

HENRIE CHETTLE

KIND-HARTES DREAME 1592

WILLIAM KEMP

E DAIES WONDER 1600

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THE BODLEY HEAD
QUARTOS
IV

HENRIE CHETTLER ^f

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EDITED BY G. B. HARRISON

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Note

THE ORIGINAL of this text is in the British Museum (C. 14, a. 6). A very few misprints have been corrected in the text: these are noted on page 67.

G. B. H.

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KIND - HARTS
DREAME.

Conteining five Apparitions, vvith their
Inuectiues againſt abuſes raigning.

*Delivered by ſeueral Ghoſts vnto him to
be publiſht, after Piers Peniſſle Poſt
had refuſed the carriage.*

Inuita Inuidia.

by H. C.



Imprinted at London for William Wright.



To the Gentlemen Readers.

IT hath beene a custome Gentle men (in my mind commendable) among former Authors (whose workes are no lesse beautified with eloquente phrase, than garnished with excellent example) to begin an exordium to the Readers of their time, much more conuenient I take it, should the writers in these daies (wherein that grauitie of enditing by the elder exercised, is not obseru'd, nor that modest decorum kept, which they continued) submit their labours to the fauourable censures of their learned ouerseers. For seeing nothing can be said, that hath not been before said, the singularitie of some mens conceits, (otherwayes excellent well deseruing) are no more to be soothed, than the peremptorie posies of two very sufficient Translators commended. To come in print is not to seeke praise, but to craue pardon: I am vrgd to the one; and bold to begge the other, he that offendes being forst, is more excusable than the wilfull faultie, though both be guilty, there is difference in the guilt. To obserue custome, and auoid as I may caull, opposing your fauors against my feare, Ile shew reason for my present writing, and after proceed to sue for pardon. About three moneths since died M. Robert Greene, leauing many papers in sundry Booke sellers hands, among other his Groats-worth of wit, in which a letter written to diuers play-makers, is offensively by one or two of them taken, and because on the

dead they cannot be auenged, they wilfully forge in their conceites a liuing Author : and after tossing it two and fro, no remedy, but it must light on me. How I haue all the time of my conuersing in printing hindred the bitter inueying against schollers, it hath been very well knowne, and how in that I dealt I can sufficiently prooue. With neither of them that take offence was I acquainted, and with one of them I care not if I neuer be : The other, whome at that time I did not so much spare, as since I wish I had, for that as I haue moderated the heate of liuing writers, and might haue vsde my owne discretion (especially in such a case) the Author beeing dead, that I did not, I am as sory, as if the originall fault had benee my fault, because my selfe haue seene his demeanor no lesse ciuill than he exelent in the qualitie he professes : Besides, diuers of worship haue reported, his vprightnes of dealing, which argues his honesty, and his facetious grace in writting, that aprooues his Art. For the first, whose learning I reuerence, and at the perusing of Greenes Booke, stroke out what then in conscience I thought he in some displeasure writ : or had it benee true, yet to publish it, was intollerable : him I would wish to vse me no worse than I deserue. I had onely in the copy this share, it was il written, as sometime Greenes hand was none of the best, licensd it must be, ere it could bee printed which could neuer be if it might not be read. To be breife I writ it ouer, and as neare as I could, followed the copy, onely in that letter I put something out, but in the whole booke not a worde in, for I protest it was all

Greene, not mine nor Maister Nashes, as some vniustly haue affirmed. Neither was he the writer of an Epistle to the second part of Gerileon, though by the workemans error T. N. were set to the end : that I confesse to be mine, and repent it not.

Thus Gentlemen, hauing noted the priuate causes, that made me nominate my selfe in print ; being aswell to purge Master Nashe of that he did not, as to iustifie what I did, and withall to confirme what M. Greene did : I beseech yee accept the publike cause, which is both the desire of your delight, and common benefite : for though the toye bee shadowed vnder the Title of Kind-hearts Dreame, it discouers the false hearts of diuers that wake to commit mischiefe. Had not the former reasons been, it had come forth without a father : and then should I haue had no cause to feare offending, or reason to sue for fauour. Now am I in doubt of the one, though I hope of the other ; which if I obtaine, you shall bind me hereafter to bee silent, till I can present yee with some thing more acceptable.

Henrie Chettle.



Kind-hartes Dedication of his dreame, to all the
pleasant conceited vvhersoeuer.

GENTLEMEN and good-fellowes (whose
Kindnes hauing christened mee with the name
of Kind-heart, bindes me in all kind course I can to
deserue the continuance of your loue) let it not seeme
strange (I beseech ye) that he that all daies of his life
hath beene famous for drawing teeth, should now in
drooping age hazard contemptible infamie by draw-
ing himselfe into print. For such is the folly of this
age, so witlesse, so audacious, that there are scarce
so manye pedlers brag themselues to be printers
because they haue a bundel of ballads in their packe,
as there be idiots that thinke themselues Artists,
because they can English an obligation, or write a
true staffe to the tune of fortune. This folly raging
vniuersally, hath infired me, to write the remem-
brance of sundry of my deceased frends, personages
not alltogether obscure, for then were my subiect
base, nor yet of any honourable carriage, for my stile
is rude and bad : and to such as I it belongs not to
iest with Gods. Kind-hart would haue his com-
panions esteeme of Estates as starres, on whome
meane men maye looke, but not ouer-looke. I haue
heard of an eloquent Orator, that trimly furnished
with warres abiliments, had on his shield this *Motto*

Bona fortuna: yet at the first meeting of the enemy fled with out fight. For which being reproofed, he replied. If I haue saued my selfe in this battell by flight, I shal liue to chase the enemy in the next. So Gentlemen fares it with mee, If enuious misconsterers arme themselues against my simple meaning, and wrest euery iest to a wrong sense. I thinke it policy to fly at the first fight, till I gather fresh forces to repress their folly. Neither can they what euer they be, deale hardly with Kind-hart, for he onely deliuers his dreame; with euery Apparition simply as it was vttered. Its fond for them to fight against ghosts: its fearefull for me to hide an Apparition: by concealing it I might doe my selfe harme and them no good; by reuealing it, ease my hart, and doe no honest men hurt: for the rest (although I would not willingy moue the meanest) they must beare as I doe, or mend it as they may. Well least ye deeme all my dreame but an Epistle. I will proceed to that without any further circumstance.



The Dreame.

SITTING alone not long since, not far from *Finsburie*, in a Taphouse of Antiquity, attending the comming of such companions as might wash care away with carousing: Sleepe the attendant vpon a distempred bodies, bereft the sunnes light by couering mine eies with her sable mantle, and left me in nights shade, though the daies eie shinde; so powerfull was my receiued potion, so heauie my passion: whence (by my hostisse care) being remoued to a pleasant parlor, the windowes opening to the East, I was laid softly on a downe bed, and couered with equall furniture, where how long I slept quietly, I am not well assured, but in the time I intended to rest, I was thus by visible apparitions disturbd.

First after a harsh and confused sound, it seemed there entered at once fwe personages, seuerally attired, and diuersly qualified, three bearing instruments, their fauours pleasant; two appearing to be Artists, their countenances reuerend.

The first of the first three was an od old fellow, low of stature, his head was couered with a round cap, his body with a side skirted tawney coate, his legs and feete trust vppe in leather buskins, his gray

haire and furrowed face witnessed his age, his treble violl in his hande, assured me of his profession. On which (by his continuall sawing hauing left but one string) after his best manner, hee gaue me a huntsvp: whome after a little musing, I assuredly remembered to be no other but old Anthony Now now.

The next, by his sute of russet, his buttond cap, his taber, his standing on the toe, and other tricks, I knew to be either the body or resemblance of Tarlton, who liuing for his pleasant conceits was of all men liked, and dying, for mirth left not his like.

The third (as the first) was an olde fellowe, his beard milkewhite, his head couered with a round lowe crownd rent silke hat, on which was a band knit in many knotes, wherein stucke two round stickes after the Iuglers manner. His ierkin was of leather cut, his cloake of three coulers, his hose paind with yellow drawn out with blew, his instrument was a bagpipe, & him I knew to be William Cuckoe, better knowne than lou'd, and yet some thinke as well lou'd as he was worthy.

The other two had in their countenances a reuerent grace, the one which was the elder, seeming more seuer, was in habite like a Doctor, in his right hand hee held a Compendium of all the famous Phisitions and Surgions workes beelonging to Theorike, in his lefte hand a table of all instruments for mans health, appertaining to practise.

At the sight of this Doctor, you maye thinke

Gentlemen, Kind-hart was in a pitious case: for I verily beleued he had beene some rare Artist, that taking me for a dead man had come to anatomize me, but taking comfort that my thrumde hat, had hanging at it the ensignes of my occupation, like a tall fellow (as to me it seemed) I lookte him in the face and beheld him to bee maister Doctor Burcot (though a stranger,) yet in England for phisicke famous.

With him was the fifth, a man of indifferent yeares, of face amible, of body well proportioned, his attire after the habite of a schollerlike Gentleman, onely his haire was somewhat long, whome I supposed to be Robert Greene, maister of Artes: of whome (howe euer some suppose themselues injured) I haue learned to speake, considering he is dead, *nill nisi necessarium*.

He was of singuler pleasance the verye supporter, and to no mans disgrace bee this intended, the only Comedian of a vulgar writer in this country.

Well thus these fiue appeared, and by them in post past a knight of the post, whome in times past I haue seen as highly promoted as the pillory: but I haue heard since he was a diuell, that plaide the Cariat of Pierce penillesse packet to Lucifer, and was now returning to contaminate the ayre, with his pestilent periuries, and abhominable false witnessse bearing.

How Pierce his supplication pleased his Patron I know not, but sure I take it this Friend had a foule check for meddling in the matter: for when all these

five before named had made profer of seuerall bills inuectiue against abuses rainging, this diuelish Messenger repulsed them wrathfully, and bad them get some other to bee their packet bearer if they list, for he had almost hazarded his credit in hell, by beeing a Broker betweene Pierce Penillesse and his Lord: and so without hearing their reply, flew from them like a whirle wind. With that, (after a small pause) in a round ring they compassed my bed, and thrusting into my hand all their papers, they at once charged mee to awake, and publish them to the world.

This charge seemed to mee most dreadfull of all the dreame, because in that the distinguishing of their seuerall voices was heard, farre from the frequent manner of mens speach. In fine, *Cuckoe* with his pipes, and *Antony* with his Crowd, keeping equall equipage first left my sight; *Tarlton* with his Taber fetching two or three leaden frisks, shortly followed, and the Doctor and maister Greene immediatly vanished.

With this (not a little amazed as one from a trance reuiued) I rouzd vp my selfe: when sodainly out of my hand fell the five papers, which confirmed my dreame to bee no fantisie. Yet (for that I knew the times are daungerous) I thought good aduisedly to read them, before I presumed to make them publick. So by chance lighting first on *Antony nownowe* I found on the outside, as follows on the other side.

(††)



*The friendly Admonition of Antho-
nie Now now, to Mopo and
Pickering, Arch-ouerseers of the
Ballad singers, in London, or
else-where*

ANTHONY now now a Gods blessing to his
louing and liuing Bretheren Mopo and Picker-
ing greeting, whereas by the daily recourse of infinit
numbers to the infernall regions, whose plaintes to
be heard are no lesse lamentable, then their paines to
be felt intollerable, I am given to vnderstand, that
there be a company of idle youths, loathing honest
labour and dispising lawfull trades, betake them to a
vagrant and vicious life, in euery corner of Cities &
market Townes of the Realme singing and selling of
ballads and pamphletes full of ribaudrie, and all
scurrilous vanity, to the prophanation of Gods name,
and with-drawing people from christian exercises,
especially at faires markets and such publike meet-
ings, I humbly desire ye that ye ioyne with another
of your bretheren free of one Citie and profession,
that alwaies delighting in godly songes, is now in his
age betaken to his beads, and liueth by the dolefull
tolling of Deaths bell warning. Deere frendes, I

beseech you ioyntly to agree to the suppressing of the a forenamed idle vagabonds. And that I right incite (as I hope) your forward effectes, I will particularize the difference betweene the abused times among you reputed, and the simplicity of the daies, wherein I lived. Withall I wish ye to expect no greater matter then *Anthonyes* capacity can comprehend. When I was liked, there was no thought of that idle vpstart generation of ballad-singers, neither was there a printer so lewd that would set finger to a lasciuious line. But I perceiue the times are changed, and men are changed in the times. For not long since a number of children were bolstered by some vn-worthy Citizens and other free men in Townes Corporate to exercise a base libertine life in singing anye thing that came to hand from some of the Diuels instruments, intruders into printings misterie, by whome that excelent Art is not smally slandered, the gouernment of the estate not a little blemished, nor Religion in the least measure hindred. And to shut up al in the last, is it not lamentable that after so many callings, so many blessings, so many warnings, through the couetous desire of gaine of some two or three, such a flocke of Run-agates shoulde ouerspred the face of this land, as at this time it doth. They that intend to infect a riuer poison the fountaine, the Basiliske woundeth a man by the eie, whose light first failing the body of force descends to darknes.

These Basilisks, these bad minded monsters, brought forth like vipers by their mothers bane, with such lasciuious lewdnes haue first infected London the eie of England, the head of other Cities, as what is so lewd that hath not there contrary to order beene printed, and in euery streete abusively chanted. This error (ouer spreding the realme) hath in no small measure increased in Essex and the shires thereto adioyning, by the blushlesse faces of certaine Babies sonnes to one *Barnes* most frequenting Bishops Stafford. The olde fellow their father soothing his sonnes folly, resting his crabbed limes on a crab-tree staffe, was wont and I thinke yet he vses to seuer himselfe from the Booth, or rather Brothell of his two sons Ballad shambels: where the one in a sweaking treble, the other in an ale-blown base carrowle out such adultrous ribaudry, as chast eares abhorre to heare, and modestie hath no tongue to vtter.

While they are in the ruffe of ribaudrie, (as I was about to say) the olde ale-knight their dad breakes out into admiration, and sends stragling customers to admire the roaring of his sonnes: where that I may showe some abuses, and yet for shame let slip the most odious, they heare no better matter, but the lasciuious vnder songs of Watkins ale, the Carmans whistle, Choppingkniues, and frier foxtaile, and that with such odious and detested boldnes, as if there be any one line in those lewd songs than other more abhominable, that with a double repetition is

lowdly belowed, as for example of the frier and the nunne.

*He whipt her with a foxes taile, Barnes minor,
And he whipt her with a foxes taile, Barnes maior.*

O braue boies saith *Barnes maximus*. The father leapes, the lubers roare, the people runne, the Diuell laughs, God lowers, and good men weepe. Nay, no sooner haue the godly preachers deliuered wholesome doctrine, but these impes of iniquitie, and such as imitate their order, draw whole heapes to hearken to their inquinated cries, as if they were heardes of the Gergishites swine ready to receiue whole legions of soule-drowning spirites.

Stephen, Mopo and Pickering I muse you make no complaint to those worshipfull that haue authority to restraine such straglers for this is to be proued, of whome soeuer they buy them, that these two *Barnes* vtter more licentious songs, then all that part of England beside.

Shamefull it is (had they any shame) that men brought vppe to an honest handicraft, of which the realme more need then iygging vanities, should be-take them to so impudent a course of life. The Rogue that liueth idly is restrained, the fidler and plaier that is maisterlsse is in the same predicament, both these by the law are burned in the care, and shall men more odious scape vnpunished.

It were to be wisht, if they will not be warnd, that aswell the singers, as their supporters, were burned

in the tongue that they might rather be euer vtterly mute, then the triumphers of so many mischiefes. Neither are these two alone in fault, though they stand worthely formost as *Malorum Duces*, but besides them, others more then a good many, some as I haue heard say taken to be apprentices by a worthless companion (if it proue true that is of him reported) being of a worshipfull trade, and yet no Stationer, who after a little bringing them vppe to singing brokerie, takes into his shop some fresh men, and trusts his olde searuantes of a two months standing with a dossen groates worth of ballads. In which if they prooue thrifty, hee makes them prety chapmen, able to spred more pamphlets by the state forbidden then all the Bookesellers in London, for only in this Citie is straight search, abroad smale suspition, especially of such petty pedlers. Neither is he for these flies only in fault, but the Gouverners of cutpurse hall, finding that their company wounderfully increast, heweuer manye of their beste workemẽ monthly miscande at the three foot crosse, they tooke counsaile how they might find some new exercise to imploy their number.

One of the ancientest that had beene a traueller, and at Brainetree faire, seene the resort to the standinges of the forenamed brethren, the sonnes of olde Barnes the Plummer, chose out roaringe Dicke, Wat Wimbars, *cum multis aliis* of tune-able trebles, that gathered sundry assemblies in diuers places,

where yer a leaud songe was fully ended, some mist their kniues, some their purses, soome one thinge, soome another. And alasse, who woulde suspecte my innocente youthes, that all the while were pleasinge rude peoples eyes and eares, with no les delectable noise, then their ditties were delightsome: the one beeing too odious to bee read, the other too infectious to be heard. Well howeuer they sung, it is like they shared: for it hath beene saide, they themselues bragge, they gayned their twenty shillinges in a day. Ah brother Mopo, many a hard meale haue you made, and as many a time, hath Curtell your foure-footed traueiler, beene pincht for want of prouander, and yet at the weekes ende haue you hardly taken tenne shillinges. But I persuade my selfe you gaine by your honest labour, and they by legerdemaine. To tell you your owne iniuries, by them euery where offered, neede not: to wish you to speake to them it bootes not. Therefore this is my counsaile, and let it be your course: Make humble suite to her Maies-ties Officers, that they may bee hencefoorth prohibited: intreate the Preachers that they inuaye againste this vice, whiche thoughe it seeme small to other abuses, yet as a graine of mustard seede it encreases, and bringeth forth more mischiefes, then few wordes can expresse, or much diligence make voide. First, if there be any songes suffered in such publike sorte to be soong, beseech that they may either be such as your selues, that after seauen yeares

or more seruice, haue no other liuinge lefte you out of Pattent, but that poore base life, of it selfe too badde, yet made more beggerly, by increase of number: or at least if any if besides you be therto admitted, thã it may be none other but aged and impotent persons: who liuinge upon charity, may the rather draw those that delight in good songs, to haue mercy on their neede. For to sing publikely, is by a kinde of tolleration, permitted only to beggars, of which number, it is not necessary to make them, that haue seene no number of yeares, nor are in the members of their bodies imperfect. Is it not absurde to see a long legd lubber pinned in a chayre, fedde with a dugge, dreste with a bibbe, and rockte in a cradle? As vile it is, that boyes of able strength, and agreeable capacity, should bee suffered to wrest from the miserable Aged, the last refuge in their life (beggery excepted) the poore helpe of Ballad-singing. Many a crust hath old Anthony, gotte by it Mopo, beside other comfortes: but now I heare my blinde brother that exercisde the base, is forced to lay his fiddle to pawne and trust onely to the two and thirtieth Psalme, and Job patience for his poore belly-pinching pittaunce. Once againe I tourne mee in your names to the Maiestrates, and Preachers of London, and as to them so to others else-where in the Realme. Right honorable, reuerend, or worshipfull, Anthony humbly desires you, to looke into the leaud cause, that these wicked effects may fall. The

people delighte to heare some new thinge: if these prophane ribauldries were not: somewhat sauering of godlinesse, of policy, or at the vtmost of morrall witte, should be receiued. It is common, that they which haue capacitye, when they heare either Diuinitye, Lawe, or other Artes, apply their memories to receiue them, and as they haue conceiued, they bringe foorth fruites: so fares it by the contrary, when they heare lasciuious surquedry, leudnesse, impiety, they yeeld no other harvest, than they receiued seede: for who canne gather grapes of thornes, or figges of thistles. It would bee thought the Carman that was woonte to whistle to his beastes a comfortable note, might aswell continue his olde course, wherby his sound served for a musicall harmony in Gods care: as now profanely to follow a liggig vanity, which can bee no better than odious before God: sith it is abhominable in the eares of good men. But all is one, they are suffred, which makes them secure, and there is no impietye, but the baser flatter themselues in, because they are not more stricktly reprehended by their betters. If euery idle word shall be aunswared for, how shall they escape that suffer whole dayes to bee consumde in abhominable brothelry. Well, at the handes of the sheapheard shall the flocke be challenged, there is a mercy that kisseth Iustice, euery other tolleration is sinnefull and shamefull. Heere Anthony now now ceases: knowing the superiours haue discretion upon true

information, to deale as beseemes them. I onely urge my brother Mopo, S.P. and Pickeringe, to beseech that lasciuious singers may bee vtterlye suppress, as they will shew themselues to bee the men they should be, wherein if they faile, let them liue euer in perpetuall pouertye, and fare at all tymes as harde as poore Mopos Cut did with his maisters countreyman in Shorditch, till by the force of his hinder heeles, he vtterly vndid two milch maydens, that had set up a shoppe of Ale-drapery. Subscribed

Anthony now now a Gods blessing.

When I had read this rabble, wherein I found little reason, I laide it by, intendinge at more time to seeke out Mopo, and his mentioned companions. The nexte paper I chaunced on, was that of Maister Doctor Burcot:

The superscription thus,
*To the impudent discreditors of Phisickes Art,
 either speedy amendement or
 punishment.*

INIURIOUS enemies to Arts, that haue sought to make Phisick, among common people, esteemed common: and Chirurgery contemptible, to you is this my Breefe addressed, for since I lefte the earth, commaunded by him, that disposes of euery creature, I vnderstande soome greene-headed scoffers at my greene receipt: have intermedled in

matters more then they conceiue, and by that folly effected much lesse then they promised. It was helde of olde, for a principle, and not long since obserued as a custome, that as the nightes Battes, fore-runners of darkenesse, neuer flickered in the streetes, till the Sunne was declinde: and then euery where blindly flapped in mennes faces: so the Owles of Artes, blinde-flinder-mise (as I may tearme them) confirming the old Oracle: neuer shewe themselues but in corners, giuing their rules for that they vnderstand not, to the losse of life, or mans dismembringe. Euery simple hath his vertue, euery disease his beginning: but the remedy riseth from the knowledge of the cause: If any can (in naturall sence) giue ease, they must be Artistes, that are able to search the cause, resist the disease, by prouiding remedies. How fares it then, blinde abusers of the blind, your blushles faces are so seasoned, that you can in print or publike writings, open the skirtes of your shame, by promising sight to the blinde, sound ioyntes to the gowty, steady members to the Paraletike, strong limmes to the lame, quicke hearing to the deafe, sence to the franticke. To begin with I. D. one of your sight healers, was it not wel handled by him, when a gentleman of good account hauing onely a heate in one of his eies, hee like a kinde christian perswaded the patient to receiue a water preseruatiue to the sound eie that it might draw the humor from the first, when in very truth by his cunning hee so

dealt, that not an eie was left in his head whereby hee might wel see, sauing that by the ey that was first sore he can with much adoo looke through a christall. Thus this cogging sight-giuer dranke a hundred marke and vtterly impaired the paiers sight.

O obscure knaue, worthy to bee so well knowne, that thine eies being thrust out of thy head in a publike assembly, thou mightstest no more attempt to make blinde thy betters. There was a Gentleman in the world, troubled not long since with a paine in the foote, Phisitions found it to be the gout, against which malady promising no precise remedy, but onely to giue ease for the time, did their daiely indeuour, by defensiues preuenting paine that would haue prooued offensiue. He impatient of delay, forsooke all hopes of art, and deliuered ouer hys life into the hands of some of these trauelers that by incision are able to ease all atches. If a sensible man (conceiuing their tyranny on him vsed) shuld note their cuttings, drawings, corrosiuings, borings, butcherings, they wold conclude, *Non erat inter Siculos tormentū maius*. Yet forsooth, who but these are welcome to diseased or endaungered people. The reason, they will vndertake to warrant what no wise man can; if it happen by strong conceipt some haue comfort, then to the worlds wonder in old wiues monuments are they remembered. Short tale to make, after many tortures, God gaue the gentleman ease by death.

For the dead Palsie there is a woman hath a desperate drinke, that either helps in a yeare, or killes in an hour. Beside shee hath a charme that mumbled thrice ouer the eare, together with oyle of *Suamone* (as she tearmes it) will make them that can heare but a little, heare in short time neuer a whit. But aboue all her Medcine for the quartine Ague, is admirable. viz. A pinte of exceeding strong march beere, wherein is infused one drope of *Aqua mirabilis*, this taken at a draught before the fit is intollerable good, and for a president, let this serue.

A Gentlewoman about London whose husband is heire of a right woorshipfull house, was induced to take this drench, from this wise woman, for euery drop of that strong water she must haue twelue pence. A sponefull at the least was prizde at fortie shillings. Thus daily for almost a moneth she ministred, the Gentlewoman hauing still good hope, at last was put by her husband quite out of comfort for any good at this womans handes, for he by chance getting the deceiuers glasse, would needes poure out a spunefull what euer he paid, she cried out she could not spare it, all helpt not, he tooke it and tasted, and found it to be no other then fountaine water.

There was one Bond-man or free-man (it skiles not much whether) that by wondrous ready meanes would heale madmen, what expectation was of him, by his great promises all London knowes, howe lewdly hee delt, it can as well witsesse, of him I will

say little, because there is more knowne, then I am able to set downe.

Besides these run-agates, there are some of good experience, that giuing themselues to inordinate excesse, when they are writ vnto by learned phisitions to minister for the patients health according to their aduised prescription, negligently mistake. As for example, a Doctor directs to his Poticary a bill to minister to a man hauing an vlceros sore, certaine pills for the preparing of his body, withall a receipt for the making a corrosiue to apply to the sore, hee (either witles, which is too bad, or wilfull, which is worse) prepares the corrosiue in pilles, and formes the Receipt for the pilles in manner of a playster.

The partie receiues the corrosiue inward, his mawe is fretted, death followes. If there be such an Apothecary that hath so done, let him repent his dealings, least the bloud of that man light on his head.

It is said there was another skilfull, no lesse ouerseene that hauinge a poore manne of a legge to dismember, who had long time beene his patient, at the instant, more extreameley painde, then before, which was cause of requiringe his Chirurgicalians immediate helpe. This woorkeman, the poore patientes deathes-maister, in that pointe not to bee tearmed his owne Artes-maister, dismembred him, the signe beeing in the foote. Whereof beeing tolde, immediately after the deede, hee onely merrited this praise, by giuing counsel to the

murthered man to haue patience at his suddaine ende.

But these accidentes amonge Artistes happen as seldome as the prooffe of a good cure amonge you that are vtterly ignoraunt in Arte: for their faultes, are committed by them rarely or neuer, your trespasses, like a quotidian disease. So of the one it may bee saide, Wine is a mocker, and strong drincke is raginge, and those that bee thereby deceiued are not wise. Yet of the other may directly bee concluded to their single commendation, that as no serpent is without his hidden stinge, or anie thing in earth without some blemish: so no purity of their impure profession, can be equalled in imperfection, so impure is all, so vile, so daungerous.

Therefore now returne I where I began, to you the excrementes of nature, and monsters of menne, whose murders are no lesse common then your craftes, whiche are not so well knowne to the world, as felt by them that leaue it, with two of you will I ende. The one a braggart of great antiquity, whose liuely image is yet to bee seene in King Luds Pallace, and his liuing Ghost at this time ministringe to the poore Pensioners of that place. Sirra, nay it shall be sir in reuerence of your old occupation, I muse not a little what wonderfull Mettaline preparatiue it is ye boast on: by which were men so mad to beleue you, you are able to make anye manne not onely boldely to walke in ill ayres, and conuerse daye and nighte

with infected companie, but also to receiue the strongest poison (like king *Mithridates*) into his body? Tenne to one, it is so strange, as no man but your selfe is able to name it. Yet giue mee leau to gesse at it without offence to your falsehoode. I remember I haue heard great talke, you haue bene both a caster of mettall, and a forger, and it seemes you haue gotten the receipte which the Tinne-melters wife ministred, to breake her husbandes colde, when he sate sleeping in his chaire, videlicet two ounces of pure Tinne put in an iron ladle, melted in the fire, and poured at an instant downe the throat. If it be thus, I dare take your woord for any poyson hurting that partie that so receiues it, for as a simple fellowe (seeing foure or fiue hangd for their offences, and hearing some speake bitterly of them beeing deade) saide, Well, God make them good men, they haue a faire warning: so I may say they that deale with your mettaline medicine haue a faire warrante against poison: Likewise may it be saide of your admirable eie water through the vertue of whiche, you haue attained the woorshipfull name of Doctor put out: hauinge put out soome of their eies that deale with it. But if I haue varied from your mettaline receipt before, I conclude it but a forgerie, and so blame you not greatly for followinge a parcell of your olde and to some a hurtfull trade.

Another of your bretheren, as wel ouer seene in mineralls as your selfe, lying in a good fellowes house

not long since, being monillesse, as ye are all but thred bare make-shiftes, perswaded his hoast to take phisicke for feare of infection, his labour he was content to giue, and nothing for their kindnesse would hee require but euen fiue marke, which he must pay for the very simples. His simple hoast beleeuing him to bee honest, gaue him the money. If hee had lefte heere, though this had beene to lewd, it had beene farre better than to go forward as he did, for some what hee bestowed on purging simples which vnprepared he ministred, and with the same ministred the poore mans death.

The lewd wretch cried out that hee had taken a great quantity of the purgation, more then he appointed, which was in a window in his chamber, much adoe was made, and he would iustifie before any learned man his deed, but trusting better to his heeles, than to hazard a hanging, hee gaue them that night the slip, and is not yet taken.

To be short, how euer ye differ in seuerall shiftes, yet agree you all in one manner of shifting, cunning is the cloake to hide your cogging: money the marke for which ye play the makeshiftes, nay the murtherers, not of the common enimie, but your owne country-men, than which what can be more barbarous? Common reason should perswade, that much reading and long practise in every Art makes men expert. *Per Contrarium* I conclude, you that haue neither read nor practised, must needs be egregiously ignorant.

Assure your selues, if you refraine not, iustice will stand vpppe, and so restraine yee, as there shall be nothing more noted than your ignorant practises and impudent courses. In my life I was your aduersary: in death I am your enimie. Beseeching the reuerend Colledge of learned Doctors and worshipfull company of experienst Chirurgions to looke more straightly to your false deceites, and close haunts, that there may be sooner heard talke of such a rare obscure assurancer to worke what not wonders in Phisicke, or Chirurgirie, but he be rather lookt into or euer he begin, than suffred to begin, whereby any poore patient should suffer losse in triall of their blind skill: so shall your cousenages be as open as your Actes be odious.

Subscribed

Burcot.

This is somewhat like (thought I) if he had said any thing against cousoning toothe drawers, that from place to place wander with banners full of horse teeth to the imparing of Kindharts occupation, but I perceiue maister Doctor was neuer a tooth drawer, if he had, I know he would haue toutcht their deceiuings. Since he hath let them passe, I greatly passe not: and yet in regard of the credit of my trade, I care not to haue a blow or two with them my selfe, before I looke any further.

Sundry of them that so wander, haue not to do with the means Kindhart vseth, but forsooth by charmes they can at their pleasure fray away the payne, which Kindhart counts little better than witch craft, if it could doe good, and so to some of them haue I affirmed it: But a proper slip-string, sometime a petty schole-maister, now a pelting tooth charmer, hauing no reason to defend his obscure rules, quite put me to silence before a well learned audience, the one a cobler, the other a carman, the last a collyer. These beeing poore men, had I for pittie often eased of their payne, yet was the remedy I vsde somewhat painefull, but not long since they are come acquainted with the charmer I told ye of, he in charitable consideracion of their greefe, promised to ease them onely with writing and after burning a word or two. Trauelling to a Gentlemans not farre from London, I by the way chaunst to be cald to conferre with him at the same verye instant, where reproouing his opinion, hee put me downe with such a galliemafrey of latine ends, that I was glad to make an end: Yet got I a copy of his charme, which I will set downe that I may make it common.

A Charme.

First, he must know your name, then your age, which in a little paper he sets downe, on the top are these words *In verbis, et in herbis, et in lapidibus sunt*

virtutes, underneath he writes in capitall letters *A AB ILLA, HVRS GIBELLA*, which he sweres is pure Chalde, and the names of three spirites that enter into the bloud and cause rewmes, & so consequently the tootheach. This paper must be likewise three times blest, and at last with a little frankincense burned, which being thrice vsed, is of power to expell the spirites, purifie the bloud, and ease the paine, or else he lyes, for he hath practised it long, but shall approue it neuer.

Another sort, get hot wiers, and with them they burne out the worme that so torments the greeued: these fellowes are fit to visit curst wiues, and might by their practise doe a number of honest men ease, if they would misse the tooth and worme the tongue.

Others there are, that perswade the pained, to hold their mouths open ouer a basen of water by the fire side, and to cast into the fire a handfull of henbane seede, the which naturally hath in euery seede a little worme, the seedes breaking in the fire, vse a kind of cracking, and out of them, it is hard among so many, if no worme fly into the water: which wormes the deceiuers affirme to haue fallen from the teeth of the diseased. This rare secret is much vsed, and not smally lyked. Sundry other could I set downe practised by our banner-bearers, but all is foppery, for this I find to be the only remedy for the tooth paine, either to haue patience, or to pull them out.

Well, no more for mee, least I bee thought to

speake too largely for my selfe. I had thought to haue had a fling at the rat-catchers, who with their banners displayed, beare no small sway, what I haue to say to them they shall not yet heare, because I hope they will take warning by other mens harmes. Onely this I affirme that as some banner-bearers haue in their occupations much craft, the rat-catchers is nothing else but craft.

But stay Kind-hart, if thou make so long a Chorus betweene euery act, thy iests will be as stale as thy wit is weake. Therefore leauing those vagabonds to repent their villanyes, Ile bid adieu to maister Doctor, and see who is our next speaker.



Robert Greene to

Pierce Pennilesse.

PIERCE, if thy Carrier had beene as kinde to me as I expected, I could haue dispatched long since my letters to thee: but it is here as in the world, *Donum à dando deriuatur*: where there is nothing to giue, there is nothing to be got. But hauing now found meanes to send to thee, I will certifie thee a little of my disquiet after death, of which I thinke thou either hast not heard or wilt not conceiue.

Hauing with humble penitence besought pardon for my infinite sinnes, and paid the due to death, euen in my graue was I scarce layde, when Enuie (no fit companion for Art) spit out her poyson, to disturbe my rest. *Aduersus mortuos bellum suscipere, inhumanum est.* There is no glory gained by breaking a deade mans skull. *Pascitur in viuis liuor, post fata quiescit.* Yet it appeares contrary in some, that inueighing against my workes, my pouertie, my life, my death, my burial, haue omitted nothing that may seeme malitious. For my Bookes, of what kind soeuer, I refer their commendation or dispraise to those that haue read them. Onely for my last labours affirming, my intent was to reprove vice, and lay open such villanies, as had beene very necessary to be made

knowne, whereof my *Blacke Booke*, if euer it see light, can sufficiently witnesse.

But for my pouertie, meethinkes wisdomes would haue brideled that inuectiue; for *Cuius potest accidere, quod cuiquam potest*. The beginning of my dispraisers is knowne, of their end they are not sure. For my life, it was to none of them at any time hurtful: for my death, it was repentant: my buriall like a Christians.

*Alas that men so hastily should run,
To write their own dispraise as they haue done.*

For my reuenge, it suffices, that euery halfe-eyd humanitian may account it, *Instar belluarum immanissimarum sœuire in cadauer*. For the iniurie offred thee, I know I need not bring oyle to thy fire. And albeit I would dissuade thee from more inuectives against such thy aduersaries (for peace is nowe all my plea) yet I know thou wilt returne answer, that since thou receiuedst the first wrong, thou wilt not endure the last.

My quiet Ghost (vnquietly disturbed) had once intended thus to haue exclaimd.

Pierce, more witlesse, than pennillesse; more idle, than thine aduersaries ill imployde; what foolish innocence hath made thee (infantlike) resistlesse to beare, what euer iniurie Enuie can impose?

Once thou commendedst immediate conceit, and

gauest no great praise to excellent works of twelue yeres labour: now, in the blooming of thy hopes, thou sufferest slaunder to nippe them ere they can bud: thereby approuing thy selfe to be of all other most slacke, beeing in thine owne cause so remisse.

Colour can there be none found to shadowe thy fainting, but the longer thou deserst, the more greefe thou bringst to thy frends, and giuest the greater head to thy enemies.

What canst thou tell, if (as my selfe) thou shalt bee with death preuented? and then how can it be but thou diest disgrac'd, seeing thou hast made no reply to their twofold Edition of Inuectives?

It may bee thou thinkst they will deale well with thee in death, and so thy shame in tollerating them will be short: forge not to thy self one such conceit, but make me thy president, and remember this olde adage: *Leonem mortuum mordent Catuli.*

Awake (secure boy) reuenge thy wrongs, remember mine: thy aduersaries began the abuse, they continue it: if thou suffer it, let thy life be short in silence and obscuritie, and thy death hastie, hated, and miserable.

All this had I intended to write, but now I wil not giue way to wrath, but returne it vnto the earth from whence I tooke it: for with happie soules it hath no harbour.

Robert Greene.

Had not my name beene *Kind-hart*, I would haue
sworne this had beene sent to my selfe; for in my life

I was not more pennilesse than at that instant.

But remembering the Author of the *Suppli-*
cation, I laid it aside till I had leysure
to seeke him: and taking vp
the next, I found
written.



To all maligners of honest mirth,

Tarleton wisheth continuall melancholy.

NOW Maisters, what say you to a merrie knaue, that for this two years day hath not bene talkt of? Wil you giue him leaue if he can to make ye laugh? What all a mort? No merry countenance? Nay, then I see hypocrisie hath the vpper hand, and her spirit raignes in this profitable generation. Sith it is thus, Ile be a time-pleaser. Fie vppon following plaies, the expence is wondrous; vpon players speeches, their wordes are full of wyles; vppon their gestures, that are altogether wanton. Is it not lamentable, that a man should spende his two pence on them in an after-noone, heare couetousnes amongst them daily quipt at, being one of the commonest occupations in the countrey; and in liuely gesture see trecherie set out, with which euery man now adaies vseth to intrap his brother. Byr lady, this would be lookt into: if these be the fruites of playing, tis time the practisers were expeld.

Expeld (quoth you) that hath been pretily performd, to the no smal profit of the Bouling-allyes in Bedlam and other places, that were wont in the afternoones to be left empty, by the recourse of

good fellows vnto that vnprofitable recreation of Stage-playing.

And it were not much amisse, would they ioine with the Dicing houses to make sute againe for their longer restraint, though the sicknesse cease. Is not this well saide (my maisters) of an olde buttond cappe, that hath most part of his life liu'd vppon that against which hee inueighs? Yes, and worthily.

But I haue more to say than this; Is it not greate shame, that the houses of retaylers neare the Townes end, should be by their continuance impouerished? Alas good hearts, they pay great rentes, and pittie it is but they be prouided for. While Playes are vsde, halfe the day is by most youthes that haue libertie spent vppon them, or at least the greatest company drawne to the places where they frequent. If they were supprest, the flocke of yoong people would bee equally parted. But now the greatest trade is brought into one street. Is it not as faire a way to *Myle-end* by *White-chappell*, as by *Shorditch* to *Hackney*? the Sunne shineth as clearly in the one place, as in the other; the shades are of a like pleasure: onely this is the fault, that by ouermuch heat sometime they are in both places infectious.

As well in this as other things there is great abuse: for in euery house where the vnerian virgins are resident, hospitalitie is quite exiled, such fines, such taxes, such tribute, such customs, as (poore soules)

after seuen yeares service in that vnhalloved order, they are faine to leaue their sutes for offerings to the olde *Lenos* that are shrine-keepers, and themselues (when they begin to break) are faine to seeke harbour in an Hospitall: which chaunceth not (as sometime is thought) to one amongst twentie, but hardly one amongst a hundred haue better ending. And therefore seeing they liue so hardly, its pitie Players should hinder their takings a peny.

I marry (saies *Baudeamus* my quondam Host) well faire olde Dicke, that worde was well plac'd: for thou knowst our rentes are so unreasonable, that except wee cut and shaue, and poule, and prig, we must return *Non est inuentus* at the quarterday.

For is not this pittifull? I am a man now as other men be, and haue liu'd in some shire of England, till all the Country was wearie of mee. I come vp to London, and fall to be some Tapster, Hostler, or Chamberlaine in an Inne: Well, I get mee a wife, with her a little money: when we are married, seeke a house we must, no other occupation haue I but to be an Ale-draper, the Landlord wil haue fortie pound fine, and twenty marke a yeare, I and mine must not lie in the street: he knows by honest courses I can neuer paye the Rent. What should I say? Somwhat must be done, rent must be paid, duties dischargd, or we vndone. To bee short, what must be shall be: indeede sometimes I haue my Landlordes counenance before a Iustice, to cast a

cloake ouer ill-rule, or els hee might seeke such another tenant to pay his rent so truly.

Quaintly concluded (*Peter Pandar*) somewhat yee must bee, and a bawd ye will bee. I by my troth sir, why not I as well as my neighbors, since theres no remedy. And you sir, find fault with plaies. Out vpon them, they spoile our trade, as you yourselfe haue proued. Beside, they open our crosse-biting, our conny-catching, our traines, our traps, our gins, our snares, our subtilities: for no sooner haue we a tricke of deceipt, but they make it common, singing ligs, and making ieasts of vs, that euerie boy can point out our houses as they passe by.

Whither now *Tarlton*? this is extempore out of time tune, and temper. It may be well said to me:

Stulte, quid hæc faris, &c.

Rusticus ipse, tuis malus es, tibi pessimus ipsi.

Thy selfe once a Player, and against Players: nay, turne out the right side of thy russet coate, and lette the world know thy meaning. Why thus I meane, for now I speake in sobernes.

Euery thing hath in it selfe his vertue and his vice: from oneselfe flower the Bee and Spider sucke honny and poyson. In plaies it fares as in bookes, vice cannot be reprobued, except it be discovered: neither is it in any play discovered, but there followes in the same an example of the punishment: now he that at a play will be delighted in the one, and not warned

by the other, is like him that reads in a booke the description of sinne, and will not looke ouer the leafe for the reward.

Mirth in seasonable time taken, is not forbidden by the austerest Sapients.

But indeede there is a time of mirth, and a time of mourning. Which time hauing been by the Magistrates wisely obserued, as well for the suppressing of Playes, as other pleasures: so likewise a time may come, when honest recreation shall haue his former libertie.

And lette *Tarleton* intreate the yoong people of the Cittie, either to abstaine altogether from playes, or at their comming thither to vse themselues after a more quiet order.

In a place so ciuill as this Cittie is esteemed, it is more than barborously rude, to see the shamefull disorder and routes that sometime in such publike meetings are vsed.

The beginners are neither gentlemen, nor citizens, nor any of both their seruants, but some lewd mates that long for innouation, & when they see aduantage, that either Seruingmen or Apprentises are most in number, they will be of either side, though indeed they are of no side, but men beside all honestie, willing to make boote of cloakes, hats, purses, or what euer they can lay holde on in a hurley burley. These are the common causers of discord in publike places. If otherwise it happen (as it seldome doth)

that any quarrell be betweene man and man, it is far from manhood to make so publike a place their field to fight in: no men will doe it, but cowardes that would faine be parted, or haue hope to haue manie partakers.

Nowe to you that maligne our moderate merri-ments, and thinke there is no felicitie but in excessiue possession of wealth: with you I would ende in a song, yea an Extempore song on this Theame, *Nequid nimis necessarium*: but I am now hoarse, and troubled with my Taber and Pipe: beside, what pleasure brings musicke to the miserable. Therefore letting songes passe, I tell them in sadnes, how euer Playes are not altogether to be commended: yet some of them do more hurt in a day, than all the Players (by exercizing theyr profession) in an age. Faults there are in the professors as other men, this the greatest, that diuers of them beeing publike in euerie ones eye, and talkt of in euerie vulgar mans mouth, see not how they are seene into, especially for their contempt, which makes them among most men most contemptible.

Of them I will say no more, of the profession, so much hath *Pierce Pennilesse* (as I heare say) spoken, that for mee there is not any thing to speake. So wishing the chearefull, pleasaunce endlesse; and the wilfull sullen, sorrow till they surfet, with a turne on the toe I take my leaue.

Richard Tarleton.

When I had done with this, one thing I mislikte, that *Tarleton* stode no longer on that point of Landlords: For lamentable it is (in *Kind-harts* opinion) to note their vnreasonable exaction. I my selfe knewe a Landlord, that beginning to enlarge a little Tene-ment, was according to statute prohibited: hee made humble suite that the worke might go forward; for good man, he meant not to make thereby any benefite, but euen in charitie he would turne it into an Almes-house. This godly motion was liked, and he allowed to goe forward with his building. The worke ended, in all the Country there could not poore bee found worthy, or at least able to enter into the same.

To be short, it was turned into a Tauerne, and with rent and fine in few monthes turnd the Tenant out of doores. Yet it hath beene saide, the poore man did what hee might, *Cum vino & venere*, to continue his state: but the Landlord had made such a Dent in his stocke, that with all the wit in his head it would not bee stopt. I beshrew the Card-makers, that clapt not a gowne about the Knaue of Hartes, & put him on a hat for a bonnet ouer his night-cappe, then had not after Age taken care for the Image of this excellent Almes-house builder, but in euerie Ale-house should haue beene reserued his monument, till *Macke, Marw, Ruffe, Noddy*, and *Trumpe*, had beene no more vsde, than his charitie is felt.

Pitie it is such Wolues are not shakte out of sheeps

cloathing. Elder times detested such extremitie: the Gospels liberty (howsoever some Libertines abuse it) giues no such license: by their auarice Religion is slandered, lewdnes is bolstered, the suburbs of the Citie are in many places no other but darke dennes for adulterers, theeues, murderers, and euery mischief worker: daily experience before the Magistrates confirms this for truth.

I would the hart of the Cittie were whole, for both within and without, extreame crueltie causeth much beggerie, *Victa iacet pietas*, and with pietie pittie. Selfe loue hath exiled charitie: and as among beastes the Lyon hunteth the Wolfe, the Wolfe deuoureth the Goate, and the Goate feedeth on mountaine hearbs: so among men, the great oppresse the meaner, they againe the meanest: for whom hard fare, colde lodging, thinne cloathes, and sore labour is onely allotted.

To see how soone the world is changd: In my time I remember two men, the one a Diuine, the other a Cittizen: it was their vse, at the time they should quarterly receiue their duties (for the first was well beneficed, the later a great Landlord) when they came to anie poore creature, whome sicknesse had hindered, or mischaunce impaired, or many children kept lowe: they would not onely forgiue what they should receiue, but giue bountifully for the releefe of their present necessitie.

The olde Prouerbe is veriefied, *Seldome comes the*

better: and they are possest; the poore of that comfort dispossesst.

Some Landlords hauing turnd an old Brue-house, Bake-house, or Dye-house, into an Alley of tenements, will either themselues, or some at their appointment, keepe tipling in the fore-house (as they call it) and their poore tenants must bee inioinde to fetch bread, drinke, wood, cole, and such other necessaries, in no other place: and there till the weekes ende they may haue anything of trust, prouided they lay to pawne their holiday apparell: nay, my Landlady will not onely doe them that good turne, but if they want money, she will on munday lend them like wise vppon a pawne eleuen pence, and in meere pittie askes at the weekes end not a penny more than twelue pence.

O charitable loue, happy tenants of so kinde a Land-lady: I warrant ye this Usurie is within the Statute, it is not aboue five hundred for the loane of a hundred by the yeare.

Neyther will they doe this good to their tenants alone, but they will deale with their husbandes, that for a little roome with a smoakie chimney (or perchaunce none, because smoake is noysome) they shall pay at the least but fortie shillings yeerly.

Fie vpon fines, thats the vndooing of poore people: wee take none (say these good creatures) marry for the key wee must haue consideration, that is, some Angell in hand: for verely the last tenant made vs

change the locke: neither thinke we deale hardly, for it stands in a good place, quite out of company, where handicraft men may haue leysure to get their liuing, if they knew on what to set themselues a worke.

Now for all this kindnesse, the Land-lord scarce asketh of the tenant thanks (though hee deserue it well) for (as I saide) his Wife is all the dealer: so plaies the Parson (the person I should say, I would bee loath to be mistaken) that I tolde yee before builded the Almeshouse. The care of rentes is committed to his Wife, he is no man of this world, but as one metamorphizd from a Saint to a Deuill.

How now *Kindhart*? shall we neuer have done with these Landlordes? It seemes well thou hast as little land as witte: for while thou liuest they wil not mend, and therefore its as good to make an ende, as waste winde. Well, all this was of good will to

— helpe *Tarleton* out with his tale. Now
 let me see what note *Cuckoe* sings, for
 tis his lucke to
 be last.



William Cuckoe to all close

*Iuglers wisheth the discovery of their crafts,
and punishment for their knaueries.*

ROOME for a craftie knaue, cries *William Cuckoe*. Knaue, nay, it will neare hande beare an action: Bones a mee, my trickes are stale, and all my old companions turnd into Ciuill sutes. I perceiue the worlde is all honestie, if it be no other than it lookes. Let me see, if I can see, beleeeue mee theres nothing but iugling in euery corner; for euery man hath learnd the mysterie of casting mysts, & though they vse not our olde tearms of hey-passe, re-passe, and come aloft: yet they can by-passe, compasse, and bring under one another as cunningly and commonly, as euer poore *Cuckoe* coulde command his Iacke in a Boxe.

Yet my maisters, though you robde me of my trade, to giue recompence, after death I haue borrowed a tongue a little to touch their tricks.

And now sir, to you that was wont like a Sub-sister in a gown of rugge rent on the left shoulder, to sit singing the Counter-tenor by the Cage in Southwarke: me thinks ye should not looke so coyly on olde *Cuckoe*. What man, it is not your signe of the Ape and the Vrinall can carry away our olde acquaintance?

I trust yee remember your iugling at *Newington* with a Christall stone, your knaueries in the wood by *Wansteed*, the wondrous treasure you would discouer in the Isle of *Wight*, al your villanies about that peece of seruice, as perfecty known to some of my friends yet liuing as their Pater noster, who curse the time you euer came in their Creed.

But I perceiue you fare as the Fox, the more band, the better hap.

I wonder what became of your familiar, I meane no Deuill, man; but a man Deuil: and yet I need not wonder, for since my descending to vnder earth, I heard say he was hangd for his knauerie, as you in good time may be, *Amen*. Amend I should say, but I thinke yee meane it not: the matter is not great, for (thanks be to God) how euer you mend in manners, the world is wel amended with your man and you.

I pray ye was that hee which was your instrument in *Notingham-shire*, to make your name so famous for finding things lost? It may be, you forgot that one fetch among many: and least it should bee out of your heade, Ile helpe to beate it into your braines.

Your Maship vpon a horse whose hire is not paid for, with your Page at your stirrop, like a *Castilian Caulier*, lighted pennillesse at a pretie Inne, where that day sate certain Iustices in

Comission. Your high hart, carelesse of your present neede, would needes for your selfe share out one of the fairest chambers. Your Page must be purueyer for your diet who in the kitchin found nothing for your liking. Beefe was grosse, veale flashy, mutton fulsome, rabbets, hens, & capons common. Wild foule for Will foole, or he will fast.

Well, at your will ye shall be furnisht. But now a Iugling tricke to pay the shot.

My Impe your man, while mistrisse, men, and maids were busied about prouision for the Iustices that sate, slips into a priuate parlour, wherein stood good store of plate, and conueying a massy sault under his Capouch, little lesse woorth than twentie marke, got secretely to the back-side, and cast it into a filthie pond: which done, he acquaints your knaueship with the deed.

By then your diet was drest, the sault was mist, the good Wife cryde out, the maydes were ready to runne madde.

Your man (making the matter strange) inquired the cause: which when they tolde. O (quoth hee) that my maister would deale in the matter, I am sure he can do as much as any in the world.

Well, to you they come pitifully complaining, when very wrathfully (your choler rising) you demaund reason why they should thinke yee bee able to deale in such cases. Your kind nature (bent alwayes to lenitie) yeelded at the last to their

importuning: onely wisht them to stay till the nexte day, for that you would not deale while the Iustices were in the house.

They must do as your discretion appoints: next day calling the good-man and wife to your bedside, ye tell them the salte was stolne by one of their familiars, whom he had forced by Art to bring it backe againe to the house, and in such a pond to cast it, because he would not haue the partie knowne for feare of trouble.

As you direct them, they search and find: then comes your name in rare admiration, the Host giues you foure Angels for a reward, the Hostesse two French crowns: the maydes are double diligent to doe you seruice, that they may learne their fortunes, the whole towne talks of the cunning man, that indeed had onely connycatcht his Host.

If that slip-string bee still in your seruice, I aduise you make much of him, for by that tricke he prou'd himself a toward youth, necessary for such a maister. This iugling passes *Cuckoes* play. Well, I aduise you play least in sight in London, for I haue sette some to watch for your comming, that will iustifie all this and more of your shifting life.

Returne to your olde craft and play the Pinner, although it be a poore life, it is an honest life: your fallacies will one day faile ye.

There is another Iugler, that beeing well skild

in the Iewes Trumpe, takes vpon him to bee a dealer in Musicke: especiall good at mending Instruments: he iugled away more instrumentes of late, than his bodie (being taken) will euer be able to make good.

Tut, thats but a plaine tricke: how say ye by some Iuglers that can serue writs without any original, and make poore men dwelling farre off, compound with them for they knowe not what? I tell you there bee such, that by that trick can make a vacation time quicker to them than a Terme: who troubling three score or fourescore men without cause, get of some a crowne, of others a noble, of diuers a pound, beside the ordinarie costes of the writ, to put off their appearance, when no such thing was toward.

Fie vpon these Iuglers, they make the lawes of the Realme be ill spoken of, and are cause that plaine people thinke all Lawyers like them: as appears by a poore old man by chance comming into one of the worshipful Innes of the Court, where sundry Ancients and Students both honorable and worshipfull sate at supper: the poore man admiring their comely order and reuerent demeanor, demaunded of a stander by, what they were. Gentlemen (said hee) of the Innes of Court. Lord blesse hem (quoth plaine *Coridon*) beene they of Queens Court? No, said the other, but of the Innes of Court. What doon they, quoth the

Countreyman, wotten yee? The other answered, that they were all Lawyers, and Students of the Lawe. Now, well a neere cries plaine Simplicitie, wee han but one Lawyer with us, and hee spoyles all the Parish: but heere been now to marre the whole shire. His simplenes was by the hearers well taken, and the Lawiers name inquired, who prou'd no other but one of these pettifogging Iuglers, that hauing scraped vp a few common places, and by long Sollicitership got in to be an odd Attorney, was not long since disgraded of his place by pitching ouer the Barre, yet promoted to looke out of a wodden window, cut after the Doue hole fashion, with a paper on his suttle pate, containing the iugling before shewed. So fortune it to his fellowes, and let their misery come *cito pede*. Law is in it selfe good, the true Professors to be highly esteemd. But as in Diuinity it sometime fares that Schismatikes, Heretikes, and such-like, make Scripture a cloake for their detested errors, and by their practises seeke to make the reuerend Diuines contemptible; so a sort of Conny-catchers (as I may call them) that haue gathered vp the gleanings of the Law, onely expert to begin controuersies, and vtterly ignorant of their end; perswade the simple that if they will follow their rules, thus and thus it shall chance to their speedy quieting, and that Attorneys, Counsellors and Serieants, are too costly to bee dealt with simply,

but by their mediation, who are able to speak when Counsell failes, and giue more ease in an houre, than the best Benchers in a yeare, when God wot, they doo no more good than a Drone in a Hiue. These Iuglers are too cunning for *Cuckoe*, and in the end will proue too crafty for themselues: Other Iuglers there bee, that hauing fauour from Authority to seeke something to themselues beneficiall, and to the Common-wealth not preiudiciall, vnder colour of orderly dealing haue hookt into their hands the whole liuing to a number poore men belonging. These when they were complaind on, immediately tooke an honest course, and promist large reliefe yeerely to them they wrong: But euery promise is either brokē, or kept & so it fares with them: I protest if their Iugling were set downe, it would make a pretty volume: but I wil let them passe, because there is hope they will remember themselues. To set downe the Iugling in Trades, the crafty tricks of buyers and sellers, the swearing of the one, the lying of the other, were but to tell the worlde that which they well knowe, and therefore I will likewise ouerslip that. There is an occupation of no long standing about London called Broking or brogging, whether ye will; in which there is pretty Iugling, especially to blind Law, and bolster Usury: if any man be forst to bring them a pawne, they will take no interest, not past twelue pence a pound for the

month; marry they must haue a groat for a monthly bill: which is a bill of sale from month to month; so that no aduantage can be taken for the Usurie. I heare say its well multiplied since I died; but I beshrewe them, for in my life many a time haue I borrowed a shilling on my Pipes, and paid a groat for the bill, when I haue fetcht out my pawne in a day.

This Iugling exceeds *Cuckoes* gettings, and sundry times turnd poore *William* to his shifts. Indeede I deny not, but in their kind some of them deale well, and wil preserue a mans goods safe, if he keep any reasonable time: these are not so blameable, as they that make immediate sale. If euer I haue oportunity to write into the world againe, I will learne who abuse it most and who vse it best, and set ye downe their dwelling places.

Now I will draw to an end, concluding with a Master Iugler that he may be well knowne if he be got into any obscure corner of the Countrey. This Shifter forsooth carried no lesse countenance than a Gentlemans abilitie, with his two men in blue coates, that serued for shares not wages. Hee being properly seated in a Shire of this Realme, and by the report of his men bruted for a cunning man, grew into credit by this practise.

His house beeing in a Village through which was no thorough Fare, his men, and sometime his Mastershippe in their company at midnight would

goe into their neighbours seuerall grounds being farre distant from their dwelling houses, and oftentimes driue from thence Horses, Mares, Oxen, Kine, Calues, or Sheepe, what euer came next to hande, a mile perchaunce or more out of the place wherein they were left.

Home would they return and leaue the cattel straying: In the morning, sometime the milke-maids misse their Kine, another day the Plough-hinds their Oxen, their Horses another time, somewhat of some woorth once a weeke lightly. Whither can these poore people go but to the wise mans worship? Perchaunce in a morning two or three come to complaine and seeke remedie, who welcommed by one of his men, are seuerally demaunded of their losses. If one come for sheepe, another for other cattell, they are all at first tolde, that his Maistership is a sleepe, and till hee himselfe call they dare not trouble him.

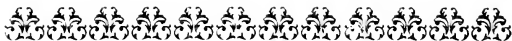
But very kindly he takes them into the hall, and when his worship stirs promises them they shall speake with him at liberty. Now sir behind a curtaine in the hall stands a shelve garnisht with bookes, to which my mate goes vnder to take one downe. And as he takes it down pulleth certaine strings which are fastened to seuerall small bels in his Maisters chamber, and as the bels strike, hee knowes what cattell his neighbors come to seeke, one bell being for Oxen, another for kine, another

for swine, &c. A while after he stamps and makes a noyse aboute, the seruingman intreats the Suters to go vp, and hee hearing them comming himselfe kindly opens them the dore, and ere euer they speake, salutes them, protesting for their losse great sorrowe, as if hee knew their griefes by reuelation, comforts them with hope of recouery, and such like wordes. They cry out, Iesu blesse your Mastership, what a gift haue you to tel our mindes and neuer heares vs speake. I neighbors saith he, ye may thanke God I trust I am come among ye to doe ye all good. Then knowing which way they were driuen, hee bids them goe either East-ward, or South-ward to seeke neere such an Oake or rowe of Elmes, or water, or such like marke neere the place where the Cattell were left; and hee assures them that by his skill the theeues had no power to carry them farther than that place. They runne and seek their cattle, which when they finde, O admirable wise man, the price of a Cow we will not sticke with him for, happy is the shire where such a one dwels. Thus doe the pore cousoned people proclaime, and so our shifter is sought too far and neere. I thinke this be iugling in the highest degree: if it be not, *Cuckoe* is out of his compasse. Well the world is full of holes, and more shiftes were neuer practised. But this is *Cuckoes* counsell that yee leaue in time, lest being conuicted like my Hoast of the

Anchor, ye pine your selues in prison to saue your eares from the Pillory: an end too good for Iugling shifters, and cosening periurers.

William Cuckoe.

Ha sirra, I am glad we are at an end, *Kindhart* was neuer in his life so weary of reading. Beshrew them for me, they haue wakened me from a good sleepe, and weried me almost out of my wits. Here hath beene a coile indeede with lewd song singers, drench giuers, detracters, players, oppressors, rentraisers, bawdes, brothelhouses, shifters, and Iuglers. But sith they haue all done, turne ouer the leafe and heare how merrily *Kindhart* will conclude.



Kindharts Conclusion of his
*Dreame, and his Censure on the Appa-
ritious seuerally.*

FOR memories sake, let me see what conclu-
sion we shall forme: *Anthony* tolde a long tale
of Runnagate song-singers, inueighing especially
against those lasciuious ballads, that are by
Authority forbidden, priuily printed, and pub-
likely solde. In which I finde no reason (as before
I said) because I beleeeue none are so desperate to
hazard their goods in printing or selling anything
y^t is disallowed. Or if there be some such, I per-
swade my selfe the Maiestrates diligence is so
great, they would soone be weeded out. But now
let mee sound a little into *Anthonies* meaning: hee
complaines not that these lasciuious songes howe
euer in London they beginne, are there continued,
but thence they spread as from a spring; and
albeit they dare not there be iustified, yet are they
in euery Pedlers packe sent to publike meetings
in other places where they ar suffered, because the
Sellers swear thes are published by Authoritie:
and people farre off thinke nothing is printed but
what is lawfully tollerated. Such knaues indeede
would be lookt into, that are not content with
corrupting the multitude, but they must slaunder

the Maiestrates. If *Mopo* and his mates bee such men that I may meete with, I will not onely deliuer them *Anthonies* minde, but vrge them to exasperate the matter.

For Master Doctors motion, I doubt not but those which haue charge theretoo to looke, will bee verie carefull to discharge their dueties. My selfe will not be slacke against wandring Tooth-drawers. Besides, I haue a Coppie of the Confederacie betweene *Don Mugel* Prince of Rats, and the Graund Cauallier of the Rat-catchers: which I will publish, if he dissolue not the League, to the vtter ouerthrowe of his Standerd, being three Rats and a paire of shackells, drawn in a white field, cheuernd with Newgate chaine, (in memorie of his long communitie therewith) and loftily borne on a broome staffe. Neither will I alone against them inueigh, but generally against all such banner-bearers, whether they be of Teeth, of Stone cutting, or of Rat-catching. Nay, *Kinde-heart* will not spare the Ensigne-bearer of *Robert* the Rifler. What though hee bee one of the head Burgesses of Knaues-borough: and sometime hath two Bearwards seruing vnder his colours, and they marshalled with Turkes, Bowes, Arrowes, Skoyles, and Nynholes. And though *Kind hart* will not meddle wyth those sports that are lawfull; yet it may bee shortly hee will speake of their lawlesse abusers.

With *Robin Greene* it passes *Kindharts* capacity to deale; for as I knowe not the reason of his vnrest: so will I not intermeddle in the cause: but as soone as I can conuey his letter, where it should be deliuered.

For olde *Dicke Tarlton* that madde companion, I haue helpt him out with his inuectiue against wringing Landlords, and commend his commendation of honest mirth. But I vnderstand, how euer hee speakes well of players, there is a graze widow in the world complains against one or two of them, for denying a Legacie of fortie shillings summe. Pittie it is (poore soule) beeing turnd to their shifts, they should hinder her of her portion, for had she that, shee intendes to set vp an Appleshop in one of the Innes. If they pay her, so it is; if not, she hath sworne neuer to be good, because they haue beguilde her.

For *Cuckoe* I haue somewhat to adde to his Iugling.

It happened within these few yeeres, about Hampshire there wandered a walking Mort, that went about the Countrey selling of tape, shee had a good voice, and would sing sometime to serue the turne: she would often be a leach, another time a fortune teller.

In this last occupation wee will now take her, for therefore was she taken, hauing first ouertaken an honest simple Farmer and his Wife in this manner.

On a Summers euening by the edge of the Forrest, she chaunst to meete the forenamed Farmers wife: to whom when she had offered some of her tape, she began quickly with her to fall in talke. And at the first staring her in the face, assures her she shall haue such fortune as neuer had any of her kinne: and if her husband were no more vn lucky than she, they should be possest of so infinite a sum of hidden treasure, as no man in England had euer seene the like.

The plain woman tickled with her soothing, intreated her to go home, which she at first making somewhat strange, was at last content. There had she such cheare as Farmers houses affoord, who fare not with the meanest.

Shortly the good man comes in, to whom his Wife relates her rare fortune, and what a wise woman shee had met with. Though the man were very simple, yet made he some question what learning she had, and how she came by knowledge of such things. O sir (saide she) my Father was the cunningst Iugler in all the countrey, my mother a Gipsie, and I haue more cunning than any of them both. Where lies the treasure thou talkst on said the Farmer? Within this three myles (quoth she.) I wonder thou thy selfe getst it not (saide the man) but liuest (as it seemes) in so poore estate. My pouertie (answerd this coosner) is my chieft pride: for such as we

cannet our selues be rich, though wee make others rich. Beside, hidden treasure is by spirits possest, and they keepe it onely for them, to whome it is destinied. And more (said shee) if I haue a seuerall roome to my selfe, hangd round about with white linnen, with other instruments, I will by morning tell ye, whether it be destined to you.

The Goodman and wife giuing credite to hir words, fetcht forth their finest sheets, and garnished a chamber as she appointed: seuen candles she must haue lighted, and an Angell she would haue laide in euery candle-sticke. Thus furnisht, she locks her selfe into the roome, and appointes them two onely to watch, without making any of their seruants priuie. Where vsing sundrie mumbling fallacies, at last shee cald the man vnto her, whome she saddled and brideled, and hauing seuen times rid him about the roome, causd him to arise and call his wife, for to her belongd the treasure.

Both man and wife being come, in verie sober manner shee tolde them, that they alone must attend in that place, while she forst the spirits to release the treasure & lay it in some conuenient place for them to fetch: but in any wise they must not reueale about what shee went, neither touch bread nor drinke till her returne. So taking vp the seuen Angels away shee went, laughing to her selfe how she had left them waiting.

All night sate the man and his wife attending

her comming, but she was wise inough. Morning came, the seruants mused what their Maister and Dame meant, that were wont with the Larke to be the earliest risers: yet sith they heard them talke, they attempted not to disturbe them. Noone drawing on the Farmer feeling by the chimes in his belly twas time to dine; was by his wife counselled to stay till the wise womans returne. Which he patiently intending, on a sodaine the sent of the Ploughswaines meate so pierced his senses, that had all *India* beene the meede of his abstinence, eate he will, or die he must. His wife more money wise, intended rather to starue than loose the treasure: till about euening one of their neighbors broght them news of a woman coosener that by a Iustice was sent to Winchester for many lewd pranks. The man would needes see if it were the same, and comming thither found it to be no other, where thinking at least to haue good words she impudently derided him, specially before the bench: who asking hir what reason she had to bridle and saddle him: faith (saide shee) onely to see how like an Asse hee lookt.

A number of such there be, whom I wil more narrowly search for in my next Circuit, --
and if my Dreame bee accepted,
sette them out orderly.

FINIS.

ERRATA

The following emendations have been made in the original text:—

Page	Line		In the Original reads :
13	8	'stranger,)'	'stranger,'
14	17	'fetching'	'fetchig'
28	2	'ende.'	'ende,'
31	24	'deceiuings'	'deceiuiugs'
55	1	'but'	'bur'



Kemps nine daies wonder

Performed in a daunce from
London to Norwich



Note

THE ORIGINAL of this text is in the Bodleian Library (Art. 4°. L. 62). A very few misprints have been corrected in the text: these are noted on page 35.

G. B. H.

Kemps nine daies vvonder.

Performed in a daunce from
London to Nørwich.

*Containing the pleasure, paines and kinde entertainment
of William Kemp betweene London and that City
in his late Motrice.*

Wherein is somewhat set downe worth note; to reprocue
the flunders spred of him: many things merry,
nothing hurtfull.

Written by himselfe to satisfie his friends.



LONDON

Printed by E. A. for Nicholas Ling, and are to be
solde at his shop at the west doore of Saint
Paules Church. 1600.



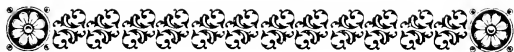
*To the true Ennobled Lady, and his most bountifull
Mistris, Mistris Anne Fitton, Mayde of Honour
to the most sacred Mayde Royall Queene
Elizabeth.*

HONORABLE Mistris in the waine of my
litle wit, I am forst to desire your protection,
else euery Ballad-singer will proclaime me bank-
rupt of honesty. A sort of mad fellows seeing me
merrily dispos'd in a Morrice, haue so bepainted
mee in print since my gambols began from
London to Norwich, that (hauing but an ill face
before) I shall appeare to the world without a face,
if your fayre hand wipe not away their foule
coulors. One hath written *Kemps farewell* to the
tune of Kery, mery, Buffe: another his desperate
daungers in his late trauaile: the third his enter-
tainement to New-Market; which towne I came
neuer neere by the length of halfe the heath. Some
swear in a Trenchmore I haue trode a good way
to winne the world: others that guesse righter,
affirme, I haue without good help daunst my selfe
out of the world: many say many thinges that were
neuer thought. But in a word your poore seruant
offers the truth of his progresse and profit to your
honorable view, receiue it I beseech you, such as

it is, rude and plaine, for I know your pure iudgement, lookes as soone to see beauty in a Blackamoore, or heare smooth speech from a Stammerer, as to finde any thing, but blunt mirth in a Morrice dauncer, especially such a one as *Will Kemp*, that hath spent his life in mad liggés and merry iestes. Three reasons mooué mee to make publik this iourney, one to reprove lving fooles I neuer knew: the other to cōmend louing friends, which by the way I daily found: the third to shew my duety to your honorable selfe, whose fauours (among other bountifull friends) makes me (dispight of this sad world) iudge my hart Corke, & my heeles feathers, so that me thinkes I could flye to Rome (at least hop to Rome, as the olde Prouerb is) with a mortar on my head. In which light conceite I lowly begge pardon and leaue, for my Tabrer strikes his huntsup, I must to Norvvich: Imagine Noble Mistris, I am now setting from my Lord Mayors, the houre about seauen, the morning gloomy, the company many, my hart merry.

Your worthy Ladiships most
vnworthy seruant,

William Kemp.



Kemps Nine Daies Wonder:

*Performed in a Morrice from London to Norwich.
Wherein euery dayes iourney is pleasantly set
downe, to satisfie his friends the truth, against all
lying Ballad-makers ; What he did, how hee was
welcome, and by whome entertained.*

*The first daies iourney, being the first Munday in
cleane Lent, from the right honorable the Lord
Mayors of London.*

THE first mundayc in Lent, the close morning promising a cleere day, (attended on by *Thomas Slye* my Taberer, *William Bee* my seruant, and *George Sprat*, appointed for my ouerseer, that I should take no other ease but my prescribed order) my selfe, thats I, otherwise called *Caualliero Kemp*, head-Master of Morrice-dauncers, high Head-borough of heighs, and onely tricker of your Trill-lilles, and best bel-shangles betweene Sion and mount Surrey, began frolickly to foote it, from the right Honorable the Lord Mayors of London, towards the right worshipfull (and truely bountifull) Master Mayors of Norwich.

My setting forward was somewhat before seauen in the morning, my Taberer stroke up merrily, and as fast as kinde peoples thronging

together would giue mee leaue, thorow London I leapt: By the way many good olde people, and diuers others of yonger yeeres, of meere kindnes, gaue me bowd sixepences and grotes, blessing me with their hartly prayers and God-speedes.

Being past White chappell, and hauing left faire London, with all that North-east Suburb before named, multitudes of Londoners left not me: but eyther to keepe a custome which many holde, that Mile-end is no walke without a recreatiõ at Stratford Bow with Creame and Cakes, or else for loue they beare toward me, or perhappes to make themselues merry, if I should chance (as many thought) to giue over my Morrice within a mile of Mile-end. How euer, many a thousand brought me to Bow, where I rested a while from dancing, but had small rest with those that would haue vrg'd me to drinking. But I warrant you *Will Kemp* was wise enough: to their ful cups, kinde thanks was my returne, with Gentlemanlike protestations: as, truely sir, I dare not: it stands not with the congruity of my health. Congruitie said I? how came that strange language in my mouth? I thinke scarcely that it is any Christen worde, and yet it may be a good worde for ought I knowe, though I neuer made it, nor doe verye well understand it; yet I am sure I have bought it at the word-mongers, at as deare a rate, as I could haue had a whole 100. of Bauines at the wood-mongers.

Farwell Congruitie for I meane now to be more concise, and stand upon euener bases: but I must neither stand nor sit, the Tabrer strikes alarum. Tickle it good Tom, Ile follow thee. Farwell Bowe, haue ouer the Bridge, where I heard say, honest Conscience was once drownd. Its pittye if it were so: but thats no matter belonging to our Morrice, lets now along to Stratford Langton.

Many good fellows being there met, and knowing how well I loued the sporte, had prepared a Beare-baying: but so unreasonable were the multitudes of people, that I could only heare the Beare roare, and the dogges howle: therefore forward I went with my hey de gaies to Ilford, where I againe rested, and was by the people of the towne and countrey there-about, very very wel welcomd: being offred carowes in the great spoon, one whole draught being able at that time to haue drawne my little wit drye: but being afrayde of the olde Poruerbe (He had need of a long spoone that eates with the deuill) I soberly gaue my boone Companions the slip.

From Ilford by Moone-shine, I set forward, dauncing within a quarter of a myle of Romford: where in the high way, two strong Iades (hauing belike some great quarrell to me vnknowne) were beating & byting either of other. And such through Gods help was my good hap, that I escaped their hoofes, both being rayسد with their

fore feete ouer my head, like two Smithes ouer an Anuyle.

There being the end of my first dayes Morrice, a kinde Gentleman of London lighting from his horse, would haue no nay but I should leap into his saddle. To be plaine with ye, I was not proud, but kindly tooke his kindlyer offer, chiefly thereto vrg'd by my wearines: so I rid to my Inne at Romford.

In that towne, to giue rest to my well labour'd limbes, I continued two dayes, being much beholding to the towns-men for their loue, but more to the Londoners, that came hourelly thither in great numbers to visite me: offering much more kindnes then I was willing to accept.

The second dayes iourney, beeing Thursday of the first weeke.

THURSDAY being Market day at Burnt-wood, *Tom S/ye* was earlyer up then the Lark, and sounded merrily the Morrice: I rowsed my selfe, and returned from Romford to the place wher I tooke horse the first night, dauncing that quarter of a myle backe againe thorow Romford, and so merily to Burnt-wood: yet now I remember it well, I had no great cause of mirth, for at Romford townes end I strained my hip, and for a time indured exceeding paine: but being loath to

trouble a Surgeon I held on, finding remedy by labour that had hurt mee, for it came in a turne, and so in my daunce I turned it out of my seruice againe.

The multitudes were so great at my comming to Burntwood, that I had much a doe (though I made many intreaties and staies) to get passage to my Inne.

In this towne two Cut-purses were taken, that with other two of their companions followed mee from Lōdon (as many better disposed persons did :) but these two dy-doppers gaue out when they were apprehended, that they had laid wagers and betted about my iourney. Wherupon the Officers bringing them to my Inne, I iustly denyed their acquaintance, sauing that I remembred one of them to be a noted Cut-purse, such a one as we tye to a poast on our stage, for all people to wonder at, when at a play they are taken pilfring.

This fellow & his half-brother being found with the deed, were sent to layle: their other two consorts had the charity of the towne, & after a dance of Trenchmore at the whipping crosse, they were sent backe to London: where I am afraide there are too many of their occupation. To bee short I thought myselfe well rid of foure such followers, and I wish hartily that the whole world were cleer of such companions.

Hauing rested well at Burntwood, the Moone shining clearely, and the weather being calme, in

the euening I tript it to Ingerstone, stealing away from those numbers of people that followed mee: yet doe I what I could, I had aboute fiftie in the company, some of London, the other of the Country there about, that would needs when they heard my Taber, trudge after me through thicke and thin.

The third dayes iourney, being Friday of the first weeke.

ON Friday morning I set forward towards Chelmsford, not hauing past two hundred, being the least company that I had in the day time: betweene London and that place. Onward I went thus easily followed, till I come to Witford-bridge, where a number of country people, and many Gentlemen and Gentlewomen, were gathered together to see me. Sir Thomas Mildmay standing at his Parke pale, receiued gently a payre of garters of me: gloues, points, and garters, being my ordinary marchandize, that I put out to venter for performance of my merry voyage.

So much a doe I had to passe by the people at Chelmsford, that it was more than an houre ere I could recouer my Inne gate, where I was faine to locke my selfe in my Chamber, and pacifie them with wordes out of a window instead of deeds: to deale plainely I was so weary, that I could dance no more.

The next morning I footed it three myle of my way toward Braintree: but returned backe againe to Chelmsford, where I lay that Satterday and the next Sunday. The good cheere and kinde welcome I had at Chelmsford, was much more than I was willing to entertaine: for my onely desire was to refraine drinke, and be temperate in my dyet.

At Chelmsford a Mayde not passing fourteene yeares of age, dwelling with one Sudley my kinde friend, made request to her Master and Dame, that she might daunce the Morrice with me in a great large roome. They being intreated, I was soone wonne; to fit her with bells, besides she would haue the olde fashion with napking on her armes; and to our iumps we fell. A whole houre she held out: but then being ready to lye downe I left her off: but thus much in her praise, I would haue challenged the strongest man in Chelmsford, and amongst many I thinke few would haue done so much.

*The fourth dayes iourney, beeing Munday of the
second weeke.*

ON Munday morning very early, I rid the 3. myles that I daunst the satterday before: where alighting, my Taberer strucke up, and lightly I tript forward, but I had the heauiest way that euer mad Morrice-dancer trod: yet

*With hey and ho, through thicke and thin,
the hobby horse quite forgotten,
I follow'd, as I did begin,
although the way were rotten.*

This foule way I could finde no ease in, thicke woods being on eyther side the lane: the lane likewise being full of deep holes, sometimes I skipt vp to the waste: but it is an old Prouerb. That it is a little comfort to the miserable to haue companions, and amidst this miry way, I had some mirth by an vnlookt for accident.

It was the custome of honest Country fellows my vnknowne friends, upon hearing of my Pype (which might well be heard in a still morning or euening a myle) to get vp and beare mee company a little way. In this foule way two pretty plaine youthes watcht me, and with their kindnes somewhat hindred me. One a fine light fellow would be still before me, the other euer at my heeles. At length comming to a broad plash of water and mud, which could not be auoyded, I fetcht a rise, yet fell in ouer the anckles at the further end. My youth that follow'd me, tooke his iump, and stuck fast in the midst, crying out to his companion, come George, call yee this dauncing, Ile goe no further: for indeede hee could goe no further, till his fellow was faine to wade and help him out. I could not chuse but lough to see howe like

two frogges they laboured: a hartye farwell I gaue them, and they faintly bad God speed me, saying if I daunst that durtie way this seauen yeares againe, they would neuer daunce after me.

Well, with much a doo I got unto Braintree by noone, tarried there Munday night and the next day: onely I daunst three miles on Tewsday, to ease my Wednesdaies iourney.

If I should deny that I was welcome at Braintree, I should slander an honest crew of kind men, among whome I far'd well, slept well, and was euery way well usde.

The fift dayes iourney being Wednesday of the second weeke.

TAKING aduantage of my 3. miles that I had daunst y^e day before, this wednesday morning I tript it to Sudbury, whether came to see a very kinde Gentleman Master Foskew, that had before trauailed a foote from London to Barwick: who, giuing me good counsaile to obserue temperate dyet for my health, and other aduise to bee carefull of my company, besides his liberall entertainment, departed leauing me much indebted to his loue.

In this towne of Sudbury, there came a lusty tall fellow, a butcher by his profession, that would

in a Morrice keepe mee company to Bury: I being glad of his friendly offer, gaue him thanks, and forward wee did set: but ere euer wee had measur'd halfe a mile of our way, he gaue me ouer in the plain field, protesting, that if he might get a 100. pound, he would not hold out with me; for indeed my pace in dauncing is not ordinary.

As he and I were parting, a lusty Country lasse being among the people, cal'd him faint hearted lout: saying, if I had begun to daunce, I would haue held out one myle though it had cost my life. At which wordes many laughed. Nay saith she, if the Dauncer will lend me a leash of his belles, Ile venter to treade one mile with him my selfe. I lookt vpon her, saw mirth in her eies, heard boldnes in her words, and beheld her ready to tucke vp her russet petticoate, I fitted her with bels: which she merrily taking, garnisht her thicke short legs, and with a smooth brow bad the Tabrer begin. The Drum strucke, forward marcht I with my merry Maydemarian: who shooke her fat sides: and footed it merrily to Melfoord, being a long myle. There parting with her, I gaue her (besides her skinfull of drinke) an English crowne to buy more drinke, for good wench she was in a pittious heate: my kindnes she requited with dropping some dozen of short courtesies, and bidding God blesse the Dauncer, I bad her adieu: and to giue

her her due, she had a good eare, daunst truely,
and wee parted friendly. But ere I part with her,
a good fellow my friend, hauin writ an odde Rime
of her, I will make bolde to set it downe.

*A Country Lasse browne as a berry,
Blith of blee in heart as merry,
Cheekes well fed and sides well larded,
Euery bone with fat flesh guarded,
Meeting merry Kemp by chaunce,
Was Marrian in his Morrice daunce.
Her stump legs with bels were garnisht,
Her browne browes with sweating varnish ;
Her browne hips when she was lag,
To win her ground, went swig a swag,
Which to see all that came after,
VWere replete with mirthfull laughter.
Yet she thumpt it on her way,
VWith a sportly hey de gay,
At a mile her daunce she ended,
Kindly paide and well commended.*

At Melford, diuers Gentlemen met mee, who
brought me to one master Colts, a very kinde and
worshipfull Gentleman, where I had vnexpected
entertainment till the Satterday. From whose
house hauing hope somewhat to amend my way
to Bury, I determined to goe by Clare, but I found
it to be both farther and fouler.

The sixt dayes iourney, being Satterday of the second weeke.

FROM Wednesday night til Satterday hauing bin very troublesome, but much more welcome to master Colts: in the morning I tooke my leaue, and was accompanied with many Gentlemen a myle of my way. Which myle master Colts his foole would needs daunce with me, and had his desire, where leauing me, two fooles parted faire in a foule way: I keeping on my course to Clare, where I a while rested, and then cheerefully set forward to Bury.

Passing from Clare towards Bury, I was inuited to the house of a very bountiful widdow, whose husband during his life was a Yeoman of that Countrie, dying rich no doubt, as might well appeare, by the riches and plentie, that abounded in euery corner of the house. She is called the widdow Eueret.

At her house were met aboute thirty Gentlemen. Such, and so plentiful variety of good fare, I haue very sildome scene in any Commoners house. Her behaiour being very modest and freendly, argued her bringing vp not to be rude. She was a woman of good presence: and if a foole may iudge, of no smal discretion.

From this widdowes I daunst to Bury, comming in on the Satterday in the afternoone, at what time

the right Honorable, the Lord Chiefe Justice entred at an other gate of the towne, the wondring and regardles multitude making his honor cleere way, left the streetes where he past to gape at me: the throng of them being so great, that poore Will Kemp was seauen times stayed ere hee could recouer his Inne. By reason of the great snow that then fell, I stayd at Bury from Satterday in the second week of my setting foorth, til Thursday night the next weeke following.

The seauenth dayes iourney being Friday of the third weeke.

V P O N Fryday morning I set on towardes Thetford, dauncing that tenne mile in three houres: for I left Bury somewhat after seauen in the morning, and was at Thetford somewhat after ten that same forenoone. But indeed considering how I had been booted the other iourneys before, and that all this way or the most of it was ouer a heath, it was no great wonder: for I far'd like one that had escaped the stockes, and tride the vse of his legs to out-run the Constable: so light was my heeles, that I counted the ten mile no better than a leape.

At my entrance into Thetford, the people came in great numbers to see mee: for there were many there, being Size time. The noble Gentleman Sir

Edwin Rich, gaue me entertainment in such bountifull and liberal sort, during my continuance there Satterday and Sunday, that I want fitte words to expresse the least part of his worthy vsage of my vnworthines: and to conclude liberally as hee had begun and continued, at my departure on Munday, his worship gaue me fise pound.

The eyght dayes iourney being Munday of the fourth weeke.

ON Munday morning I daunst to Rockland ere I rested, and comming to my Inne, where the Hoast was a very boone companion, I desir'd to see him: but in no case he would be spoken with, till he had shifted himselfe from his working dayes sute. Being armed at all poyntes, from the cap to the codpeece, his blacke shooes shining, and made straght with copper buckles of the best, his garters in the fashion, and euery garment fitting Correm-squandam (to use his owne word): hee enters the Hall with his bonnet in his hand, began to crye out:

O Kemp deere Master Kemp: you are euen as welcome as as as, and so stammering, he began to study for a fit comparison, and I thanke him at last he fitted me: for saith he, thou art euen as welcome, as the Queenes best grey-hound. After this dogged yet well-meaning salutation, the

Carrowses were called in: and my friendly Hoast of Rockland began with all this: blessing the houre vppon his knees, that any of the Queenes Maiesties well-willers or friends would vouchsafe to come within his house: as if neuer any such had been within his doores before.

I tooke his good meaning, and gaue him great thankes for his kindenesse: and hauing rested mee well, began to take my course for Hingham, whether my honest Hoast of Rockland would needs be my guide: but good true fat-belly he had not followed mee two fieldes, but he lyes all along, and cryes after me to come backe and speake with him. I fulfild his request: and comming to him, dauncer quoth hee if thou daunce a Gods name God speede thee: I cannot follow thee a foote farther, but adieu good dauncer, God speed thee if thou daunce a Gods name.

I hauing haste of my way, and he being able to keep no way, there wee parted. Farewell he, he was a kinde good fellow, a true Troyan: and it euer be my lucke to meete him at more leasure, Ile make him full amendes with a Cup full of Canarie. But nowe I am a little better aduis'd, wee must not thus let my madde Hoast passe: for my friend late mentioned before, that made the odde rime on my Maide-marian, would needs remember my Hoast. Such as it is Ile bluntly set downe.

*He was a man not ouer spare,
 In his eybals dwelt no care ;
 Anon anon and welcome friend,
 Were the most vwords he vsde to spend.
 Saue sometime he vwould sit and tell,
 What wonders once in Bullayne fell ;
 Closing each Period of his tale,
 With a full cup of Nut-browne Ale.
 Turwin and Turneys siedge vvere hot,
 Yet all my Hoast remembers not.
 Ketsfield and Muscleborough fray,
 Were battles fought but yesterday.
 O twas a goodly matter then,
 To see your svword and buckler men ;
 They vwould lye heere, and here and there,
 But I would meete them euery vwhere :
 And nowv a man is but a pricke,
 A boy arm'd with a poating sticke,
 VWill dare to challenge Cutting Dicke,
 O t'is a vworld the vworld to see,
 But twill not mend for thee nor mee.
 By this some guest cryes ho the house,
 A fresh friend hath a fresh carouse,
 Still he vwill drinke, and still be dry,
 And quaffe vwith euery company.
 Saint Martin send him merry mates
 To enter at his hostree gates :
 For a blither lad than he
 Cannot an Inkeeper be.*

Well once againe farewell mine Hoast at Rockland: after all these farewels I am sure to Hingham I found a foule way, as before I had done from Thetford to Rockland.

Yet besides the deep way I was much hindred, by the desire people had to see me. For euen as our Shop-keepers will hayle, and pull a man with Lack ye? what do you lack Gentlemen? My ware is best cryes one: mine best in England sayes an other: heere shall you haue choyse saith the third: so was the dyuers voyces of the young men and Maydens, which I should meete at euerie myles ende, thronging by twentie, and sometime fortie, yea, hundreths in a companie: One crying the fayrest way was thorow their Village: another, this is the nearest and fayrest way, when you haue past but a myle and a halfe: an other sort crie, turne on the left hand, some on the right hand: that I was so amazed, I knewe not sometime which way I might best take: but hap-hazard, the people still accompanying me, wherewith I was much comforted, though the wayes were badde: but as I said before at last I ouertooke it.

The ninth dayes iourney, being VVednesday of the fourth weeke.

THE next morning I left Hingham, not staying till I came to Barford-bridge, fīue young men running all the way with me, for otherwise my pace was not for footemen.

From Barford bridge I daunst to Norwich: but comming within sight of the Citty, perceiuing so great a multitude and throng of people still crowding more and more about me, mistrusting it would be a let to my determined expedition, and pleasurable humour: which I long before conceiued to delight this Citty with (so far, as my best skill, and industry of my long trauelled sinewes could affoord them) I was aduised, and so tooke ease by that aduise, to stay my Morrice a little about Saint Giles his gate, where I tooke my gelding, and so rid into the Citty, procrastinating my merry Morrice daunce through the Citty till better opportunitie.

Being come into the Citty: Master Roger Wiler the Maior, and sundry other of his worshipfull Brethren sent for me: Who perceiuing howe I intended not to daunce into the Citty that nyght: and being well satisfied with the reasons, they allotted me time enough not to daunce in till Satterday after: to the end that diuers knights and Gentlemen, together with their wiues and Children (who had beene many dayes before deceyued with expectation of my comming) might nowe haue sufficient warning, accordingly by satterday following.

In the meane space, and during my still continuance in the Citty afterwarde, they not onely very courteously offered to beare mine owne

charges and my followers, but very bountifully performed it at the common charges: the Mayor and many of the Aldermen often times besides inuited vs priuately to theyr seuerall houses.

To make a short end of this tedious description of my entertainment: Satterday no sooner came, but I returned without the Citty through Saint Giles his gate: and beganne my Morrice where I left at that gate, but I entred in at Saint Stephens gate, where one Thomas Gilbert in name of all the rest of the Cittizens gaue me a friendly and exceeding kind welcome: which I haue no reason to omit, vnlesse I would condemne my selfe of ingratitude, partlye for the priuate affection of the writer towardes me: as also for the generall loue and fauour I found in them, from the highest to the lowest, the richest as the poorest. It followes in these few lynes.

Master Kemp his welcome to Norvvich.

W With hart, and hand, among the rest,

E Especially you welcome are :

L Long looked for, as welcome guest,

C Come now at last you be from farre.

O Of most within the Citty sure,

M Many good wishes you haue had.

E Each one did pray you might indure,

W VVith courage good the match you made.

I Intend they did with gladsome hearts,

L Like your well willers, you to meete :

K Know you also they'l doe their parts,
E Eyther in field or house to greete
M More you then any with you came,
P Procur'd thereto with trump and fame.
Your well-willer.
 T. G.

Passing the gate, Wiffers (such Officers as were appointed by the Mayor) to make me way through the throng of the people, which prest so mightily vpon me: with great labour I got thorow that narrow preaze into the open market place. Where on the crosse, ready prepared, stood the City Waytes, which not a little refreshed my wearines with toying thorow so narrow a lane, as the people left me: such Waytes (under Benedicite be it spoken) fewe Citties in our Realme haue the like, none better. Who, besides their excellency in wind instruments, their rare cunning on the Vyoll, and Violin: theyr voices be admirable, euerie one of thẽ able to serue in any Cathedrall Church in Christendoome for Quiristers.

Passing by the Market place, the presse still increasing by the number of boyes, girles, men and women, thronging more and more before me to see the end. It was the mischaunce of a homely maide, that belike, was but newly crept into the fashion of long wasted peticotes tyde with points, & had, as it seemed but one point tyed before, and

comming vnluckily in my way, as I was fetching a leape, it fell out that I set my foote on her skirts: the point eyther breaking or stretching, off fell her peticoate from her waste, but as chance was, thogh hir smock were course, it was cleanely: yet the poore wench was so ashamed, the rather for that she could hardly recouer her coate againe from vnruely boies, that looking before like one that had the greene sicknesse, now had she her cheekes all coloured with scarlet. I was sorry for her, but on I went towards the Maiors, and deceiued the people, by leaping ouer the Church-yard wall at S. Iohns, getting so into M. Mayors gates a neerer way: but at last I found it the further way about: being forced on the Tewsdays following to renew my former daunce, because George Sprat my ouer-seer hauing lost me in the throng, would not be deposed that I had daunst it, since he saw me not: and I must confesse I did not wel, for the Citizens had caused all the turne-pikes to be taken vp on Satterday, that I might not bee hindred. But now I returne againe to my Lump, the measure of which is to be seene in the Guild-hall at Norwich, where my buskins, that I then wore, and daunst in from London thither, stand equally deuided, nailde on the wall. The plenty of good cheere at the Mayors, his bounty, and kinde vsage, together with the general welcomes of his worshipful brethren, and many other knights, Ladies,

Gentlemen & Gentlewomen, so much exceeded my expectation, as I adiudg'd my selfe most bound to them all. The Maior gaue me fīue pound in *Elizabeth* angels: which Maior (faire Madame, to whom I too presumptuously dedicate my idle paces) as a man worthy of a singuler and impartiall admiration, if our criticke humorous mindes could as prodigally conceiue as he deserues, for his chaste life, liberality, & temperance in possessing worldly benefits: he liues vnmarried, and childlesse, neuer purchased house nor land: the house he dwels in this yeere, being but hyred: he liues vpon marchandies, being a Marchant venturer. If our marchants & gentlemen wold take example by this man, Gentlmen would not sell their lands, to become banckrout Marchants, nor Marchants liue in the possessions of youth-beguiled gentlemen: who cast themselues out of their parents heritages for a few out-cast commodities. But wit whither wilt thou? What hath Morrice tripping Will to do with that? it keeps not time w^t his dance: therefore roome you morral precepts, giue my legs leaue to ende my Morrice, or that being ended, my hands leaue to perfect this worthless poore tottered volume.

Pardon me Madame, that I am thus tedious, I cannot chuse but cōmend sacred liberality, which makes poore wretches partakers of all comfortable benefits, besides the loue & fauour already

repeated: M. Weild the mayor gaue me 40.s. yeerely during my life, making me a free man of the marchant venterers, this is the substance of al my journey: therefore let no man beleeeue how euer before by lying ballets & rumors they haue bin abused, y^t either waies were laid open for me, or that I deliuered gifts to her Maiesty. Its good being merry my masters, but in a meane, & al my mirths, (meane though they be) haue bin & euer shal be imploi'd to the delight of my royal Mistris: whose sacred name ought not to be remēbred among such ribald rimes as these late thin-breecht lying Balletsingers haue proclaimed it.

It resteth now that in a word I shew, what profit I haue made by my Morrice: true it is I put out some money to haue threefold gaine at my returne, some that loue me, regard my paines, & respect their promise, haue sent home the treble worth, some other at the first sight haue paide me, if I came to seek thē, others I cannot see, nor wil they willingly be found, and these are the greater number. If they had al usd me wel, or al ill, I would haue boldly set downe the true sum of my smal gain or losse, but I wil haue patience, some few daies lōger. At y^e end of which time, if any be behinde, I wil draw a cattalogue of al their names I ventur'd with: those y^t haue shewne thēselues honest men, I wil set before them this Character H. for honesty; before the other Bench-whistlers shal

stand K. for ketlers & keistrels, that wil driue a good companion without need in them to contend for his owne, but I hope I shall haue no such neede. If I haue, your Honorable protection shall thus far defend your poore seruant, that he may being a plain man, call a spade a spade. Thus fearing your Ladyship is wearier with reading this toy, then I was in all my merry trauaile, I craue pardon: and conclude this first Pamphlet that euer Will Kemp offred to the Presse, being thereunto prest on the one side by the pittifull papers pasted on euery poast, of that which was neither so nor so, and on the other side vrg'd thereto in duety to expresse with thankfulness the kind entertainment I found.

Your honors poore seruant,

W. K.



Kemps humble request to the impudent generation of *Ballad-makers and their coherents* ; that it would please their rascalities to pittie his paines in the great iourney he pretends, and not fill the country with lyes of his neuer done actes as they did in his late *Morrice to Norwich*.

To the tune of *Thomas Delonies* Epitaph.

MY notable Shakerags, the effect of my sute is discouered in the Title of my supplication. But for your better vnderstandings: for that I know you to be a sort of witles beetle-heads, that can understand nothing, but what is knockt into your scalpes; These are by these presentes to certifie vnto your block-headships, that I William Kemp, whom you had neer hand rent in sunder with your vnreasonable rimes, am shortly God willing to set forward as merily as I may; whether I my selfe know not. Wherefore by the way I would wish ye, imploy not your little wits in certifying the world that I am gone to Rome, Ierusalem, Venice, or any other place at your idle appoint. I knowe the best of ye by the lyes ye writ of me, got not the price of a good hat to couer your brainles heads: If any of ye had come to me, my bounty should haue exceeded

the best of your good masters the Ballad-buiers, I wold haue apparrelled your dry pates in party coloured bonnets, & bestowed a leash of my cast belles to haue crown'd ye with cox-combs. I haue made a priuie search, what priuate Iigmonger of your iolly number, hath been the Author of these abhominable ballets written of me: I was told it was the great ballet-maker *T. D.*, *alias Tho. Deloney*, Chronicler of the memorable liues of the 6. yeomen of the west, Iack of Newbery, the Gentle-craft, & such like honest mē: omitted by Stow, Hollinshead, Graftō, Hal, froysart, & the rest of those wel deseruing writers: but I was giuen since to vnderstand your late generall Tho. dyed poorely, as ye all must do, and was honestly buried: which is much to bee doubted of some of you. The quest of inquiry finding him by death acquitted of the Inditement, I was let to wit, y^t another Lord of litle wit, one whose employment for the Pageant, was vtterly spent, he being knowne to be Eldertons immediate heyre, was vehemently suspected: but after due inquisition was made, he was at that time knowne to liue like a man in a mist, hauing quite giuen ouer the mistery. Still the search continuing, I met a proper vpright youth, onely for a little stooping in the shoulders: all hart to the heele, a penny Poet whose first making was the miserable

stolne story of Macdoel, or Macdobeth, or Macsomewhat: for I am sure a Mac it was, though I neuer had the maw to see it: & hee tolde me there was a fat filthy ballet-maker, that should haue once been his Iourneyman to the trade: who liu'd about the towne; and ten to one, but he had thus terribly abused me & my Taberer: for that he was able to do such a thing in print. A shrewd presumption: I found him about the bankside, sitting at a play, I desired to speake with him, had him to a Tauerne, charg'd a pipe with Tobacco, and then laid this terrible accusation to his charge. He swels presently like one of the foure windes, the violence of his breath, blew the Tobacco out of the pipe, & the heate of his wrath drunke dry two bowlefuls of Rhenish wine. At length hauing power to speake, Name my accuser saith he, or I defye thee Kemp at the quart staffe. I told him, & all his anger turned to laughter: swearing it did him good to haue ill words of a hoddy doddy, a habber de hoy, a chicken, a squib, a squall: One that hath not wit enough to make a ballet, that by *Pol* and *Aedipol*, would Pol his father, Derick his dad: doe anie thing how ill soeuer, to please his apish humor. I hardly beleueed, this youth that I tooke to be gracious, had bin so graceles: but I heard afterwards his mother in law was eye and eare witnes of

his fathers abuse by this blessed childe on a publique stage, in a merry Hoast of an Innes part. Yet all this while could not I finde out the true ballet-maker. Till by chaunce a friend of mine puld out of his pocket a booke in Latine called *Mundus Furiosus*: printed at *Cullen*, written by one of the vildest and arrantest lying Cullians that euer writ booke, his name Iansonius, who taking vpon him to write an abstract of all the turbulent actions that had beene lately attempted or performed in Christendome, like an vnchristian wretch, writes onely by report, partially, and scoffingly, of such whose pages shooes hee was vnworthy to wipe, for indeed he is now dead: farewell he, euery dog must haue a day. But see the luck on't: this beggerly lying busie-bodies name, brought out the Ballad-maker: and it was generally confirmd, it was his kinsman: he confesses himselfe guilty, let any man looke on his face: if there be not so redde a colour that all the sope in the towne will not washe white, let me be turned to a Whiting as I passe betweene Douer and Callis. Well, God forgiue thee honest fellow, I see thou hast grace in thee: I prethee do so no more, leaue writing these beastly ballets, make not good wenches Prophetesses, for litle or no profit, nor for a sixe-penny matter, reuiue not a poore fellowes fault thats hanged for his offence:

it may be thy owne destiny one day, prethee be good to them. Call vp thy olde Melpomene, whose straubery quill may write the bloody lines of the blew Lady, and the Prince of the burning crowne: a better subiect I can tell ye: than your Knight of the Red Crosse. So farewel, and crosse me no more I prethee with thy rabble of bald rimes,
 least at my returne I set a crosse on thy forehead, that all men may know thee for a foole.

William Kemp.

FINIS.

ERRATA

The following emendations have been made in the original text :—

Page	Line		In the Original reads :
6	29	'Bauines'	'Baiues'
14	19	'she'	'he'
19	2	'with all'	'with. All'
21	24	' <i>fourth</i> '	' <i>second</i> '
27	22	'ill,'	'ill?'

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