoured with thy aged Gravity? (me?
 Who now being weary of me, would'st disgrace

Casf. If there be any Conscience left on earth,
 How can I but believe these Protestations?

Clint. Have I not alwayes been thy nearest
 friend?

Mar.

Mar. Have I not always been thy dearest wife?
Clin. How much will all the world in this
condemn thee.

Mar. At first I little fear'd what now I find,
And grieve too late.

Capt. Content thee gentle Dame,
The nature of our Countrymen is such,
That if we see another kiss our Wives,
We cannot brook it: but I will be pleas'd;
For, will I, nill I, so me thinks I must:
And gentle Captain, be not you offended,
I was too hot at first, but now repent it:
I prethoe gentle Dame forgive me this,
And drown all Jealousie in this sweet kiss.

Clin. This shews your wisdom; on, I'll follow
you.

Mar. Well Doctor, henceforth never reake it
scorn,

At my sweet *Climin's* hands to take the horn.

Exeunt.

ACT. IV.

Enter Robin Good fellow in a suite of Leather close to his body, his Face and Hands coloured russet-colour, with a Flayle.

Rob. The Doctor's self would scarce know *Robin* now:

Curs'd *Marian* may go seek another man,
For I intend to dwell no longer with her,
Since that the Bastinado drove me thence;
These silken Girls are all too fine for me,
My Master shall report of those in Hell,

12

WHILE

Whilst I go range amongst the Country maids,
To see if home-spun Lasses milder be
Than my outst Dame, and *Lavin's* wanton wife;
Thus therefore will I live betwixt two shapes,
When as I list in this transform'd disguise,
I'll fright the Country people as they pass,
And sometimes turn me to some other form,
And so delude them with fantastick shows:
But woe betide the silly Dairy maids,
For I shall fleet their Cream-bowles night by
night.

And since the Bacon-flitches as they hang,
V'Vell here in *Croydon* will I first begin
To frolick it among the Country Lobs:
This day they say is call'd *Holy-roid day*,
And all the Youth are now a nutting gone;
Here are a crew of Yonkers in this V'Wood,
V'Vell sorted, for each Lad hath got his Lass;
Marrie indeed there is a tricksey Girl,
That three or four would fain be doing with,
But that a wily Priest among the rest,
Intends to beat her there away from all;
The Miller, and my Brother *Grim* the Collier,
Appointed here to scuffle for her Love:
I am on *Grim's* side, for long time ago
The Devill call'd the Collier like to like:

Enter Gilm, Clack, Parson Shorthose.

One with a bagg of Nuts.

But here the Miller and the Collier come,
V'V'V'V' Parson Make-bate, and their tricksey
Girl.

Grim. Par'on, perswade me no more, I come
Jagg to your custody, *Jagg* hold the Nut-bagg.
Clack. Nay, I will give you Nuts to crack.
Grim. Crack in thy Throat and hauster too.
Shorr. Neighbours I wish you both agree.

Let

OF CROYDON.

Let me be judg'd, be rul'd by me.

Grim. Mr. Parson, remember what *Pluriles* sayth, *ne accesseris ad consilio*, &c. I tell you I found this writen in the bottom of one of my empty Sacks; never perswade men that be execrable: I have vowed it, and I will perform it: the Quarrel is great, and I have taken it upon my own Shou'lders.

Clack. I that thou shalt e're I have done, for I will lay it on i' faith.

Grim. If you lay it in, I must bear it out: this is all: if you strike, I must stand to any thing although it be the biggest blow that you can lay upon me.

Jone. Ye both have oftentimes sworn that ye love me,

Let me o're-rule you in this angry mood:

Neighbours and old acquaintance, and fall out!

Rob. Why, that is because thou wilt not let them fall in?

Grim. I say, my heart bleedeth when thou speakest, and therefore do not provoke me: yet Miller, as I am monstrous angry, so I have a wonderfull great mind to be repeas'd: let's think what harm commeth by this same fighting, if we should hurt one another, how can we help it? Again, *Clack.* do but here forswear *Jone's* company, and I'll be thine instead of her, to use in all your businesse: from *Croydon* to *London*, you're *Gilbert Grim*, the chief Collier for the King's Majesties own mouth.

Clack. O *Grim*: do I smell you? I'll make you forswear her before we two part, and therefore come on to this geere: Collier I will lay on load, and when it is done, let who will take it off again.

I 3

Jugg. Yet.

54 GRIM THE COLLIER

Jugg. Yet once more hear me speak, leave off for shame.

If not for Love, and let not others laugh:
To see your follies, let me over rule ye.

Short. Oh let them fight, I care not, I.
Mean time away with *Jone* I'll fly,
And whilst they two are at it here,
We two will sport our selves elsewhere.

Rob. There's a stone Priest, he loveth a Wench indeed,

He careth not though both of them do bleed;
But *Robin Goodfellow* will conjure you,
And marr your match, and bang you soundly too;

I like this Country Girl's condition well,
She's faithfull, and a Lover but to one,
Robin stands here to right both *Grim* and her.

Grim. Master Parson, look you to my Love;
Miller, here I stand with my Heart and my Hand:
in sweet *Jugg's* right, with thee to fight.

Clack. Come let us to it then.

They fight, *Robin* beateth the *Miller*
with a *Flayle*, and selleth him.

Rob. Now Miller, Miller, dustipoule,
I'll clapper-claw your Iobbernoule.

Short. Come *Jugg*, let's leave these sencelesse
Blocks,

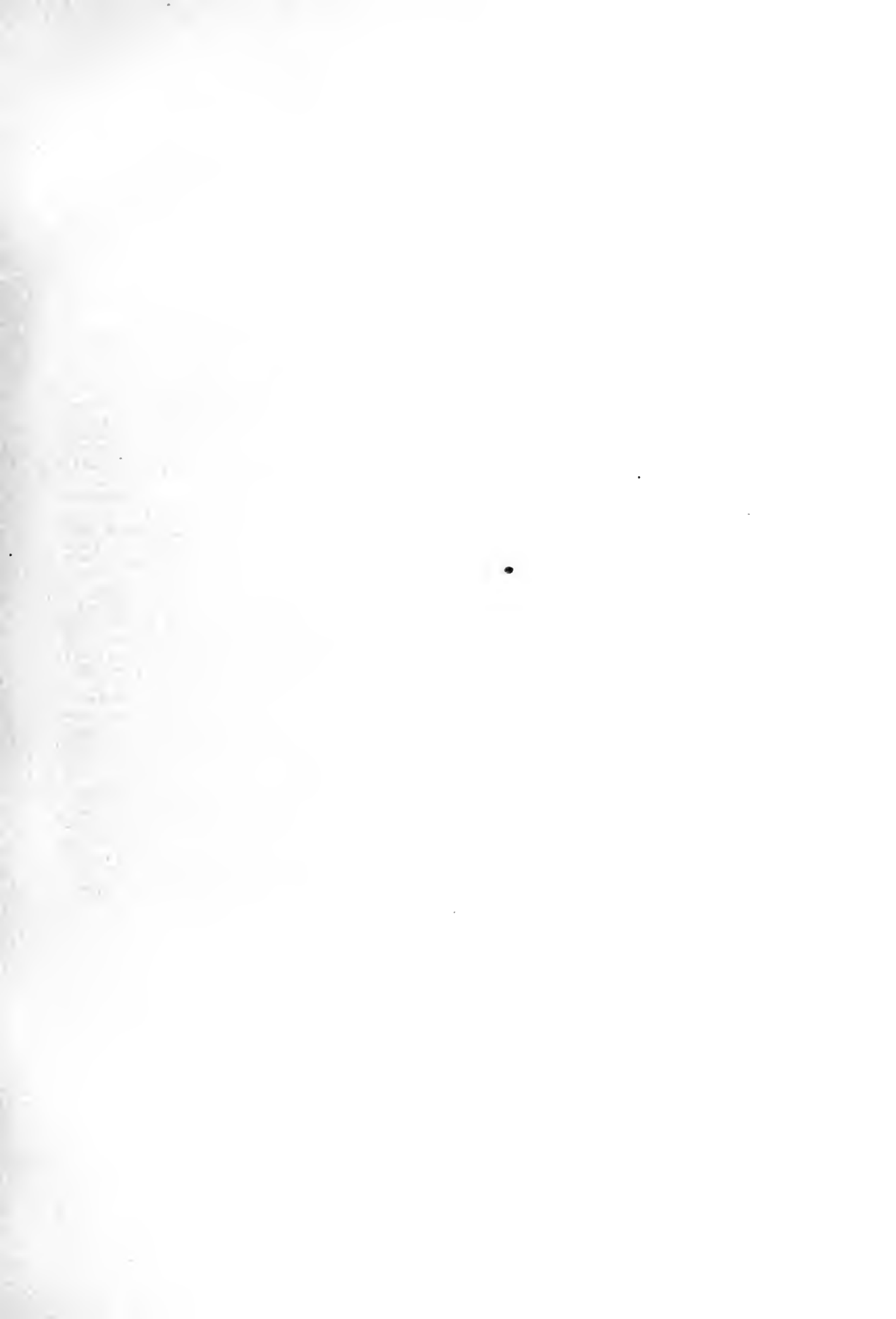
Giving each other blowes and knocks.

Jone. I love my *Grim* too well to leave him so.
Short. You shall not choose, come let's away.

Shorthose pulleth *Jugg* after
him, *Robin* beateth the *Priest*
with his *Flayle*.

Rob. Nay then Sir Priest I'll make you stay.

Clack. Nay this is nothing *Grim*, well e not part I,



I thought to have born it off with my back-
sword ward, and I receiv'd it upon my bare
Coffard. *They fight again.*

Rob. What Miller are you up agin!
Nay then my Flayle shall never lin,
Untill I force one of us twain,
Detak: him to his heels amain.

Robin beats the Miller again.

Clack. Hold thy hands *Grim*, thou hast murde-
red me.

Grim. Thou lye'st, it is in my own offence I do
it; get thee gone then; I had rather have thy
room than thy company.

Clack. Marry with all my heart; O! the Collier
playeth the Devil with me.

Rob. No, it is the Devil playeth the Collier
with thee.

Short. My bones are sore, I prethee *Ione*,
Let's quickly from this place be gone,
Nay come away, I love thee so,
Without thee I will never go.

Rob. What Priest still at your Lechery,

Robin beats the Priest.

I'll thresh you for your Knavery;
If any ask who beat thee so,
Tell them 'twas *Robin Goodfellow*.

Short hose runneth away.

Grim. Oh Miller art thou gone, I am glad of
it; I smell my own infirmity every stroke I
bruek at him: now *Ione* I dare boldly swear thou
art my own, for I have won thee in the plain
field; now Master Parson shall even strike it up;
two or three words of his mouth will make her
Gammer *Grim* all the daies of her life after.

Rob. Here is two well-favoured Slaves, *Grim*
and I may curse all good faces,

1-4.

And-

And not hurt our own.

Ione. What, my Love, how dost thou?

Grim. Even as a Conqueror may do; *Ione*, for
thy sake I have made the Miller a poor Cripple
all dayes of his life; good for nothing else but
to be carried into the Spittle-house.

Rob. I, there is one lye, for thou did'st never
hurt him.

Ione. I am glad thou scapest my love, and wast
not hurt,

Grim. Who, I hurt! *Ione*, thou knowest me,
not yet, thou mayest do better hereafter, I
gave him five mortal wounds, the first five
strokes I made at him.

Rob. There are five lyes clapt into one for
brevity sake.

Grim. And presently upon the fifth blow I
made a dangerous thrust at him, and violently
overthrew him horse and foot, and there he
lay.

Rob. Nay, there you lye, the Collier is excel-
lent

To be Companion to the Devil himself.

Grim. But where's Master Parson?

Ione. He was well bang'd, and knew not who
it was did it,

And would have had me gone away with him:
Mere lyesh his Nut-bag, and the Millers too,
They had no leisure to take them away.

Grim. The better for us *Ione*, there is good
cracking work, it will increase Household-stuff:
Come, let's after the Parson, we will comfort
him, and he shall couple us: I'll have *Pounceby*
the Painter score upon our painted Cloath at
home all the whole story of our going a nutting
this *Holy rood-day*, and he shall paint me up tri-
umphing

OF CROYDON.

59

umphing over the Miller.

*Exeunt Grim
and Ione.*

Rob. So let the Collier now go boast at home
How he hath beat the Miller from his Love;
I like this modest Country-maid so well,
That I believe I must report in hell
Better of women than my Master can:
Well, till my time's expired, I'll keep this Quar-
ter,
And night by night attend their merry meet-
ings.

Exit Robin.

Enter Dunston with Earle Lacy sick.

Dunston. Let not your sickness adde more
feebleness
Unto your weakened age, but give me leave
To cure thy vain suspicious malladie,
Thy eyes shall witness how thou art deceived,
Misprizing thy fair Ladies chastity;
For whilst we two stand clotely here unseen,
We shall espy them presently approach.
Lacy. O shew me this thou blessed man of
God,
And thou shalt then make young my withered
Age.
Dunston. Mark the beginning, for here *Mus-
grave* commeth... *Enter Musgrave alone.*
Musg. O thrice unhappy and unfortunate,
That having fit occasion profer'd thee
Of conference with beauious *Honora*,
Thou over-spirit, and o're-sight'st thy self,
Never since Wedlocke layd her to the Earle,
Have I saluted her, al though report
Is blaz'd abroad of my inconstancy.

15

15

GRIM THE COLLIER.

58

This is her evening walk, and here will I
Attend her coming forth, and greet her falsely
Lacy. See *Dunston* how their youth doth blind
our Age,
Thou dost deceive thy self, and bringest me
To see my proper shame and infamy.

Enter Honora.

But here she comes, my hope, my fear, my love,
Dunst. Here comes the unstained honor of thy
Bed,
Thy Eares shall hear her vertuous chaste replies,
And make thy heart confess thou dost her
wrong.

Honora. Now modest love hath banisht wan-
ron thoughts,

And altered me from that I was before:
To that chaste life I ought to entertain,
My heart is eyed to that strickt form of life,
That I joy only to be *Lacy's* wife.

Lacy. God fill thy minde with these chaste
vertuous thoughts.

Musg. Oh now I see her, I am half ashamed,
Of so long absence and neglect of speech;
My dearest Lady, Patroness of Beauty,
Let thy poor Servant make his true excuse.

Hon. Musgrave, I easely take your excuse.
Accusing my fond self for what is past.

Musg. Long time we wanted opportunity;
But now the forelock of well wishing time,
Hath blest us both, that here without suspect
We may renew the tenor of our loves.

Lacy. O *Dunston* how she smiles to hear him
speak!

Hon. No Child of fortune and inconstancy,
Thou shalt not traine me, or induce my love
To loose desires, or dishonoured thoughts.

16

OF CROYDON.

39.

'Tis God's own work that struck a deep remorse
Into my tainted heart for my past folly.

Musg. O thou confound'st me, speak as thou
wert wont,

Like Love herself, my lovely *Honora*.

Hon. Why, how now *Musgrave*, what estem'st
thou me!

That thou provokest me, that first deny'dst me:
I will not yield you reasons why I may not,
More than your own. you told me why, you
would not.

Musg. By Heavens, by thee my Saint, my Hap-
pinels,

No torture shall controll my heart in this,
To teach my tongue deny to call thee Lov.

Hon. Well in regard that in my maiden-daies
I lov'd thee well, now let me counsell thee,
Reclaim these idle humors; know thy self;
Remember me; and think upon my Lord;
And let these thoughts bring forth those chaste
effects,

Which may declare thy change unto the world;
And this assure thee, whilst I breath this aire,
Earle *Lacy's* honour I will ne're impair.

Exit Honora

Dunst. Now your Eyes see that which your
Heart believed not.

Lacy. It is a miracle beyond the reach
Of my capacity, I could weep for joy,
Would but my tears express how much I love
her;

Men may surmise amiss in jealousie,
Of those that live in unrough'd honesty.

Musg. Is she departed; and do I corse
This height of grief; and do no violence.

Exit

GRIM THE COLLIER

Vnto my self, said she, I denyed her;
Far be it from my heart to think that thought:
All ye that, as I do, have felt this smart,
Ye know how burdensome 'tis at my heart:
Hereafter never will I prosecute.

This former motion, my unlawfull suite:
But since she is Earle *Lacy's* vertuous wife,
I'll live a private pensive single life. *Ex. Musg.*

Dunst. God doth dispose all at his blessed will;
And he hath chang'd their minds from bad to
good,

That we which see't may learn to mend our
selves.

Lacy. I'll reconcile my self to *Musgrave's* love;
I will recant my false suspicion,
And humbly make my true submission.

Exeunt both.

Enter Marian chafing.

Mar. Say'st thou thou'll make the House too
hot for me.

I'll soon abroad and cool me in the aire,
I'll teach him never scorn to drink his health
Whom I do love, he thinks to overcrow me
With words and blows, but he is in the wrong,
Begin he when he dares: Oh he's too hot
And angry to live long with *Marian*;
But I'll not long be subject to his rage.
Here 'tis shall rid him of his hateful life,
And bless me with the file of Widow hood;
'Twas *Harvey's* work to temper it so well,
The strongest poyson that he could devise.

Enter Clinton.

I have been too long subject to the Slave.

But

OF CROYDON.

But now I'll cast off that detested yoke.

Clin. *Musgrave* I see is reconciled to the *Earle*,
For now I met him walking with *Lord Lacy*;
Sure this is *Marian's* Plott. and there she stands:
What Love alone!

Mar. I Captain, much disturb'd
About the frantick Doctor's jealousy,
Who, though he seem'd content when thou
wast there,

He after fell reviling thee and me,
Rob'd me of all my jewels, locks his Plate
In his own Trunk, and lets me only live
To bear the idle Title of his Wife.

Clin. Fair *Marian*, by a Souldier's loyal faith,
If my employment any way may help
To set thee free from this Captivity,
Use me in any sort, command my Sword,
I'll do't as soon as thou shalt speak the word.

Mar. Now by my true Love, which I wish to
thee,
I conjure thee with resolution
To slay that Monster, do not fail to do it,
For if thou dost, I would I had not spoke it.

Clin. Now try me, and when next we hap to
meet,

The Doctor lies gone dead at *Clinton's* feet,

Mar. Nay now I see thou lovest me.

Clin. Say no more;

If thou dost loath him, he shall dye therefore.

Mar. To morrow morning will he easily rise

To see *Earle Lacy*, meet him in the Cloyster;

And make that place revenge his Sanctuary!

This night will I break open all the Trunks,

Rifle his Caskets, rob him of his Gold;

And all the Doctors treasure shall be thine,

If thou miscarry, yet this drink shall do it.

Enter Cassil.

Cas. My

GRIM THE COLLIER

Cas. My wife's impatience hath left me alone,
And made my Servant run I know not whither.

Mar. Peace! here is our eye fore, *Clinton* leave
us now.

Clin. Nay now occasion smiles, and I will
do it. *Clinton draweth his Sword.*

Mar. Pat up thy Sword; be it thy mornings
work;

Farewell to night, but sayle me not to morrow:

Clin. Farewell my Love, no rest shall close
these eyes:

Untill the morning peep, and then he dyes.

Exit Clinton.

Cas. Now I remember I have quite out-run
My time prefixt to dwell upon the earth;

Yet *Akercock* is absent, where is he:

Oh I am glad I am so well near rid
Of my Earth's plague, and my lascivious dame:

Mar. Hath he discovered my intendement,
That he presageth his ensuing death?

I must break off these fearfull meditations.

Cas. How shall I give my verdict up to *Plinio*;
Of all these Accidents?

Mar. Why, how now man!

Cas. What my dear Dame, my reconciled
Spouse!

Upon my Soul, my love to thee is more

Now at this present, than 'twas ere before.

Mar. He hath discry'd me sure, he footheth
me so.

Cas. I love thee now, because I now must
leave thee;

This was the day of my Nativity,

And therefore Sweet wife let us revell it:

Mar. Nay, I have little cause so joy at all:

Cas. Thou croffest still my Mirth with dif-
contents. if

If ever heretofore I have displeas'd thee,
Sweet Dame, I crave thy pardon now for all;
This is my birth day, Girl, I must rejoyce,
Ask what thou wilt, and I will give it thee.

Mar. Should I but ask to lead a quiet life,
You hardly would grant this unto your wife,
Much less a thing that were of more import.

Cas. Ask any thing, and try if I'll deny thee.

Mar. Oh my poor *Musgrave*, how hast thou
been wronged,
And my fair Lady!

Cas. Use no Preambles,

But tell me plainly,

Mar. Nay remember them,

And joyne their slander to that love you owe me,

And then old *Lacy's* jealousie

Cas. What then?

Mar. Nay now I see you will not understand
me.

Cas. Thou art too dark, speak plainly, and
'tis done.

Mar. Then doom the Earle, and bleas' poor
Musgrave's eyes

With *Honorias*'s love; for this in thy Hand's
eyes.

Cas. How should I doom him?

Mar. How else, but to death?

Cas. As if his life or death lay in my hands.

Mar. He is thy Patient, is he not?

Cas. He is.

Mar. Then in thy hands lyes both his life
and death,

Sweet Love, let *Marian* begg it at thy hands;

Why should the gray beard live to crosse us all?

Nay now I see thee frown; thou wilt not do it.

Cas. Ey, fy, Dame, you are too suspicious.

Here:

Here is my hand, that thou may'st know I love
thee,

I'll poyson him this night before I sleep.

Mar. Thou dost but flatter me!

Cas. Tull, I have sworn it:

Mar. And wilt thou do it?

Cas. He is sure to dye.

Mar. I'll kiss thy Lips for speaking that kind
word;

But do it, and I'll hang about thy neck,
And cutle thy hair, and sleep betwixt thy armes,
And teach thee pleasures which thou never
knewest.

Cas. Promise no more; and trouble me no
more.

The longer I stay here, he lives the longer;

I must go to him now, and now I'll do it:

Go home, and hasten supper 'gainst I come,

We will carrouse to his departing Soul.

Mar. I will dear Husband, but remember me;
When thou hast poyson'd him, I'll poyson thee.

Ex. *Mar.*

Cas. O wonderfull how women can dissemble,
Now she can kiss me, hang about my neck,
And sooth me with sincorth smiles; and loud in-
treaties:

Well, I have promis'd her to kill the Earle,

And yet, I hope, ye will not think I le do it,

Yet I will sound the depth of their device;

And see the issue of their bloody drift,

I'll give the Earle, unknown to any man,

A sleepey potion, which shall make him seem

As if he were stark dead, for certain hours:

But in my absence no man shall report,

That for my Dame's sake I did any hurt.

Exit *Cas.*

A. C. T.

ACT. V.

Enter Grim with Ione.

Grim. Nay but *Ione*, have a care, bear a brain for all at once, 'tis not one hours pleasure that I suspect, more than your Mother's good countenance; if she be a sleep, we may be bold under correction, if she be awake, I may go my waies, and no body ask me, *Grim* whither goest thou: nay I tell you I am so well beloved in our Town, that not the worst dogg in the street will hurt my little finger.

Ione. Why speak you this, you need not fear my Mother,

For she was fast a sleep four hours ago.

Grim. Is she sure did you hear her snore in her dead sleep; why then *Ione* I have an hours mirth for thee.

Ione. And I a mass of Cream for thee.

Grim. Why there is one for another then, fetch it *Ione*, we will eat and kiss, and be as merry

Exit Ione for the Cream.

ry as your Cricket; art thou gone for forl: well, go thy waies for the kindest Last that ever poor Collier met withall; I mean for to make short work with her, and marry her presently; I'll single her out I'faith, till I make her bear double, and give the world to understand we will have a young *Grim* between us.

Enter Ione with the Cream.

Ione. Look here my Love, 'tis sweetned for thy mouth.

Grim. You

66 GRIM THE COLLIER.

Grim. You have put none of your Love powder in it to make me enamourable of you, have you *Ione*, I have a simple pare to expect you.

One knocketh at the door.

Ione hark, my Braynes beat, my head works, and my mind giveth me, some Lovers of yours come sneaking hither now, I like it not, 'tis suspicious.

One knocketh again.

Ione. You need not fear it, for there is none alive

Shall bear the least part of my heart from thee.

Grim. Sayest thou so, hold there still, and who e're he be, open door to him:

She openeth the door, enter Shorthose and Robin after him.

Ione. What, Master Parson! are you come so late;

You are welcome, here is none but *Grim* and I.

Shorth. *Ione*, I'll no more a nutting go.

I was so beaten to and fro;

And yer who it was I do not know.

Grim. What, Master Parson, are you come so late to say evening-song to your Partioners, I have heard of your Knavery, I give you a fair warning, touch her no lower than her Girdle, and no higher than her chin; I keep her lips and her hips for my own use; I do, and so welcome.

Rob. This two hours have I dogg'd the Parson round

About all *Croydon*, doubting some such thing.

Shorth. No *Grim*, I here forefwear to touch Thy *Ione*, or any other such;

Love

OF CROYDON:

67

Love hath been so cudgell'd out of me,
I'll go no more to wood with thee.

Rob. 'Twas Robin beat this holy mind into
him,
I think more cudgelling would make him more
honest.

Grim. You speak like an honest man, and a
good Parson, and that is more; here is *Ione's* be-
nevolation for us, a mess of Cream, and so forth.
Here is your place, Master Parson, stand on the
other side of the Table *Ione*, eat hard to night
that thou may marry us the better to-morrow.

Rob. What is my Brother *Grim* so good a
fellow?

They fall to the Cream.

I love a mess of Cream as well as they;
I think it were best I slept in and made one:
Ho, ho, ho my Masters, no good Fellowship!
Is *Robin Goodfellow* a Bug-bear grown.

Robin falleth to eat.

That he is not worthy to be bid sit down.

Grim. O Lord save us! sure he is some Coun-
try-devil, he hath got a Russet-coat upon his
face.

Short. Now *benedictio*? who is this?
I take him for some fiend I wish,
Oh for some holy-water here
Of this same place this Sprite to clear.

Rob. Nay fear not *Grim*, come fall unto your
Creams.

Tut, I am thy Friend, why dost not come and
eat?

Grim. I Sir, truly, Master Devil, I am well
here, I thank you.

Rob. I'll have thee come, I say, Why trem-
blest thou?

Grim. No, Sir, not I, 'tis a False I have still.
Truly.

68

GRIM THE COLLIER

Truly, Sir, I have no great acquaintance with
you.

Rob. Thou shalt have better man ere I de-
part.

Grim. I will not, and if I can choose.

Rob. Nay come away, and bring your Love
with you.

Grim. *Ione*, you were be? go to him *Ione*.

Rob. What shall I fetch the man? the Cream
is sweet.

Grim. No, Sir, I am coming; much good do't
you; I had need of a long spoon now I go to eat
with the Devil.

Rob. The Parson's pennance shall be thus to
fast:

Come tell me *Grim*, dost thou not know me
man?

Grim. No truly Sir, I am a poor man, fetch-
eth my Living out of the fire; your Worship may
be a Gentleman Devil for ought I know.

Rob. Some men call me *Robin Goodfellow*.

Grim. O Lord! Sir, Mr. *Robert Goodfellow*, you
are very welcome, Sir.

Rob. This half year have I lived about this
Town,

Helping poor Servants to dispatch their work,
To brew and bake, and other Husbandry;
Tut, fear not Maid, if *Grim* be merry,
I will make up the Match between ye.

Grim. There will be a Match in the Devil's
name!

Rob. Well now the night is almost spent,
Since your affections all are bent
To Marriage, and to constant Love,
Grim, *Robin* doth thy Choyse approve,
And there's the Priest shall marry you;

69

OF CROYDON.

Go to it, and make no more ado:
Sirrah, Sir Priest, go get you gone,
And joyn both her and him anon;
But ne're hereafter let me take you
With wanton Love-tricks, lest I make you
Example to all stome-priests ever,
To deal with other mens loves never.

Short. Valet vs; and God blefs me,
And rid me from his Company.
Come *Grim* I'll joyn you hand in hand,
In sacred Wedlock's holy band;
I will no more a nutting go,
That journey caused all this woe.

Grim. Come, let's to hand in hand quickly,
Master *Robert* you were ever one of the honestest
merry Devils that ever I saw.

Ione. Sweet *Grim*, and if thou lovest me let's
away.

Grim. Nay, now *Ione*, I spy a hole in your coat,
If you cannot endure the Devil, you'll never
love the Collier, why we two are sworn Bro-
thers, you shall see me talk with him even as
familiarly as if I should parbreak my mind and
my whole stomach upon thee.

Ione. I prethee do not *Grim*.

Grim. Who, not I? O Lord! Mr. *Robert Good-*
fellow, I have a poor Cottage at home, whither
Ione and I will jog as merrily; we will make you
no Stranger if you come thither, you shall be u-
sed as devilishly as you would wish i' faith; there
is never a time my Cart cometh from *London*,
but the Collier bringeth a Goose in his Sack, and
that, with the Gblets thereof, is at your ser-
vice.

Robt. This is more kindness *Grim* than I ex-
pected.

Grim. Nay,

GRIM THE COLLIER

Grim. Nay, Sir, if you come home, you shall
find it true I warrant you, all my whole Family
shall be at your Devilships pleasure, except my
poor *Ione* here, and she is my own proper night
geer.

Rob. Gramercies, but away in hast,
The night is almost spent and past.

Grim. God be with you, Sir, I'll make as
much hast about it as may be, for and that were
once done, I would begin a new piere of work
with you *Ione*.

Exeunt all but Robin.

Rob. Now joy beride this merry morn,
And keep *Grim's* forehead from the horn,

For *Robin* bids his last adieu,
To *Grim* and all the rest of you.

Ex. Rob.

Enter Clinton alone.

Clm. Bright *Lucifer* go cockn thee in the Clouds,
And let this morning prove as dark as night,
That I unseem may bring to happy end
The Doctor's murder, which I do intend:
It's early yet, he is not so soon stirring;
But stir he ne're so soon, so soon he dies;
I'll walk along before the Pallace gate;
Then shall I know how near it is to day,
He shall have no means to escape away.

Exit Clinton.

Enter Castiliano.

Cast. My Trunk's broke open, and my Jewels
gone,
My Gold and Treasure stolne, my House dif-
spoyld

of

Of all my Furniture, and nothing left,
 No not my Wife, for she is stoln away,
 But she hath pepper'd me, I feel it work,
 My Teeth are loose, and my Belly swell'd,
 My Entrails burn with such distemper'd heat,
 That well I know my Dame hath poyson'd me:
 When she spoke fairest, then she did this Act.
 When I have spoken all I can imagine,
 I cannot utter half that she intends;
 She makes as little poysoning of a man
 As to carrouse, I feel that this is true:

Enter Clinton.

Nay now I know too much of Women kind,
 Zoun's here's the Captain! what should he make
 here
 With his Sword drawn? there's yet more Vil-
 lany.

Clm. The morning is far spent, but yet he
 comes not!

I wonder *Marian* sends him not abroad;
 Well Doctor, linger time and linger life,
 For long thou shalt not breath upon the earth.

Cas. No, no, I will not live amongst ye long,
 Is that for me thou waitest thou bloody Wretch?
 Her Poyson hath prevented thee in Murder.

*Enter Earle Morgan, St. Dunston, with
 Honorea fainting, and Mariana.*

Now here be they suppose Earle *Lacy* dead,
 See how his Lady grieveth for that she wiseth?

Dunst. My Lord of London, by his sudden death,
 And all the signs before his late departure,
 'Tis very probable that he is poyson'd.

Marian. Do you but doubt it! credit me my
 Lord,

I heard him say, That drink should be his fast,
 I heard

I heard my Husband speak it, and he did it.

Cas. There is my old Friend, she alwaies
 speaks for me;

Oh shameless Creature! was't not thy devise?

Morg. Let not extremity of grief or'whelme
 My dearest *Honorea*, for his death shall be (thee,
 Surely reveng'd with all severity
 Upon the Doctor, and that suddenly.

Clm. What Fortune's this, that all these come
 To hinder me, and save thy life to day. (this way

Hon. My gracious Lord, this dolefull accident
 Hath rob'd me of my joy; And royal Earle,
 Though in thy life thou did'st suspect my love,
 My grief and tears suspicions shall remove.

Mar. Madam to you and to your Father's
 I owe as much & more than my own life, (love,
 Had I ten Husbonds should agree to do it,

My gracious Lord you presently should know it.
Cas. It there's a Girl: Think you I did not well
 To live with such a Wife, to come from Hell.

Mar. Look; look, my Lord, there stands the
 Murderer.

Cas. How am I round beset on every side!
 First, that same Captain, here stands to kill me,
 My Dame she hath already poysoned me,
 Earle *Morgan* he doth threaten present death;

The Countess *Honorea*, in revenge
 Of *Lacy*, is extremely incens'd against me;
 All threatens, none shall do it, for my date
 Is now expired, and I must back to Hell.
 And now my Servant wheresoe'er thou be,
 Come quickly *Akercock*, and follow me;
 Lordings adien, and my curst Wife farewell,
 If me ye seek, come follow me to Hell.

The Ground opens, and he falls down into it.

Morg. The Earth that opened, now is clos'd
 again!

Dunst. It

OF CROYDON.

33

Dunst. It is God's judgement for his grievous sin.

Clin. Was there a Quagmire, that he sunk so soon?

Hon. O miracle! now may we justly say, Heavens have reveng'd my Husband's death this day.

Morg. Alas! poor *Marian*! we have wrong'd thee much,

To coule thee march thy self to any such.

Mar. Nay let him go, and sink into the ground, For such as he are better lost then found; Now *Honours* we are freed from blame, And both enrich'd with happy Widows names.

Enter Earl Lacy with Forest, Musgrave:

Lacy O lead me quickly to that mourning train, Which weep for me, that am revived again.

Hon. Marian, I shed some tears of perfect grief.

She falls into a Swoon:

Morg. Do not my Eyes deceive me? liveth my Son?

Lacy. My Lord; and Father, both alive and well

Recovered of my weakness; where's my wife?

Mar. Here is my Lady, your beloved wife, Half dead, o hear of your untimely end.

Lacy. Look on me, *Honours*; see thy Lord; I am not dead, but live to love thee still.

Dun. 'Tis God disposeth all things as he will, He raiseth those, the wicked wish to fall:

Clin. Zounds, I still watch on this inclosed For if he rise again, I'll murder him. (ground;

Hon. My Lord, my tongue's not able to report Those joys my heart conceives to see thee live!

K.

Dun. Give

GRIM THE COLLIER.

57

Dunst. Give God the glory, he recovered thee, And wrought this judgement on that cursed man,

That set debate and strife among ye all.

Morg. My Lord, our eyes have seen a miracle, Which after-ages ever shall admire, The Spanish Doctor, standing here before us, Is sunk into the bowels of the earth, Ending his vile life by a viler death.

Lacy. But, gentle *Marian*, I bewail thy loss, That wert Maid, Wife, and Widow, all so soon.

Mar. 'Tis your recovery that joys me more Than grief can touch me for the Doctor's death; He never lov'd me whilst he liv'd with me, Therefore the less I mourn his Tragedy.

Morg. Henceforth, we'll stricter look to Strangers lives,

Now they shall marry any English Wives:

Now all men shall record this fatal day,

Lacy revived, the Doctor sunk in Clay.

The Trumpets sound, exeunt all but Dunstan.

Dunst. Now is *Earl Lacy's* House fill'd full of He and his Lady wholly reconcil'd, (joy,

Their jars all ended; those that were like men

Transformed, turn'd unto their shapes again:

And Gentlemen, before we make an end,

A little longer yet your patience lend,

That in your friendly censures you may see

What the infernal Synod do decree,

And after judge, if we deserve to name

This Play of ours, *The Devil and his Dame.* Exits

It thunders and lighteneth; enter Pluto, Mi-

nos, Eacus, Rhadamanthus, with Furies

bringing in Malbecco's ghost.

Pluto



OF GROVDON 55

Pluto. *Minos*, is this the day he should return
And bring us tidings of his Twelve month
spent.

*Enter Belphagor like a Devil, with
Horns on his head, and Akerkok.*

Minos. It is, great King, and here *Belphagor*
comes.

Pluto. His Visage is more ghastly than it was
wont.

What Ornaments are those upon his head?

Bel. Hell, I salute thee, now I feel my self
Rid of a thousand torments; O vile Earth,
Worse for us Devils, than Hell itself for men.
Pluto, hear thy Subject's just Complaint.

Belph. kneeleth to *Pluto*.

Proceeding from the anguish of my Soul,

O never send me more into the Earth,
For there dwells dead, and horror more than
here.

Pluto. Stand forth *Belphagor*, and report the
truth.

Of all things have betide thee in the World.

Bel. When first, great King, I came into the
Earth,

I chose a Wife both young and beautifull,

The only Daughter to a noble Earl:

But when the night came, that I should her bed,

I found another laid there in her stead,

And in the morning when I found the change,

Though I deny'd her, I was forc'd to take her;

With her I lived in such a milde estate,

Used her still kindly, loved her tenderly,

Which she requited with such light regard,

So loose demeanour, and dishonest life,

That she was each man's whore that was my wife.

K 2 NO

56 GRIM THE COLLIER

No hours but Gallants flock'd unto my house,
Such as the fancied for her loathsome lust,
With whom, before my face, she did not spare
To play the Strumpet; yes, and more than this,
She made my house a flue for all resorts,
Herself a Bawd to other's filthiness;

Which if I once began but to reprove,
Oh! then her Tongue was worse than all the rest,
No ears with patience would endure to hear her,
Nor would she ever cease till I submit,

And then she would speak me fair, but with me
A hundred drifts she laid to cut me off, (dead:
Still drawing me to dangers of my life;

And now my Twelve-month being near expir'd,
She poysoned me; and least that means should
She entic'd a Captain to have murdered me (said,
In brief whatever Tongue can tell,
all that may well be spoken of my Dame.

Aker. Poor *Akercock* was fain to fly her sights:
For ne're an hour but she laid on me,
Her Tongue and Fist walked all so nimblely.

Pluto. Dost thou *Belphagor* this report of thine
Against all Women hold in general?

Bel. Not so, great Prince, for as'mongst other
Creatures,

Under that Sex are mingled good and bad,
There are some women vertuous, chaste and true,
And to all those the Devil will give their due:

But, Oh my Dame! born for a long to man,
For no mortality would endure that,
Which she a thousand times hath offered me.

Pluto. But what new shapes are those upon thy
Head?

Bel. These are the ancient arms of Cuckoldry,
And these my Dame hath kindly left to me,
For which *Belphagor* shall be here derided.

Valeff

Unless your great infernal Majestie
 Do solemnly proclaime, no Devil shall scorn
 Hereafter still to wear the goodly horn
That this for thy service I will grant thee freely,
 All Devils shall, as thou dost like horns wear,
 And none shall scorn *Belphegor's* arms to bear;
 And now *Malbecco*, hear thy latest doom,
 Since that thy first Reports are justified
 By after-proofs, and Women's looseness known,
 One Plague more will I send upon the earth,
 Thou shalt assume a light and fiery shape,
 And so for ever live within the world.
 Dive into Womens thoughts, into mens hearts,
 Raise up false rumour, and suspicious fears,
 Put strange inventions into each man's mind;
 And for these Actions they shall awaies call thee
 By no name else but fearfull Jealousie:
 Go Jealousie, be gone, thou hast thy charge,
 Go range about the World that is so large.
 And now for joy *Belphegor* is return'd,
 The Furies shall their tortures cast away,
 And in Hell wee will make it Holy-day.

*It thundereth and lighteneth.
 exeunt omnes.*

FINIS.

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