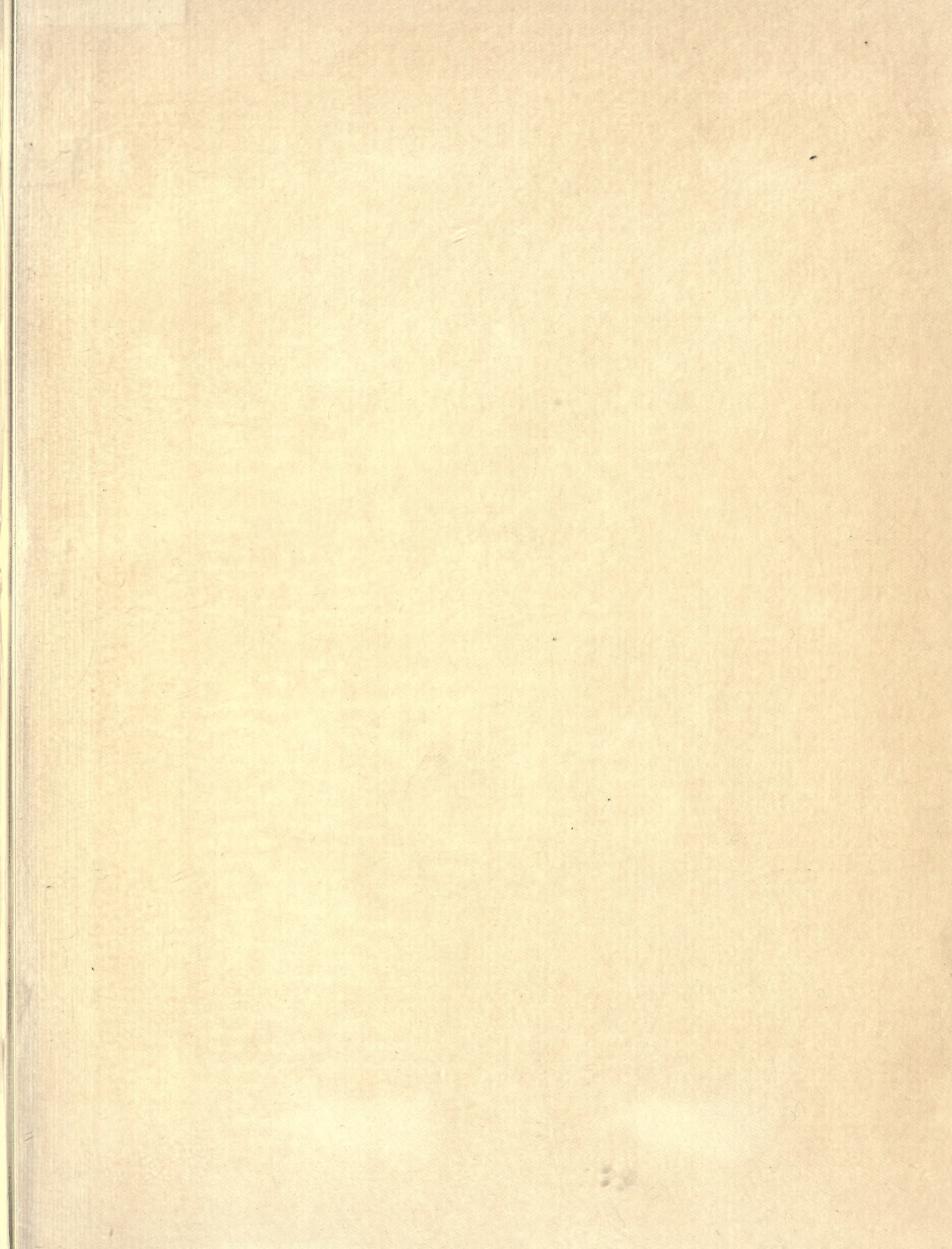




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The Tudor Facsimile Texts

The Marriage
of
Wit and Science

Date of Original, 1569–1570

[*The Bodleian Library, Oxford, Malone 231*]

Reproduced in Facsimile, 1909

Marriage of Wit & Science

Advantage of Wit & Science

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The Tudor Facsimile Texts

[Vol. 76]

Under the Supervision and Editorship of

JOHN S. FARMER



The Marriage of Wit and Science

1569-70

99699
24/11/09

Issued for Subscribers by

T. C. & E. C. JACK, 16 HENRIETTA STREET

LONDON, W.C.: AND EDINBURGH

MCMIX



PR
2411
M37
1569a

The Marriage

of

Wit and Science

This is one of a trio of "Wit" plays, all of which are included in the present series of facsimile reprints.

"The Marriage of Wit and Science" was licensed to W. Marsh in 1569-70. The only known copy is in the Bodleian Library, Oxford. The photographic negatives used in the reproduction of this play, as also those of Bale's "Temptation of our Lord" and "The Beauty and Good Properties of Women," have been made by the Clarendon Press, Oxford, who have the sole right, and exercise it, of executing all such work in connection with books, manuscripts, and the like in the Bodleian. Mr. Fleming, the technical photographer in charge of this series, is not therefore directly responsible for the workmanship of the three plays in question. The result leaves somewhat to be desired. The reproductions for which he is personally accountable are unquestionably better in all respects. There is in the Oxford negatives a certain lack of "crispness" and "contact" which, though occasionally traceable in Mr. Fleming's manipulation, are in his work reduced to a minimum.

A careful and critical examination of this particular facsimile shows a marked improvement on the two other Bodleian items. The chief "fault" again is that it is not quite "sharp" enough; otherwise it is a good piece of work.

A typical example of this "fault" will be found on [E. iv. recto], in the first and second halves of the first eight lines of the speech of Science. The first halves of these lines correctly reproduce the original; the second halves are not so sharp; the rest of the speech is about right.

I have included the two pages of script at the commencement of the volume. In the original these two pages are not recto and verso of one leaf as now given: they occupy the rectos respectively of two separate leaves preceding the title-page.

JOHN S. FARMER.






The Marriage of wit and science. 1570.
The Interlude of youth, -----
Like will to like, ----- 1568.
The Trial of Treasure ----- 1567.
A kneeke ~~to~~ to know an
honest man, ----- 1596.
A kneeke to know a ~~knave~~
~~knave~~ knave ----- 1594
The First Part of Jeronimo - 1605.
Life and Death of Jack Shaver 1604
Two Tragedies in one ----- 1601

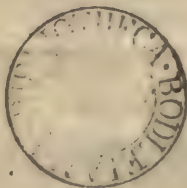
Licensed to Mr. Marsh he between July
1569 & July 1570.
E. H.





The players names.

Nature Science, Shame,
Witte. Reason, Fdelnes,
Will, Experience, Ignoraunce
Studie, Recreation, Tediousnes.
Diligence, with thre o-
ther women 
Instruction, singers.





Nature, witte and will.



Maunde Lady mother of euery mortall thynges:
Purse of the worlde conseruatyue of kynd
Cause of encrease, of lyfe and soule the spring.
At whose instincte, the noble Heauen doth winde,
To whose award all Creatures are assynde,
I come in place, to treate with this my sonne,
For his anayle howe he the path may fynde,
Wherby his Race in honour he may runne:
Come tender Childe, vnrype and greene for age,
In whom the parent setteth her chiefe delite,
Witte is thy name, but farre from wysdome sage,
Wyll tracte of tyme shall worke and frame aryght,
Whis perelesse byayne, not yet in perfect plyght:
But when it shalbe wrought me thynkes I see
As in a glasse besoze hand with my syghte
A certayne perfect peece of worke in the,
And now so farre as I gesse by signes
Some great attempte is tyred in thy brest:
Speake on my sonne wherto thy harte inclynes
And let me deale to set thy hart at rest,
He salues the soze that knowes the patient best
As I doe thee my sonne my chiefeest care,
In whom my speciall prayse and loye doth rest,
To me therfoze these thoughtes of thyne declare

VVitte.

Nature, my soueraigne Quene and parent passyng dere
Whose force I am insozll to know and knowledg euey where,
Whis care of myne though it be bred within my brest,
Yet it is not so rype: as yet to breede me great vnrest,
So runne I to and fro, with hap suche as I fynde,
Now fast, now lose, now hot, now cold, vncōstant as that wind,
I feele my selfe in loue yet not inflamed so,
But causes moue me now and then, to let suche fancies go,
Whiche causes pzeuaillyng setteth eche thyng els in doubt
Such like the mayle that last came in, & dzyues the former out.

A. ii.

Wher

The Mariage

Wherefore my suite is thys, that it woulde please your grace,
To settle this vnsettled head in some assured place:
To leade me through the thyeck, to guyde me at the waye,
To poynt me where I maye atcheue my most desired praye,
For nowe agayne of late I kyndle in desire
And pleasure pricketh fourth my youth to seele a greater fyre,
What though I be to young to shewe her spozt in bed,
Yet are there many in thys lande that at my yeares doe wedde,
And though I wed not yet, yet am I olde inowe
To serue my Lady to my power and to begynne to woce.

Nature.

What is that Ladies sonne which thus thy hart doth moue
VVitte.

A Lady whom it myght be seeme hygh Ioue hym self to loue.
Nature

Witho taught the her to loue, or hast thou seene her face.
VVitte.

For this no; that, but I hard menne talks of her apaco.
Nature.

What is her name?
VVitte.

Reason is her sire, Experience her dame.
The Ladye nowe is in her stowers and Science is her name
Loe where she dwelles, lo where my harte is all posselt,
Loe where my bodie would abyde, lo where my soule doth rest.
Her haue I bozne good wpll, these manye yeares tofoze,
But nowe she lodge th in my thought a hundred partes the moze,
And since I doe perswade my self that thys is she
Which ought aboue all earthly wyghtes to be most deare to me
And since I wote not howe to compass my desyre,
And since for shame I can not now no; mynd not to retyze,
Helpe on I you besech and byng thys thyng about
Without youre hurte to my greate ease, and set all out of doubt.

Nature.

Thou askest moze, then is in me to gyue,
Moze then thy cause, moze then thy state will beare
They are two things to able thee to lue,
And to lue so, that none should be thy peare,
The first from me, procedeth euery where,

But



OF WITTE AND SCIENCE

But this by toyle and practise of the mind,
Is set full larre god wot and bought full deare,
By those that seeke the frutte therof to finde,
To match thee then with Science in degree,
To knit that knot, that few may reach vnto
I tel the playne, it lyeth not in me,
Why should I challenge that I cannot doe
But thou must take another way to woe,
And beate thy byayne and bende thy Curious head,
Both ryde and runne and trauaile to and froe
If thou entend that famous Dame to wed.

VVitte,

You name your selfe the Lady of this world.
Nature,

It is true.

VVitte,

And can there be within this world, a thing so hard for you.
Nature.

My power it is not absolute in Jurisdiction
For I cognise an other Lord above
That hath receaued vnto his disposition
The soule of man which he of speciall loue
To gifts of grace and learning eke doth moue,
A worke so larre beyonde my reach and call,
That in to part of pryse with him my selfe to thow
Myght some procure my well deserued fall.
He makes the frame and receiue it soe,
So tolte therein altered for my head,
And as I it receiue I let it goe,
Causyng therein suche sparkles to be bredde
As he commyttes to me by whom I must be ledde
Who guides me first and in me guides the rest,
All which in their due course and kind are spedde
Of giftes from me such as may serue them best,
To thee some witte he wold me so inspire
The loue of knowledge and certayne seedes deuine
Which ground might be a weane to bying thee here,
If therunto thy self thou wilt encline
The massy golde, the connyng hand makes spere.

A. iii.

Goodes

The Marriage

Good groundes are tilde, as well as are the woordes
The rankest flower will aske a springyng tyme,
So is mans wit vnperfitt at the first.

VVitte.

Of connyng be the key and well of woordly blysse
My thinketh god might at þe first as well endue al with this.

Nature.

As connyng is the key of blysse, so it is woorthy prayse
The woorthiest thigs ar wonne w pain in tract of time alwales,

VVitte.

And yet right woorthy things ther are, you wil cōfesse I trow,
Which notwithstanding at our birch god doth on vs bestow.

Nature.

There are but such as vnto you that haue the great to name,
I rather that bestow then wyne therby ymmozal fame,

VVitte.

Fayne would I learne what harme or detrimēt ensued,
If any man were at his byrth with these god gyftes endued.

Nature.

There should be nothing lesse, wherin men might excell,
No blame for sinne, no prasse to thē that had despynd wel
Vertue should lose her pryce, and learning would abounde
And as man wold admire the thyng that eche wher might be found,
The great estate that haue of me and fortune what they wil
Should haue no nede to loke to those, whose heads are fraght w skil
The meaner sorte that nowe excells in vertues of the minde,
Should not be once accepted there wher now they succoz fynd
For gret men should be spedde of al & wold haue nede of none
And he that were not bozne to land should lacke to liue vpon
These and siue thousand causes mīde which I forbeare to tel,
The noble vertue of the mind haue caused there to dwell
Where none may haue accesse, but such as can get in
Through many dole dozes, through heat, through cold, through
V Vitte. (thick and thīne.

Suppose I would adzesse my selfe to sake her out
And to refuse no paine that lieth there about
Should I be suer to spede?

Nature.

Trust me and haue no doubt,

Then



of Witte and Science

Thou canst not Chuse but speede with trauell and with tyme
These two are they that must direct thee how to clime

VWill.

With trauel and with tyme, must they needs loyne in ones
Nature.

For that no; this can do the god, if they be toke alone.

VVitt.

Time worketh all with ease, and gyues the greatest dynt
In tyme softe water dropes can hollowe hardest slynt
Agayne. with labo; by it selfe, great matters compass be
Euen at a gyde in very lyttel tyme or none wee see
Wherfoze in my conceyte god reason it is
Etyher this with out that to loke, or that with out this.

Nature.

Let case thou dydest attempte to clyme Vernasus hill
Take tyme sine hundzeth thousand yers & longer if thou wilt
Trowest thou to touch the top there of by standyng still
Againe, wo;ke out thy harte and spend thy selfe with toyle
Take tyme with all or elles I dare assure the of the soyle

VVitte.

Madame, I trust I haue your licence and your leane
With your good will & so much helpe as you to me can geue
Wytth further ayde also, when you shal spee your tyme.
To make a proffe to geue attempt this famous hill to clime
And now I here request your blessing and your prayer
For sure befoze I slepe I will to ponder sozte repaire

Nature.

I blesse thee here with al such gifts as nature can bestow
And so; thy sake I would they were as many hundzed moe
Take therewith all this childe, to wayte vpon the stll.
A byrde of myne some kinne to thes, his name is Will.

VVitte.

Wellcome to me my will, what seruice canst thou doe,

VWill.

All thynges so;sooth, sit when me like and moze to.

VVitte.

But when wilt thou list, when I shall list I trowe

VWill.

Trust not to that, peradventure yea, peradventure noe,

The Mariage

VVitte.

When I haue made of thee thou wilt not serue me so,

VVill.

If ye byd me runne, perhappes I will goe:

VVitte.

Cock soule this is a boye so; the nonse amongst twentie moe,

VVill.

I am plaine I tell you at a woꝛde and a bloc,

VVitte.

Then must I pycke you childe if you be dꝛowned in slouth
Nature.

Agre you twayne so; I must leaue you both,

Farewel my sonne: farewel myne owne good Will,

Be ruled by Witte, and be obedient still,

Force the I cannot but as farre as lies in me,

I wil helpe thy master to make a good seruant of thee

Farewell. Exit

VVitte.

Adue Lady mother with thanks so; al your paine

And now let me bethinke my self againe & eke again

To matche with Science is the thinge that I haue toke in hande,

A matter of moze weight I see, then I did vnderstande

Will must be wonne to this, or els it wil be hard

Will must goe bꝛeake the matter first, or els my gaine is marde,

Sir boye are you content to take such parte so; me

As god shall sende, and helpe it so; th as much as lies in thee.

VVill.

Ye say after by his wounds or els cut of his head.

VVitte.

Come then & let vs two deuise what trace were best to treade,

Nature is on my syde and Will my boye is fast,

There is no doubt I shall obtayne my toyes at last.

Exent

Act 2, scena, 1.

VVitte and VVill.

VVitte.

VVhat Will I say Willboye come againe solithe else

VVill

V Vill. I crye you mercy for you are a tall man your selfe,

V Vitte.

Such a cokbraine as thou art I neuer sawe like tott

V Vill.

Trueth in respect of you that are nothing els but witt

V Vitte.

Canst thou tel me thy errand because thou art gone so lone,

V Vill.

Can I remember a longe tale of a man in the moone,
With such a circumstance and such slym slane
I wyl tell at a worde whose seruante I am
Wherfoze I come and what I haue to saye,
And cal for her answers, befoze I come awaye
What should I make a brode traie, of euery litell thubbe,
And kepe her agreat while with a tale of a tabbe.

V Vitte.

Yet thou must commend me to be rich, lusty pleasaunt and wyse.

V Vill.

I can not commend you, but I must make twentie lies
Rich quoth you, that appeareth by the port that you kepe,
Euen as rich as a newe shorne sheepe
Of pleasaunt conceytes ten bushells to the pecke,
Lusty like a herynge, with a bell about his necke,
Wyse as a woodcocke: as brage as a bodlouse,
A man of your handes, to matche with a mouse:
How say you, are not these proper qualittis to prayse you with.

V Vitte.

Leaue these mad toyes of thine and come to the pythe
One part of the errande should haue bene,
To glue her this picture of mine to be scene,
And to request her the same to accepto
Safely vntill my comminge to be kepte,
Which I suspende till thy returns and then
If it like her Ladyshippe to appoint me whers and when
I will waite vpon her gladly out of hande.

V Vill.

Sir let me alone your mynde I vnderstand,
I will handle the matter so that you shall owe me thanks,

The Marriage

But what if she finde fault with these spindle shankes
Or els with these blake spottes on your nose.

VVitte.

In sayth sir boye this talke deserueth blowes.

VVill.

You will not misble your best seruant I suppose
For by his nayles, and by his fingers too.

I will marre your marriage if you do titter.

VVitte.

I praye the goe thy wayes and leane this clatter.

VVill.

First shal I be so bold to bzeake to you a matter.

VVitte.

Withe thou art disposed to spende wordes in wast,
And yet thou knowest this busines asketh hast.

VVill.

But euen two wordes, and then I am gon.

VVitte.

If it be worth the hearing, say on.

VVill.

I would not haue you thinke that I for my part
From my promise or fro your seruice will depart,

But yet now and then it goeth to my hart,

When I thinke how this marriage maye be to my

VVitte.

(smart

Why so?

VVill.

I would tell you the cause if I durst for shame.

VVitte.

Speke hardely what thou wilt without any blame.

VVill.

I am not disposed as yet to be fame,

And therfoze I am loth to be vnder a Dame,

Now you are a Bachler a man may lone win you

He thinks there is some good felowshippe in you,

We may laugh and be mery at boz and at bedde,

You are not so testy as those that be wedde,

Wylt in behanfor and loth to fall out,

You may runne, you may ryde & rone round about,

Willy



of Witte and Science. 377

With wealth at your will and all things at ease,
Free franke and lusty, as ye to please,
But when you be clogged and tyed by the toe,
So false that you shal not haue power to let goe,
You will tell me another lesson sone after
And cry peccant too except your lucke be the better:
Then farewel goodfellowshipp thou come at a call
Then waite at an ynche you idle knaues all,
Then sparryng and ppyrchinge and nothing of gift,
So talke with our maister, but al for his thirst,
Solemne and sower and angry as a waspe,
Althings must be kept vnder locke and haspe,
At that which will make me to fare sul ill.
All your care shalbe to hamper pooze wyll.

VVitte.
I warrant the for that take thou no thought,
Thou shalt be made of, whosoener be set at nought
As vere to me, as myne owne vere bzother,
Whosoener be one, thou shalt be an other.

VVill.
Yea but your wyse wyll play the shrew, perdy it is she that I feare

VVitte.
Thy message wyll cause her some fauor to beare,
For my sake and thy sake and for her owne likewise
If thou vse thy selfe discretly in this enterpyse.

VVill.
She hath a father, a telly sower old man,
I doubt lest he and I, shall fall out nowe and than,

VVitte.
Gyue hym saye words, for beare him for his age,
Thou must consider hym to be annient and sage,
Shew thy selfe officious and seruifable all,
And then shall Reason make ver y muche of all.

VVill.
If your wyse be ener complayning, how then?

VVitte.
My wyse wyll haue nothing to doe wpth my men.

VVill.
If she doe, beleue her not in any wyse.

And

The Mariage

And when you once perceyue her stomacke to aryse,
Then cut her shoyt at the first and you shall see
A meruaylouse vertue in that medisen to be,
Giue her not the bzidle for a yeare or twayne
And you shall see her bzidle it without a reine,
Breake her betymes and bring her vnder by force
Or elles the graye Mare, will be the better horse.

VVitte.

If thou haue done begone, and spende no time in bayne.

VVill.

Where shall I fynde you, when I come agayne?

VVitte.

At home.

VVill.

God enough take your ease let me alone with this
Surely a treasure of all treasures it is,
To serue such a mayster, as I hope him to be,
And to haue such a seruant as he hath of mee,
For I am quicke, nimbell, proper and nise,
He is ful good, gentle, sober and wyse,
He is full loth to chide or to checke,
And I am as willinge to serue at a becke,
He orders me well and speakes me so saye
That for his sake no trauayle I must spare,
But now am I come to the gate of this Ladye,
I wyll pause awhyle to frame myne errante synelpe
And loe wher she commeth yett will I not come nye her,
But amonge these fellows wyll I stande to eye her.

Act. 2. scena 2.

Reason, Experience, Science and VVill.

Science.

My Parentes ye knowe, howe many fall in lappes
That do ascribe to me the cause of their mishappes?
Howe many seeke that come to shoyt of their desyre?
Howe many do attempt that dayly do retire?
Howe many roue about the marke on euery syde?
Howe many thinke to hit when they are much to wyde?
Howe many runne so farre howe many light so lowe?
Howe fewe to good effecte, their trauayle do bestowe,

of Witte and Science

And hoive all these impute their losses vnto mee.
Should I haue ioye to thinke of marriage nowe trowe yet
What both the worlde my loue alone say they
Is bought so dere that life and goodes so; it must paye
Stronge youth must spende it selfe, and yet when al is done,
We here of fewe or none that haue this Lady wonne.
On me they make outcries and charge me with the bloud
Of those that so; my sake aduenture life and good
This grieffe doth wound my hart so, & suters moze as yet
I se no cause nor reason why I should admyt.

Reason.

My daughter say not so there is great cause and skill,
For which you should mislike to liue vnmarried thus alone
What comfourt can you haue remayning thus vnknowne
How that the common wealth by you aduanced be
If you abide enclosed here where no man may you see
It is not for your state, your selfe to take the payne
All strangers that resort to you to entertayns
To suffer free access of all that come and goe
To be at eche mannes cal to trauaile to and fro.
What the, since god hath placd such treasure in your brest
Wherwith so many thousand thinke by you to be restreht
Prædes must you haue some one of hyd and secret trust
By whom these things may be, well ordered and discouert
To him you must disclose the depth of all your thought
By him as time shall serue all matters must be wrought
To him alone you must content your selfe to be at call
He must be his, he must be yours, he must be al in all.

Experience.

My Lord your fathor telles you'r ruth perdie
And that in time your selfe shall sponde and trye.

Science.

I could aledge moze then as yet I haue sayde,
But I must yelde, and you muste be obeyed
Fall oute as it will there is no helpe I see,
Some one or other in time must mary mee.

VVill.

In time may out of hand, Madaine if it please you,
My sayth I knowe a yonker that will ease you,

The Mariage

A lvelye younge gentllman, as freshe as any flower,
That wyll not sticke to marye you within this hower.

Science.

Such haste myght hapelye turne to wast to sum.
But I pray thee my pretye boye whence art thou come.

VVill.

If it please youre good Ladyshype to accepte me soo,
I haue a solowne message to tel or I goe,
Not anye thynge in secrete your honour to sayne,
But in the presence and hearinge of you thwayne.

Reason.

Speake.

VVill.

The Lady of this world which Lady Nature byght,
Hath one a peereles sonne in whom she taketh delygth,
On hym she chargeth moe to be attendant still,
Both kynde to her, bys name is Witte, my name is Will,
The noble chyld doth seele the soze of cypdes flame
And sendeth now soz ease by counsel of bys dame,
Bys mother saught hym spyt to loue whyle he was younge
Whisch loue wth age encreaseleth soze and wareth wondrous stronge
Foz verye same displayes youre bountye moze and moze,
And at thys pyntch he burneth so as neuer heretofore
Not fantels soze, not bayne and Idle toyes of loue,
Not hope of that whych commenlye doth other suiters moue,
But fixed fast good wyll that neuer shall relent,
And vertues soze y^e shines in you haue hym geue this attempte,
He hath no neede of wealth, he wooes not soz youre good,
His kynred is such he nede not to seke to match with noble blond,
Such stoze of fryndes that where he lest he may commaunde,
And none so hardy to presume bys pleasure to withstand,
Youre self it is, your vertue and yours grace,
Youre noble giffes youre endles prayes in every place,
You alone I saye the marke that he would hit,
The hoped soze the dearest pray that can besale to witte,

Experience.

I haue not harde a meynage moze trymlee done,

Science.

For I, what age art thou of my good sonne,

Betweene,



VWill.

Betweene eleven and rit, Madame moze oz less.

Reason.

He hath bene instructed this errand as I gete.

Science,

How old is the gentilman thy master canst thou telle

VWill.

Seuentene oz there abouts I wote not verpe well.

Science.

What stature of what making what kynde of pozt beares he

VWill.

Such as youre Ladyshippe can not myllike trust me.

Well growen, wel made, a scripling clean and tauld;

Wel fauozed, somewhat black and manlye therewithal,

And that you may conceaue bys personage the better,

To heare of hym the bearye shape and lively picture,

Thys hath he sente to you to vialwe and to behoude,

I dare abnouch no Joynt therein no Jote to be controude,

Science.

In good sayth I thancke thy mayster wth my hart,

I perceyue that nature in him, hath done her part.

VWill.

Farther, if it please your honour to knowe:

My master would be glad to runne ryde oz gos,

At your commaundment to any place farre oz neere,

To haue but a sight of your Ladyshippe there,

I beseech you appoint him the place and the hower,

You shal se how ready to you he will scoure.

Reason.

Do soe.

Experiences.

Ye in any wise daughter, soz heere you mee,

He semeth a right worthy and trymme younge man to bee.

Science.

Commend me then to Wylte, and let him vnderstande,

That I accept wth all my hart this present of his hande,

And that I would be glad, when he doth see his tyme,

To heare and se hym face to face, wthyn this house of myne

Then maye he bzeake his mynd and talke wth me his spyll,

I 70

Till then adew both hee and thou myn estone swete little Will.
Exent science, Reason Experience.

Act 2. scena 3.

Ab flattering Queene, how neatly she can talke
How minsonly she trypps, how sadlye she can walke
Well wanton yet beware that ye be sound and sare,
Fayze wordes are wont oft times, sayze women to allure,
Poire must I get me home and make report of this:
To him that thinkes it longe, till my retourne I wps.

Act 3. scena 1.

VVitte and VVill.

VVitte.

Sayst thou me so boye, will she haue me in deede

VVill.

We of good cheere sir I warrant you to spede

VVitte.

Did both her parentes speake wel to her of mee.

VVill.

As hart can thinke go on and you shall see,

VVitte.

How toke she the pleasure, how lyketh shee my person.

VVill.

She neuer had done toting and loking thereon.

VVitte.

And must I come to talke with her my self.

VVill.

When soeuer you please, and as oft as you will.

VVitte.

O my sweate boy, how shall I recompence,
Thy faythfull hart and painfull diligence,
My hope, my stay, my wealth, the hape of al my soye.

VVill.

I praye you sir call me your man, and not your boy,

VVitte.

Thou shalt be what thou wilt all in all.

VVill.

Promise me faythfully that if your toyle shall
Set her father to checks me out of measure,

Pou

of Witte and Science.

You will not se me abused to their pleasure

VVitte.

Giue me thy hande take here my fayth and troth,
I will maintayne thee. how soeuer the world goeth.

Act 3. scena 1.

VVitte.

What shall we doe? shall we stande lingring here?

VVill.

If you be a man please in, and go neare.

VVitte.

What if there be some other suter there.

VVill.

And if there be, yet nede you not to feare,
Vntill I bringe his head to you, vpon a speare.
I will not loke you in the face, no? in your sight appeare.

Reason.

Stay Witte, aduise your selfe and pause a while,
Or els this hast of yours will you beguile.

Science.

So hast but good, take tyme and learne to fyghte,
Learne to assault, learne to defende a ryght:
Your matche is monstrous to be bounde and full of might,
Whom you must vanquish, not by force but by sight:

VVitte.

Madame stande to your promise if I wyne I am sped,
Am I not?

Science.

Pea trulye.

VVill.

Good enough, if we fyght not I would we were dead,
No man shall stay vs, that beeres a head.

Experience.

Young man a word or twayne. and then adue.
Your yeares are fewe your practise grene and newe,
Marke what I saye, and ye shall fynde it true:
You are the first that shall this rashnes rue,
We ruled here, our counsell do thereafter,
Lay good ground, your worke shall be the faster:
Wys hedlong hast, may sooner misse then hit,

C. i.

Take

The Marriage

Take hede both of Wittes wyll, and willfull wit,
We haue within a gentllman our retayner and our friend,
With seruantes twayne that do on him attende,
Instruction, Studie, Diligence these thre,
At your commaundement in this attempt shalbe,
Here them in stede of vs, and as they shall deuyse,
So hardely cast our cardes in this enterpyse
I will send them to you, and leaue you for now.

VVitte.

The more company the merier, boy what saist thou?

VVill.

It is a good faulte to haue more then enow,
I care not, so as we may pul the knaues downe,
I would we were at it, I passe not how sone.

VVitte.

If it shal please you to send those thre hyther,
We wyll follow your counsell and go together.

VVill.

I warrant her a shewe whosoener be an other,
God make the daughter good, I like not the mother,

Reason.

Yet would not I for no good to haue for gone her.

VVill.

Mary sir in dede she talkes and takes on her:
Lyke a Dame, nay like a Dutches or a queene:
Wyth such a solemnitte as I haue not seene.

Reason.

She is a queene I tell thee in her degré,

VVill.

Let her be what she list, wyth a vengeance for me:
I will keepe me out of her reach if I can.

Reason.

If this marriage goe for ward, thou must be her man.

VVill.

Marriage or marriage not, be shewe me than,
I haue but one master, and I will serue no more,
And if he anger me, I will forsake him to.

Reason.

She shal not hurt the vnlesse her cause be iust.

Will



VWill.

By the sayth of my bodye sir, I intend not to trust her.

Reason.

Whye.

VWill,

Take me this woman that talkes so roundly,
That be so wyse, that reason so soundly:
That loke so narrow, that speake so thyll:
Their woords are not so curst, but their dedes are as ill.

Reason.

It is but thy fany, I see no such thing in her.

VWill,

Perhappes you had neuer occasion to try her.

Reason.

That were great maruayle in so many yeares.

VWill.

She hath wonne the mastery of you if appeares.

VVitte.

Well quiet your selfe thou shalt take no wzonge,
Ife thinke oure thre companions tary very longe.

A& 3 sena 3.

Instruction, Studie, Diligence, Reason, VVitte, VWill.

Instruction.

Sir we are come to know your pleasure.

Reason.

You are come in good tyme, Instruction our treasure,
This Gentilman craueth your acquaintaunce e ayde.
What you may do for him let him not be denyde,

VVitte.

Welcome good fellowes, wyll ye dwell wyth me.

Diligence.

If all partes be pleased, content are we.

VVitte.

Welcome Instruction wyth al my hart.

VWill.

What thre newe seruants, then farewell my part.

Instruction.

I hartely thanke you, and loke what I can doe,
It shalbe alwayes redye to pleasure you.

C. II.

Rea.

The Advantage

Reason.

Consider and talke together with these,
And you shall fynd in your trauayle great ease.
Take here of me befoze I take my leaue,
This glasse of Chystal cleare which I you geaue
Accept it and reserue it for my sake most sure,
Such good to you in time it may procure,
Behold your selfe therein, and view and pry,
Marke what defraies it will discouer and discrye,
And so with iudgement rype, and cautious eye,
What is a myste inuenoz to supplie,
Farewell.

VVitte.

Farewell to you, right honourable sye:
And commend me to my loue my hartes desire,
Let her thinke on me when she sees me not and wythe me wel.

VVill.

Farewel myster Reason, thincke vpon vs, when you see vs not,
And in any wyse, let not my will be forgot.

VVitte.

Since I must take aduise and counsell of you thre,
I must entreat you all, to dwell in house with me,
And loke what order you shall prescribe as needefull,
To hepe the same you shall fynd me as heedefull:
Come,

Instruction;

Come,

VVill.

Coe.

Act 4. sena 1.

VVitte, VVill, Instruction, Studie, Diligence.

VVill.

Withe this Instruction, your talke is of no force,
You tell vs a tale of a rotted horse,
Whych by his woundes except we set to it,
As fast as we make, this fellowes will vndo it,
Their talke is nothing but soft and sayre and tary,
If you folow their counsell you shall neuer mary.



Instruction.

To followe our counsaile your charge and promys to as,

VVitte

I would I had neuer knowen you by the masse.
Musse I looke so longe and spend my lyfe wyth toyle
Paye sure, I will eyther wyne it, or take the toyle.

Studye.

The surer is your grounde, the better you shall beare it.

VVill.

Ground vs no ground, let him winne it and weare it.

Instruction.

Good sit be ruled and leaue this penitsh else.

VVitte.

I had euen as lease ye had me hangy my selfe,
Leaue him: no no I would you all knowe,
You be but loyterers to him, my Will telles me true,
I could be content with a weke, yea a month or twaine,
But 3, or 4. yeares, mary that were a payne,
So longe to kepe me, and lye like a hogge.

VVill.

A life wythall my hart I would not wythe a dogge.

VVitte.

Wyll a weke serue.

Studie. *Pro.*

VVitte

A monthe.

Studie.

Peither.

VVitte.

Pro.

Studie.

Not so.

Instruction.

So not so many moe.

VVitte.

Then farewell all so; as I hope to thine,
I wyll proue him or I sleape. If I be aloue,
And if ye be mine and good fellowes all thine,
Cos thyther, out of hand and take your chaunce wyth mee.

C. iii.

In-

The Marriage

Instruction.

For my part, I know I can do you no good,

VVill.

You are a proper man of your handes by the Kode,
Yet welfare hym that neuer his maister forsaketh.

VVitte.

What sayst thou Studie.

Studie,

My head aketh.

VVitte.

Out vpon the coward: speake Diligence,
Agaynst Instructions mynd, I am lothe to go hence,
Yet I will make one, rather then you should lacke.

VVitte.

Perhappes we may fynd them at this time in bedde.

VVill.

So much the rather loke you to be sped,
Care for no more, but once to come with in her,
And when you haue done: then let another win her.

VVitte.

To come with in her child, what meanst thou by that.

VVill.

One masse for a peny, you know what is what.

VVitte.

Hard you euer such a counsell of such a Iacke spout.

VVill.

Why sir do ye thinke to doe any good,
If ye stande in a cozner like Koben hood,
Say you must stoute it, and face it out with the best.
Set on a god countenaunce, make the most of the lest,
Who soeuer skippe in, loke to your part,
And whyle you liue beware of a false hart.

VVitte.

Both blame and shame, rashe boldnes doth breede.

VVill.

You must aduenture both, spare to speake, spare to speede,
What tell you me of shame, it is shame to steale a hozle.

VVitte.

Spore hast then good speede, makes many fare the worse.

WILL.



of Witte and Science

VVill.

But he that takes not such time while he maye,
Shal leape at a whytting when time is a waye.

VVitte.

But he that leapes befoze he loke, good sonne,
Shaye leape in the myze, and mysse when he hath done.

Science.

We thinke I heare the voyce of Will, VVittes boye:

VVitte.

I see her come, her sorow and my Joye,
My salue, and yet my soze, my comfozt, and my care,
The causer of my wound, and yet the wil of my welfare:
O happye wight, that haue the saynte of your request,
O hoples hope that holdeth me fro y which likes me best,
O wirtte hope and feare I stande, to marre oz els to make,
This day to be relued quist, oz els my death woud to take.

Reason.

Here let vs rest a while and pause all thre:

Experience.

Daughter sit downe, belike this same is hee.

VVill.

We of good chere sit be ruled by me
Women are best pleased, tll they be vsed homely,
Loke her in the face and tell your tale stoutely.

VVitte.

O pearle of passing pryse, sent downe from god on hye,
The sweetest beauty to entitle that hath bene sene with eye,
The wel of wealth to all, that no man doth annoye:
The keye of Kingedomes & the scale of euerlasting ioye,
The treasure and the store, whom al good things began,
The nurse of Lady wysedoms loze, the lincke of mā & mā.
What wordes shal me suffice, to vtter my desyre,
What heate of talke shal I deuise, soz to expresse my spyr
I burne and yet I frās, I flame and coole as fast,
In hope to wyne and soz to lēse my pensuaenes doth last,
Why should my dulled spryte, apal my courage so.
O salue my soze, oz slē me quite, by saying yea, oz no,
You are the marke at whome, I shot to hit oz misse,
My life it staves on you alone, to you my sate it is,

Amate

The Mariage

Amisse not much vnmete wpth you some griele to fynde,
Dame Patures sonne, my name is Witte y^e lancelth you by kind,
And here I come this day, to wayte and to attende
In hope to haue my hopes pray, or elles my life to ende.

Science.

Good cause there is wherfore I should embzase,
This iouing hart whyche you haue bozne to me
And glad I am that we be both in place,
Ech one of vs eche others lookes to see,
Pour picture and your person doth agree,
Pour princelike port and eche your noble face,
Wherin so many sygnes of vertue be:
That I must nēdes be moued in your case:

Reason.

Friend Witte: are you the man in dede whych you intēd,
Can you be well content vntill your life doth ende,
To sorne and knit most sure with this my daughter here,
And vnto her alone pour fixed sayth to bears.

VVitte.

As I am bente to this so let my sulte be sped,
If I do sayle ten Thousāde plagues & moze, lighte on my
Experience. head,

There are that promise sayze, and meane as well,
As any beare can thinke, or tongue can tell,
Which at the first are hot, and kindle in desyre,
But in one month or twayne, quill quenched is the fyre.
Such is the trade of youth whome samies force doth lede,
Whose loue is only at the plonge & cannot longe pcede.

VVitte.

Credit my woordes, and ye shall find me true.

Experience.

Suppose you kepe not toach, who shuld this bargaine rue.

VVitte.

I will be swoznte here solemnly befoze you both.

Experience.

Who breaketh promise, wil not sticke like wylfe to breake
VVitte. his othe.

I wyl be bound in all that euer I can make.



Experience.

What good were that to vs if we shadvantage take.

VVitte.

Wyll neyther promyse serue: noz othe noz bandes.

What other assurance wyll ye aske at my handes.

VVill.

My matter is a gentillman. I tell you and his word,
I would you knewe it shall with his deedes accord.

Reason.

We know not whom to trust, the world is so ill.

VVill.

In dede sir as you say you may mend when ye wyll,
But in good earnest Gadam, speake of oz on,
What we speede at your hand, oz shall we begone,
I loue not this delaye, say so if we shall haue you,
If not, say no, and let another craue you.

VVitte.

Soft and sayre sir boye, you take you wot not whate

VVill.

Can you abyde to be dysuen of wyth this and that,
Can they aske any more then good assurance at your handes.

Experience.

All is now to little soune, as the matter standes,

VVill.

If al be to litle both goodes and landes,
I know not what will please you, except Darbyes bandes
I haue an enemy, my friend Witte a moztal fo to me,
And therwithall the greatest plague that can befall to the.

VVitte.

Must I fyght wyth him,

Reason.

Can you fyght if neede be.

VVill.

If any such thing fall, count the charge to me,
Trouble not your selfe.

VVitte.

Would thy peace else.

Science.

Here out my tale, I haue a moztall foe.

D. 1.

That

That lurketh in the woode, hearby as you come and goe,
This monstrous Giant, beares a grudge to me and mine,
And wyl attempt to kepe thee backe, from this bester of thine.
The bane of youth, the roote of rushe and desires:
Denouring those that sue to me, his name is Tediousnes.
So sone he espyes, the noble Witte begiune:
To sty and payne it selfe the loue of me to winne.
But forth he steppes and with strong hands by might and maine:
He beates and buffettes downe, the force and luelynes of baine.
That done in deepe dyspayre, he drownes him villanously,
Ten thousand luters in a yere, are cast away therby.
Now if your mind be surely stred soe,
That for no toyle nor cost, my loue you will forgoe.
Bethinke you well, and of this monster take good hede,
Then may you haue with me, the greater hope to speede.
Herein vse good adusse, to make you strong and stout,
To send and kepe him of a while, vntill his rage be out.
Then when you seele your selfe, well able to pzenayle:
Bvd you the battell, and that so coragiously assayle.
If you can wynn the steld, present me wpth his head,
I aske no more and I forthwith, shall be your owne to bedde.

V Vitte.

If might I thysue, and lacke that likes me best,
If I be not a scourge to him, that breeds your vnrest.
Madam assure your selfe, he lues not in the land,
With whom I would not in your cause, encounter hand to hand.
And as for Tediousnes that wretch, your common foe,
Let mee alone, we twayne shall cope befoze I scape I trow.

V Vill.

Luely spoken, let me claue thee by the backe:
Howe say you now str, here are thre agaynst twayne,
Studye.

So that go list, I will at home remayne,
I haue more nade to take a nappie in my bedde.

V Vill,

Do soe and here you couche a coddys head.

Instruction,

Well since it wyl none other wyse frame,
Let by twayne Studie, & retourn from whens we came.

Studye



Studie,
Agred. Exit.
V Vitte.

And let vs three helpe our selues like men.
Unlikely things are brought to passe, by courage now and then.
My will be alwayes prest, and ready at an ynche.
To saue thy selfe to succour me, to helpe at euery ynche.
Both twayne on eyther syde, assaulte him if ye can,
And you shal see me in the middes, howe I will play the man,
Thys is the deadly denne, as farre as I perceauē,
Approche we neere and ballantly let vs the vnset geue.
Come forth thou monster fell, in drowly darkenes hyde,
For here is vvitte Dame Patures sonne, y both thee battalle bid.

Act 4 scna 2.

Tedioufnes, V Vitte, V Vill, Diligence,
Tedioufnes,

What pynor haue we heere, that dares me to assaulte,
Alas poze boy, and winest thou, against me to puenalle,
Fall smal was he thy frend, whoeuer sent the hytber,
For I must dyne the backe with shame, or slay thee altogether.

V Vitte.

Great host small rook, I warrant thee do thy best,
Thy head must serue my tourne, this day to set my hart at rest.

V Vill.

And I must haue a legge of the, if I can catche it.
Tedioufnes, Fight, strike at vwill.

First I must quise this bzayne of thine, if I can reach it.
V Vitte.

Well thifted V Vill, now haue at thee sir knaue.
Tedioufnes.

These friscoles shal not serue your tourne for al your hauntes so
Hob hob, did I not tell thee thou camst to thy payne. (bzau-

Diligence.

Helpe, helpe, helpe, our maister is slaine.
V Vill.

Helpe, helpe, helpe tr.
Tedioufnes.

Where are these lustre blouds, that make their matche with mee?
Here lyes a partozne for them all, to loke at and to see.

I De Marriage

To teach them to conspire against my force and might,
To promise for their womans loue, to vanquish me in fight:
So we let them goe and crake, howe wisely they haue sped,
Such is the end of those, that seeke this curious Dame to wed.
1. Hoh hoh hoh. Act 4. scna 3.

V Vill. Recreation, V Vitte.

V Vill. Kib and chals him.

For goddes loue hast, see loe where he doth lye.

Recreation.

He is not cold, I warrant him, I.

Singe.

Glaz a legge, gene an arme, aryle, aryle,

Shoul by thy head, lift vs thy eyes,

1 A legge to stand by right,

2 An arme to segge a mayne,

1 The head to hold thy byznes in plight,

2 The eyes to loke agayne.

A wake ye drownded powers,

Ye sprites for dull wyth toyte:

Repyne to me this care of yours,

And from dead sleape recople.

Thinke not vpon your lachrymous looks,

But attise and daunce with vs a plinke.

Both sing giue a legge, as is before.

2 What thoughe thou hast not hit,

The toppe of thy desyre,

Time is not so farte spent as yet

To cause the to retire,

A rise and ease thy self of payne,

And make thee stronge to fight agayne,

Singe both.

Let not thy foes resoyse,

Let not thy frenedes lament,

Let not thy Ladies russet wodes,

In sobbes and sighes be spent,

Thy sayth is plight forget it not,

Twist her and the to knit the knof.

Singe.

Give a leggoe.

This



of Witte and Science

This is no deadly wounde,
It may be cured well.
Se here what Physicke we haue found,
Thy sorowes to expell.

¶ VVitte lyfting himselfe vp, sitting on the grounde
The way is plaine, the marche is sayre,
Lodge not thy selfe in deepe despairs.

VVill.

What noyse to this that ringeth in my eares,
Her noyse that greneth my myshap with teares,
Ah my mishap my desperat mishap,
In whom ill fortune poureth downe, all mishap at a clappe,
What shall become of me, where shall I hyde my head:
Oh what a death is it to liue for him that would be dead:
But since it chanceth so, what euer wyght thou be,
What syndeth me here, in heauy plight, gos sel her this from me.
Causles I perishe here, and cause to curse I haue.
The time that erst I lpyed to loue, and now must die her slane,
The matche was ouer much for me, she vnderstode,
Alas why hath she this delite, to lap in gylles blode,
How did I giue her cause to shewe me this despyght,
To matche me wher she wist full wel, I should be slaine in fight.
But go and tell her playne, although to late for me,
Accursed be the time and hower, which first I did her see.
Accursed be the wyght, that wilbe me first thereto,
And cursed be they all at once, that had therewith to doe.
Pothe get the hence in hast, and suffer me to die.

Whom scoznfull chaunce & lawles loue, haue slaine most trayte.

Recreation.

(roullye

A noble Witte the intracks of God, and eke of Nature:
Why cursest thou thy selfe, and euery other creature.
What causeth the thine innocent deare Lady to accuse:
Who would lament it moze then she, to here this wofull newes.
Why wylt thou dye, wheras thou mayst be sure of health:
Wheras thou seest a playne path waye, to wo:rt, sp and to wealth.
Not euery soyle doth make a sal, nor euery soyle doth slaye,
Comsozt thy selfe be sure thy lucke, wyl mend from day to daye.

VVill.

This gentill newes of good Will, are come to make you sound,

D. 11.

Ther

The Marriage

They know which way to salve your soze, and how to cure your
Cord sic be ruled by her then, and pluck your spirite to you: (would
There is no doubt, but you shall find, your louing lady true.

V Vitte.

Oh Wyl art thou aloue, that doth my hart some ease,
The sight of the swete boy, my sorowes doth appeace:
How hast thou scape, what fortune the befell:

V Vill,

It was no trusting to my handes, my haeles did serue me wel
I ran wyth open mouth, to crye for helpe amayne,
And as god fortune would, I hit vpon these twayne.

V Vitte.

I thanke both thee and them, what wyll ye haue me do.

Recreation

To ryse and daunce a litle space with vs two:

V Vitte.

What then.

Recreation.

What done, repayze agayne to Studie and Instruction,
Take better hould by their aduise, your foe to set vpon.

V Vitte.

Can any recompence recouer this my fall:

Recreacion

My life to yours it may be mended all.

V Vitte.

Speake Wyl.

V Vill.

I haue no doubt sir it shalbe as you would wishe.

V Vitte.

But yet this repulse of myne, they wyll lay in my dyshe.

Recreation.

No man shall let them know therof, vnlesse your selfe do it.

V Vitte.

On that condiclon a gods name, fall we to it.

V Vill.

Paye stande we to it, and let vs fall no more.

V Vitte.

Will dauntyng serue, and I will daunce vntil my bones be soze,
Pype vs vp a Gallard mynstrrel, to begynne,

Will



Let vwill call for daunces, one after an other,

VWill,

Come Damsell in good sayth, and let me haue you in,
Let him practise in daunsing al things to make himselfe bzetbles,

Recreation.

Enough at once, now leaue, and let vs part.

VVitte.

This exercise hath done me good, euen to the very hart.
Let vs be bound with you moze acquaintaunce to take
And daunce a round, yet once moze for my sake,
Enouge is enoughe, farewel, and at your naede:
Use my acquaintaunce if it may stande you in staede.
Right worthy Damsels both, I knowe you seke no garnes,
In recompence of this desert your vnderfernd paynes,
But loke what other thinge my seruice maye deasse,
To shewe my thankefull harte in any enterpryse.
Be ye as bolde therwith, as I am bold on you,
And thus with hartye thanks, I take my leaue as nowe.

Recreation,

Farewell friend Witte, and since you are restened,
Thynke not vpon your soyle, wherent you were so grtued.
But take your hart to you, and giue attempte once moze:
I warrant you to speede, much better then befoze.

Act 4. scena 4.

VVitte, VWill, Idlenes, Ignoraunce.

VVitte.

One daunce for the and mee, my boye come on.

VWill,

Daunce you sir if you please, and I will loke vpon.

VVitte.

This geare doth make me sweate, and bzeath a pace.

Idlenes,

Sir ease your selfe a while, here is a restinge place.

VVitte.

Home Will and make my bedde, for I will take a napps.

Ignoraunce.

Sure and it please yours master ship here in my Dames lay.

Idlenes

Idlenes syngeth

Come come lye doune and thou shalt see,
Pon lyke to mee to entertayne,
Thye bones and thee opprest wyth payne,
Come come and ease thee in my lappe,
And yf it please thee take a nappe,
A nappe that shall delight thee soo,
That fancies all wyll thee forgoe,
Bye muslinge styl what canst thou fynde,
But wantes of wyll and restless mynde,
A mynde that warres and mangles all,
And breadeth farres to worke thy fall,
Come gentle Witte yf thee requyre,
And thou shalt bytt thy chiefe desyre,
Thy chiefe desire thy hooped praye,
Fyrste ease thee here and then away,

VVitte. (Falle doune in to her lapp.)

My bones are styff and I am wearyed soze,
And bill me thynck I saynte and feble mooze and mooze,
Make mee agayne in tyme soz I haue thinges to doe,
And as you wyll mee soz myne ease, I dos assent thereto,

Idlenes. (Lul hym.)

Welcome wyth all my harte: Syr bove boude here thys fan,
And softly coole his face slepe so wondyr gentleman,
Thys chayer is chared well now ignoraunce my sonne,
Thou seest all this howe sittyte it is done,
But wotste thou whye?

Ignoraunce,

Say burnfaye mother not I,
Well I wotte tis agaye whozcht tricke and fryne,
Choulde reiaunce my harte to chaunce coctos with hym,

Idlenes.

Dolste thou remember how many I haue serued in the like sort,

Ignoraunce.

It doth my hart good to thyncke on this spozte

Idlenes.

Wylste thou see thys proper fellowe serued soe,

Ignoraunce

Choulde gene twayne pence to see it and twayne pence mooze,

Idlenes



Idleness.

Come of then, let me see thee in thy doublet and thy hose.

Ignorance.

You shall see a tale below mother, I suppose,

Idleness.

Helpe of witt this sleue softly, for soare of making,

Whee shall leane the gentilman, in a pretie takinge.

Giue me thy Cote, hold this in thy hand:

This fellowe would be married to Science I vnderstand.

But or we leaue him, tell me an other tale:

Now let vs make him loke, some what stale.

There laye and there be, the prouerbe is verified,

I am neither idle, nor yet wel occupied.

Ignorance.

Mother must I haue his Cote, now mother must:

Chal be a liuely lad, with hey tittye toffy.

Idleness.

Sleepe sound and haue no care, to occupie thy head,

As neare vnto thy body now, as if thou hadst ben dead.

For Idelnes hath wonne, and wholly the possess,

And utterly disabled thee, from hauing thy request.

Come on with me my sonne let vs goe couche againe,

And let this lusty ruffling Witte, here like a sole remayne.

Act. 5. scene 1.

VVitte, Science, Reason.

VVitte.

Up and to goe, why sleepe I here so sound:

How fals it out that I am left vpon the naked ground.

God graunt that all be well, whylest I lye dreaming here:

He thinckes all is not as it was, nor as I would it were,

And yet I wot not why, but so my fancies giues mee.

That some one thinge or other, is my tryer that grenes mee.

That are but fancies let them goe, to Science now wyll I,

My sute and busines yet once againe, to labor and aplye.

Science.

What is become trow vnto, of Witte, our spouse that would be:

Reason.

Daughter I feare all is not, as it should be.

C. 1.

VVitte.

VVitte.

Yes yes haue ye no doubt, all is and shalbe well:

Reason.

What one art thou: therof howe canst thou tell.

VVitte.

Reason most noble sir, and you my Lady deare:

How haue you done in all this time, since first I sawe you here:

Science.

The soles mad I wene, stand backe and touch me not.

VVitte.

You speake not as you thinke, oz haue you me sozgot,

Science.

I neuer saw thee in my life, vntill this time I wolte,

Thou art some mad bzaine, oz some soles, oz some disguised Scot.

VVitte.

Gods si the hostes and knowe you not mee.

Science.

I had bene well at ease in diede, to be acquainted wth thee.

VVitte,

Hope hallday, mary this is pritty cheere,

I haue lost my selfe, I can not tell where

An olde sayd sawe it is, and to true I finde,

Sone hot, sone cold, out of sight, out of mind.

What maddam, what meaneth this sodaine change,

What meanes this scoznesfull loke, this countenance so strange.

It is your fashion so to vse, your louers at the surst:

Wz haue all women this delite, to scould and to be curst.

Reason.

Good selow whence art thou, what is thy name?

VVitte.

I wene ye are disposed to make at me some game.

I am the sonne of Lady Nature, my name is Witte.

Reason.

Thou shalt say soe longe enough, oz we beleue it.

Science.

Thou Witte: say thou art some madd bzaine out of thy witt.

VVitte.

Into your seluss, this trfall I remit.

Aoke an me better, and marks my personne well,

Science.



of IT ILL AND SCIENCE.

Science.

Thy loke is like to one, that came out of hell:

Reason.

If thou be Witte, let see, what tokens thou canst tell.

How comst thou first acquainted here: what sayd wee:

How did we like thy sute, what intertayment made wee:

VVitte. What tokens:

Science.

Dea what tokens: speake and let vs know:

VVitte.

Tokens good stoze I can reberse a rowe.

First as I was aduised, by my mother Nature:

By lackey Will, presented you with my picture.

Science.

Stay there: no w loke how these two faces agree:

VVitte.

This is the very same that you receyued from me.

Science.

From thee: why loke, they are no moze like:

Then chalke to cheese, then blacke to white.

Reason.

To put thee out of doubt, if thou thinke we saye not true,

It weare good for thee, in a glasse thy face to vewe.

VVitte.

Well remembred, and a glasse I haue in deede,

Whych glasse you gaue me, to vse at neede.

Reason.

Hast thou the glasse, which I to Witte did gyue.

VVitte.

I haue it in my purse, and will kepe it while I lyue.

Reason

These markes me muse, howe should he come therby:

VVitte.

Sir muse no moze for it is euen I.

To whome you gaue the glasse, and here it is.

Reason.

Wee are content thou trye thy case by this.

VVitte.

Either my glasse is wonderfully spotted,

C. II.

The Marriage

Diels my face is wonderfully blotted.
This is not my Cote, why wher had I this waide,
By the Masse I loke like a very soule in cæde.
O heapes of happes, O rufull chaunce to me,
O Iolenes woon worty the time, that I was ruled by thee.
Why did I lay my head, within thy lappe to rest?
Why was I not aduised by her, that wisht and will me best.
Ten times trouble blessed trights, whose corpes in graue do lye:
That are not dzinen to behould, these wretched cares which die,
In me your furtres all on me, haue poured out your spite,
Come nowe and slay me at the last, and ridde my sorowes quite.
What coast sha'l me receyue, wher shal I shew my head:
The world will saye this same is hee, that if he list had sped.
This same is he that toke, an enterpryse in hand,
This same is hee that scarce one blow, his enemy did withstand.
This same is he that fought, and fell in open field:
This same is he that in the songe, of Iolenes did yelde.
This same is he that was in way, to winne the game:
To ioyne himselfe wherby he should, haue won immoztal fame.
And now is wrapt in woe, and buried in dispayze,
O happye race for he if death would rid the quite of care.

Act. 5. sena. 2.

Shame, Reason, Science, V Vitte.

Reason.

Shame.

Shame.

Who calls for shame?

Reason.

Here is a marchant Shame, for thee to fame.

Shame.

A shame come to you all, for I am almost lame,

With trudging vp and downe, to them that lose their game.

Reason.

And here is one whom thou must rightly blame,

That hath preferred his folly to his fame.

Shame.

Who: this good fellowe, what call you his name?

Reason.

Vitte: that on wing, to Lady Science came.

Shame.



Shame.

Come aloft child let me see, what friskscoles you can see,

Reason.

He hath deserued it, let him be well bet.

VVitte.

O spare mee with the whyppe and sley mee with thy knife:
Ten thousand times moze deare to mee, were present death then

Shame.

(lyse

Paye naye my friend, thou shalt not die as yet.

Reason.

Remember in what case, Dame Nature left thee Witte,
And how thou hast abused the same.

Thou hast deceaued all our hope as all the world may see.

Shame.

A shame come to it.

Reason.

Remember what saye words, and promises thou dost make,
That for my daughters loue, no paynes thou wouldest forsake.

Remember in what sort, we had a care of thee:

Thou hast deceyued all our hope, as all the world may see.

Shame.

A shame come to it.

Reason.

Remember how Instruction, should haue bene followed byll,
And howe thou wouldest be ruled, by none but by Will.

How Idelnes hath crept, and raigneth in thy breast,

How Ignorance her sonne, hath wholly thee possest.

Shame.

A shame come to it.

VVitte.

O wofull wretch to whom shall I complaine,
What salue may serue to salue my soze, or to redresse my payne.

Paye I can tell the moze: remember howe,

Thou was subdued of Cedionnes right nowe.

Remember with what crakes thou went vnto hys denne,

Against the good aduise, and Counsell of thy men,

What Recreacion did for thee, in these thy rusall happes,

And howe the second tyme, thou fell into the lappe.

C. lli.

Shame.

The Marriage

Shame.

A Shame come to thee.

VVitte.

O let me breathe a while, and hold thy heavy hand,
My greivous faultes with shame enoughe I vnderstande.
Take ruth and pittie on my playnt, or els I am sorozne,
Let not the world continue thus, in laughing mee to scozne.
Madame if I be hee, to whom you once were bente,
With whom to spend your time, sometime you were content.
If any hope be left, if any recompence,
Be able to recover this for passed negligence.
O helpe mee now poore wretche in this most heavy plight,
And furnishe me yet once agayne, wth Tediousnes to fyght.

Science.

Father be good to these yonge tender yeares,
See howe he doth bewaile his folly past with teares,

Reason.

Wouldst thou take thou his Coole for thy laboz,
We are content at her request, to take you to our fauoz.
Come in and dwell wth vs, till time shall serue:
And from Instruction rule, loke that thou neuer swerne
Within we shall proude, to set you vp once moze.
This scourge hath taught you, what defaulte was in you hereto-

Act 5 scena 3.

(soze

VVill.

Once in my life I haue, an od haulfe hower to spare:
To ease my selfe of all, my trauaile and my care.
I tooode not still so longe this xx. dayes I weene,
But euer moze sent forth on messages I haue bene.
Such trudging and such toyle, by the masse was neuer seene,
My body is worne out, and spent wth laboz cleane.
And this it is that makes me loke so leane.
That letteth my growth, and makes me seene a squall,
What then althoughe my stature be not tall.
Yet I am as proper as you, so neate and clenlye,
And haue my soynthes at commaundement full of acteuiffie,
What should a seruaunt do, wth all this fleshe and bones,
That makes them runne wth leaden heeles, & stur them self like
Gue me a proper squier much after my pitche

(stones

And



And marke howe he from place, to place will squitebe,
Fayze o2 soule, thicke o2 thinne, mire o2 dusty,
Clouds o2 rayne, light o2 darke, cleare o2 myste,
Kide o2 runne, to o2 froe, badde o2 good,
A neate litle fellowe, on his busynes wyll scud.
These great labozes are neyther actiue no2 wyse,
That fede till they slepe, and sleape out their eyes.
So heauy, so dul, so vntoward in their doinge,
That it is a good sight, to see them leaue working.
But all this while, while I stand prating here,
I see not my mayster, I lest hym snoozing here.

Act 4. scena 4.

Science, V Vitte, V Vill, Instruction Studie Diligence Tedioufnes.
Science.

Myne one dears Witte, the hope of mine analle,
My care, my comfort, my treasure and my trust,
Take hart of grace, our ennemye to assalle,
Lay by these thynges, whych you haue hard discust.
So doinge, vndoubtingly you can not fayle.
To winne the syeld to scape, all these vnhappy shewers,
To glad your frendes, to cause your foes to wayle.
To matche wyth vs, and then the gayne is poures.
Here in this Closet our selfe, wil sette and see,
Pour manly scates, and your successe in syght:
Strike home couragiously, for you and me,
Learne wher and howe to sende, and howe to smite:
In any wyse, be ruled by these thre.
They shall direct both you, and Wyll arpyght.
Farewell and let our louing counsell bee
At euery hande before you in your syght,

V Vitte.

Here in my sight god Paddam sitte and blewe:
That when I list, I may loke vpe on you.
This face this noble face, this liuely hiew,
Shal harden mee, shal make our enemye rue.
O faythful mates, that haue this care of mee:
How shal I euer recompence, your paynes wyth gold o2 see.
Come now and as you please, entoyne me how to doe it,
And you shall see me pzed, and scrutable to it.

VWill

Why mayster whyther way, what hast am I no bodye
Instruction.

What Will, we maye not mysse thee, soz no money.
VVitte.

Welcome good Will, and doe as thou art bydde,
Thysdaye oz neuer must Tedioufnes be ridde.
VWill.

God spede vs well, I will make one at all assayes:
Instruction.

Thou shalt watche to take him at certayne bayes,
Come not in the thronge, but saue thy selfe alwayes.
You twayne on eyther syde, first wyth your swozd and buckler.
After the first conflict, fight wyth your swozde and daggers,
You sit wyth a Hauelling and your Targett in your hand,
See how ye can, his deadly strokes wythstand.
Kepe at the loyne, come not wythin his reach,
Untyll you see, what good aduantage you may ketch.
Then hardly leaue him not, tyll time you strike him dead,
And of all other partes, especially saue your head.

VVitte.

Is this all, soz I would fayne haue done:

VWill.

I would we weare at it. I care not how sone.
Instruction.

How when ye please, I haue no moze to tell,
But hartely to praye soz you, and wythe you well.

VVitte.

I thanke you, goe thou and blode the battayle Will.

VWill.

Come out thou monker sell, that hast desire to spill,
The knot and linked loue, of Science and of Witte,
Come trie the quarrel in the feld, and fyght wyth vs a fitte.

Act. 5. sena. 5.

Tedioufnes, VVitte, VWill, Instruction, Studie, Diligence.

Tedioufnes.

A doughtle durte these lill. bayes will doe,
I will eate them by morsels two and two.

Thou



Thou fyghtest for a wyfe a robd a robbe,
Had I wist this, I would haue layed on loades,
And beate thy byarne and thys my cloobe together,
And made thee safe inoughe for retourninge byther,
VVill.

A soule ho:efone what a sturdie thise it is:
But we wyll pelt thee knaue vntill for woe thou pisse,
Tedioufnes.

Let me come to that else.
VVitte.

Pay nay thou shalt haue wo:ke inoughe to saue thy selfe,
Fight.

Instruction.

Take breath and chaunge your weapones playe the man,
Some what it was that made thee come agaen,
Thou stickest some what better to thy takling I see,
But what, no soze ye are but Jack spot to mee.

VVitte.

Haue houlde beare is a moztell for thee to eate,
Studie, Instruction.

Here is a pelt to make youre knowes hart frecte,
Diligence.

There is a blowe able to fill a hogge,
VVitte.

And here is a sayne behynde for a madde dogge,
Let will trippe you downe.

Houlde houlde houlde the lubber is downe,
Tedioufnes,

By

VVill.

Stryke of his hed whyle I houlde hym by the crowne,
VVitte.

Thou monstrous wretch, thou moztall foe to me and mine,
Which euermore at my good lucke and fortune ddest reppne,
Take here thy iuste desert and payment for thy vice,
Thy hed this day shall mee prefer vnto my hartes desyre,
Instruction.

O noble Witte, the prayse, the game is thine,

F. i.

Study

Stodie.

None by his head upon your speare, see here a toyfull signe.

Diligence,

O valiant knighte, O conquest full of prayes.

V Vill.

O blest of god to see these happie dayes.

V Vitte.

You you, my faithfull Squiers deserues no lesse,
Whose tried trust, well knownen to mee in my distress.
And certain hope of your sirt fayth, and laste good will,
Made me attempt this famous fact most needefull to fulfill,
To you I yeald great thanks, to me redounds the gaine.
Now home a pace, and ringe it out, that Tediuousnes is slayne.
Say all at once, Tediuousnes is slaine.

Act. 5. sena. 6.

Science, V Vitte.

Science.

I heare and see the toyfull newes, wherein I take delight,
That Tediuousnes our mozt all foe, is ouercome in sight.
I see the signe of victorie, the signe of manlines:
The heape of happy happes: the top of tongue cannot expresse.
O welcome fame from day to day for euer shal arise.

V Vitte.

Auaunt ye griping cares, and lodge no more in mee,
For you have lost, and I haue wonne continuaill ioyes and see.
Nowe let me freely touche, and freely you embrace,
And let my frendes with open mouth proclaime my blissfull case.

Science.

The world shall know doubt not, and shal blow out your fame,
Then true report shall send abroad, your euerlasting name.
Nowe let our parentes deere, be certisyed of this,
So that our marriage may forthwith procede as meete it is,
Come after mee all stue, and I will lead you in,

V Vitte.

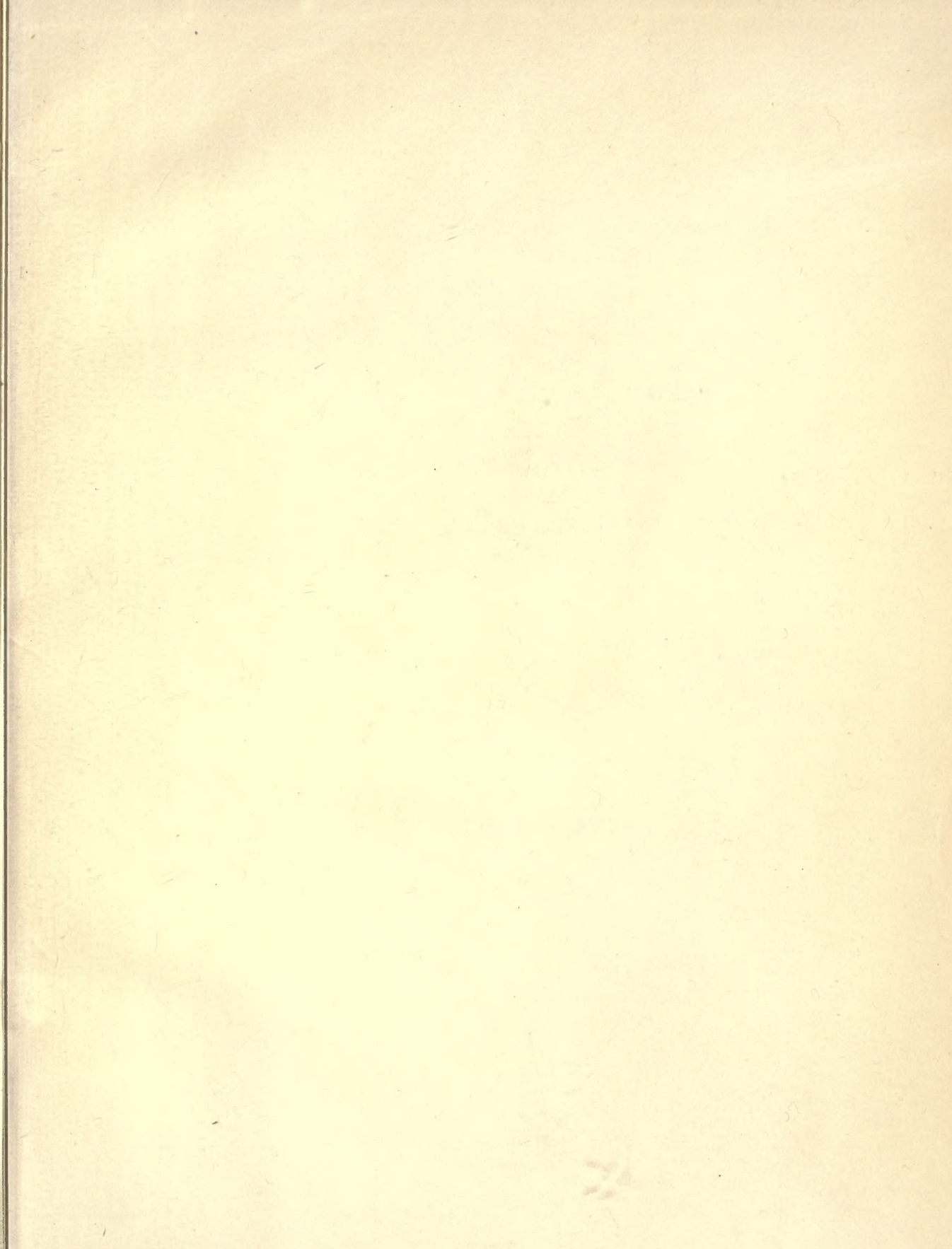
My payne is past, my gladnes to beginne,
My taske is done, my hart is set at rest,

of Witte and Science.

My foe subdued, my Ladies loue possess.
I thanke my friends, whose helpe I haue at neede,
And thus you see, howe Witte and Science are agreed,
That twaine hence forth one soule, in bodyes twayne must dwell
Relapse I praye you all with mee, my frendes and fare ye well.

FINIS.





PR Marriage of Wit and Science
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