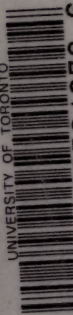


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M2577

THE PLAY OF PATIENT GRISSELL BY JOHN PHILLIP



This reprint of John Phillip's play of Patient Grisell
has been prepared by Ronald H. Mackay and the
General Editor jointly.
W. W. Gray
Oct. 1909.

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This reprint of John Phillip's play of *Patient Grissell* has been prepared by Ronald B. McKerrow and the General Editor jointly.

Oct. 1909.

W. W. Greg.

THE MAJOR SOCIETY
REPRINTS
1909

ELECTRONIC VERSION
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THE Registers of the Stationers' Company contain the following entries belonging to the years beginning July 1565 and July 1568 respectively:

[1565-6] Recevyd of Thomas Colwell for his lycense for prynting of an history of meke and pacyent gresell	iiiij ^d	Colwell
[1568-9] Recevyd of Thomas Colwell for his lycense for pryntinge of the history of payciente gresell &c.	viiij ^d	Colwell

[Arber's Transcript, I. 309, 385.]

It seems more likely that these entries refer to the undated quarto of Phillip's comedy, bearing Colwell's name as printer, than to the prose chapbook known only in seventeenth century reprints. The play is, no doubt, to be identified with the 'Old' *Patient Grissell*, recorded in the catalogues of Archer (1656) and Kirkman (1661 and 1671). These entries, however, were lost sight of till 1812, when the *Biographia Dramatica* suggested that they referred to a piece by Ralph Radcliffe recorded by Wood, but which is not known to have been printed. Of the play itself nothing was known to bibliographers till May 1907, when a copy from the library of Lord Mostyn came under the hammer and was bought by Mr. Quaritch for the sum of £250. It is understood that the volume has since left the country.

The original is printed in black letter of the usual English character, interspersed with italic, set solid, and of a body approximating to modern Pica (20 ll. = 83 mm.). Owing to the greater width of modern type and spacing, small Pica, thin leaded, has had to be substituted for unleaded Pica in the present reprint, but this does not materially affect the appearance of the page.

The author, whose name appears as Iohn Phillip, or Phillipp, in the quarto, was presumably the John Philip, Phillip, or Phillips (supposing the same person to be intended) who wrote ballads, tracts, and elegies

between 1566 and 1591. It would seem that Phillip was the most usual form of the name.

The ultimate source of the play is of course the last novel of the *Decameron*, but whether the playwright drew his material direct from Boccaccio has not been ascertained.

LIST OF IRREGULAR AND DOUBTFUL READINGS

In view of the fact that the original of this piece is no longer accessible, it has been thought well to make the following list a good deal fuller than usual, and in particular to include a number of formal peculiarities of which as a rule no notice would be taken. Complete consistency in the matter must not, of course, be expected. Irregular punctuation has only been noticed where it tends seriously to obscure the sense, or where it fails to mark the ends of speeches.

T.P. <i>Newly.</i>	56. acclamoz,
the Epiloge.	58. <i>Sansper Fidence,</i>
and the Daughter	62. <i>Dianais</i>
<i>Fleeteatreat</i> (?)	fellowed (?)
Prof. 7. flow. (flow,)	64. ouer throe,
9. wright: (wright, i.e. write)	68. ther by
12. <i>Kay</i>	74. atchine,
15. <i>Appollois</i>	78. <i>Salutiais</i>
20. praise, (praise.)	80. displaye: (displaye.)
Text 1. perwasion. (Perwasion.)	81. agoodlie
2. <i>Sante</i> , (i.e. santy?)	87. <i>Cautier</i> (?)
7. with stande,	92. what
16. apesent,	96. a midst
17. adithe	102. fynde: (fynde.)
23. atwodcoke,	103. thee, (thee?)
33. factt (i.e. faced)	104. bee: (bee.)
44. al mightie	105. doat, (doat.)
47. churlishpe,	109. lo, (lo, ?)
to hoke	110 c.w. <i>Wel</i> (111. <i>Well</i>)
49. to hoke	118. dilligence, (dilligence.)
51. to his (took his ?)	122. occalyon, (occalyon)
55. abagpype,	124. inualypon. (i.e. beginning)

136. eare. (period doubtful)
145. hīde. (?)
147. Saint tan,
- 148 c.w. Wee. (149. We)
153. regratu|(lacpon
(regratu=|(lacpon:)
160. hīne (i.e. bin or been)
163. ioy, (ioy)
Inare (Inare.)
168. tassar. (tassar,)
171. sacared (sacred)
172. But (*Fidence. But?*)
173. Twice (*Gautier. Twice?*)
175. ethall
176. vestais (*Vestas*)
179. rule, (rule)
- 185 c.w. Quoth (186. Quod)
194. possesse, (posse?)
209. taylor: (taylor)
216. Syngyng.
(Syngyng)
- 218 c.w. The Songe.
(The Songe but see note
below)
230. þ (?)
236. po|(wer, (po=|(wer,)
237. feare, (feare)
244. which
254. all
255. as, (as)
267. declare: (declare.)
270. rayled, (rayled)
284. folkred ought,
286. for hid,
myfalt,
287. cease (cease.)
292. forthere port, (forth
report,)
295. seft (seft)
298. me selfe
307. him giue him, (him,
giue him)
308. spīt
312. fruts
317. contimelyous
324. Ianakell,
326. framed, (?)
328. Where with
329. and, (and)
331. semd (seme)
334. in crealed
337. Ianickell (last l doubtful)
347. Exiunt (*Exiunt.*)
348. Gods ye God
gam,
349. nurtred (nurtured)
am, (?)
352. with out
354. a none
362. Hellin
364. costant
365. doe, (doe)
367. toulde (toulde?)
368. tractt (i.e. duration)
370. atworle,
371. make
374. abodkin
378. Saynt tan,
381. elpye, (elpye.)
383. eie, (eie.)
384. impudnte,
(impudente,)
386. plauge (plague)
yre. (yre,)
388. exlcead,
392. name, (comma doubtful)
395. hulbaudes
415. tēcōmaundemēt̃s

415. face (face.)
 416. *Reaſon* (?)
 417. clatter, (clatter.)
 421. perſwaſion, (Perſwaſion,)
 429. ſypper (i.e. ſimmer)
 433. kent. (Kent.)
 434. a parte
 442. almoake,
 447. ſelke will
 448. actyons
 449. ſubieckes
 450. with out
 452. with out
 dape, (dape.)
 455. ſpouſe, (ſpouſe.)
 fame (fame.)
 456 c.w. Gill (457. Gyll)
 457. Cowes, (Cowes.)
 458. ſecth (ſetch)
 celeritie, (celeritie.)
 459. veritie, (veritie.)
 460. binde, (binde.)
 463. clad, (clad.)
 464. *Reaſon* (?)
 465. abanquit
 467. depert
 471. aneed,
 475. God dyld ge,
 478. *Exiunt*. (*Exit*.)
 481. For, (For)
 482. ſinde: (i.e. assigned)
 484. preſt (preſt:)
 486. (ah laſ)
 490. *Therſicora*,
 512. a pace
 517. wiſe (e doubtful)
 527. *Exiunt*. (*Exit*.)
 c.w. ¶ A (¶ Enter)
 530. a pace, (apace.)
 532. other, (other.)
 534. well, (well.)
 536. ſynde (ſynde.)
 539. thuo (thou)
 foole, (foole.)
 540. coloe, (coole. i.e. cowl?)
 541. Shake
 542. boye, (boye.)
 543. a do
 544. coye, (coye.)
 545. ryd (i.e. rede)
 546. pat (pate.)
 547. do not care,
 548. dare, (dare.)
 549. mockes, (mockes.)
 553. in creale
 566. renome, (renowne,)
 567. with in
 577. ſitk (ſitk)
 a boue, (aboue)
 578. in creale,
 579. ſrutſof
 592. *Domore* (*Do more*)
 612. awaye, (awaye.)
 618. ſpeede, (?)
 622. athing
 624. *Criſſell* (?)
 626. gubernoz
 644. hyl (hys)
 646. ſire, (comma doubtful)
 647. ſeuere (i.e. ſevere)
 650. *Ianakell*
 anoble
 653. moztocie
 656. wheare with
 664. pofounded
 678. abetter
 ameeter
 683. fame thoundzed

687. with out
689. Anaxaretis
(i.e. Anaxarete)
690. for loyne,
702. Helins
703. quoine, (i.e. coin)
706. fulmanie
708. you (your?)
714. Cautier. (?)
716. praye (i.e. something that
preys)
718. Inlunder
733. fragarant,
Virins (Virings)
751. Ahlas) (Ablas),
753. releuee
755 c.w. Ik nowe (?)
759. kembe
769, 776. Crisfell (?)
782. pourforth
795. whear as
798. whear as
800. Cautier (?)
801. Godwilling
815. blisset.
819. Thefore
821, 824. Caüter (?)
822, 827, 830, 836, 846,
858. Crisfell (?)
822. vnñtly (vnñitty?)
826. Ianickll
827. Pour (¶ Pour)
832. Caüter. (?)
833. Nobillitie?
(¶ Nobillitie.)
839. malkin. (¶ Malkin.)
870. ¶ Pot (Crisfell ¶ Pot?)
872. in strucke,
878. Crisfell, (?)
884. Crisfell (?)
890. chaffing
to gether,
906. nowe (none?)
obsequies, (i.e. service)
909. curtuous
915. auengeaunce,
919. Crisfell (?)
932. slinge, (slinge)
941. countrie, (countrie.)
942. Politicke (Reason)
thon. (thou. or thou?)
943. Reason (Politicke)
944. Dilligenc (second l doubtful)
948. abewtfull
950. Reason (?)
952. Pollitcke
speede, (speede.)
953. bor
957. lasse
963. shallbe
973. iust, (u doubtful)
976. curtuously
981. Fate: (colon doubtful)
989. chatted (i.e. made chaste)
992. God ge goddeauen
993. import,
1010. presence, (presence.)
1034. Cautier (?)
disclose. (disclose—)
1035. Pollit cke (? , but there is no
room for an i)
1035-6. (properly one line)
1037. aye, (aye)
1038. Pollitcke
1042. excecute
1055. spopts (spots)
1056. wofnll
1057, 1059, 1067, 1085. Crisfell (?)

1057. praythe
 1060. Eeke
 1063. pcrhapes (?)
 1072. a pace.
 1073. pzetly
 1075. A way
 to gether
 1077. a bounde,
 1078. none
 1079. be fall,
 1082. painys, (plaints,)
 1087. Cauter (?)
 1089. this? (this:)
 weeded (wedded)
 1091. rulling (ruling)
 1094. with
 1096. Chid (Child)
 flain (flain.)
 1098. for goe,
 1101. matrous
 1109. attompt (attempt)
 1110. fulfill, (fulfill.)
 1111. Cautier (?)
 1112. gong
 1113. a waie
 1116. be houlde,
 1118. thoughts (thoughts)
 1122. procept (precept)
 1124. wꝛatfull (wꝛathfull)
 1130. abieckt like (i.e. abiecklike)
 1131. remaine. (remain,)
 1134. for goe,
 1136. heauie (u doubtful)
 1139. aplace
 1144. defournd (defournd)
 1151. this a Dicke
 1152. save (l doubtful)
 1155. yuncar
 whoe, (ho, i.e. stop?)
 1156. aword
 1160. Arhouland
 with stande,
 1165. Maid, (Maid.)
 1169. lone, (e doubtful)
 1178. Childe, (Childe.)
 1179. in crease
 1180. with out
 doubts (doubte?)
 1186. see, (comma doubtful)
 1188. praye, the (praye the,?)
 1201. fare well
 1212. refell.
 1214. pourforth
 1218. in tend.
 Exiunt (Exiunt.)
 1219. goue. (gone. or gone?
 period doubtful, perhaps
 comma)
 1221. a slepe,
 1232. Digges nie
 1234. Exit (Exit.)
 1235. Countes, (Countes.)
 splendish
 1236. Be loued
 1242. for goe,
 1244. constraine
 (constraine.)
 1245. Maid, (Maid.)
 1248. meastfully (first l doubtful)
 1250. own (own.)
 1255. a pace.
 1263. Dilligence, (final e doubtful)
 1268. trirt (twirt)
 1269. seccrit
 1280. yeld (d doubtful)
 Exit (Exit.)
 1283. cnnninge
 1287. Maid, (Maid.)

1289. *afairer*
 1291. *Countes*, (*Countes.*)
 1295. *aplaine*
 1305. *Deiull* (*Deiull*)
 1308. *afouse.*
 1313. *thou* (*thee?*)
 1319. *fare* (i.e. *far*)
 1320. *to gether*, (comma doubtful, possibly period)
 1323. *dape*, (*dape.*)
 Exiunt (*Exiunt.*)
 1332. *festinacion.* (*festinacion*,)
 1341. *Exiunt.* (*Exit.*?)
 1342. *aliberall*
 1349. *Exit* (a small mark, probably not a period)
 1352. *anotable*
 1355. *Lafe* (i.e. *Laugh*)
 1363. *gawns* (i.e. *gallons*)
 1380. *a hide*
 1384. *baby*, (comma doubtful)
 1394. *perly*
 1403. *S. Tan*,
 1419. *foze perfoze*, (i.e. *by force*)
 1428. *flaye* (?)
 1434. *ye nough*
 1445. *praye:* (*praye.*)
 1446. *po?* (*po.*)
 1448. *intolozable*
 1473. *abloe*, (i.e. *a blow*)
 1474. *Abloe*
 in crease,
 1486. *to gether*,
 1492. *will.* (period doubtful)
 1496. *bre*, (*bre.*)
 1504. *mynde*, (*mynde*)
 1510. *nectect*,
 1515. *grace:* (*grace.*)
 wife (*wife:*)
 1517. *away* (*away.*)
 1522. *bulbands*
 1535. *in haunce*
 1541. *peace*, (?)
 1543. *These* (*first e doubtful*)
 1545. *another*, (*another*)
 clockinge
 1553. *vnfitrie*
 1563. *laffinge*
 1565. *conceaiued*
 1569. *lumiuing* (*lumining*)
 1585. *acoward*,
 1586. *agentillman*
 1587. *afyg.*
 1590. *Saint tan*,
 1598. *Saint*, (*Saint*)
 1599. *deleales* (*delease?*)
 1609. *Robernes*,
 1618. *Therbe*
 1621. *here of*
 1625. *Juellus* (*Juelles*)
 1627. *to* (*t doubtful*)
 1638. *in conuenience*,
 1645. *be houlde*
 1652. *a waie*
 1653. *laffinge*
 1665. *St. tan*,
 1677. *expiell ye* (?)
 1689. *through out*
 1695. *needfull*
 1696. *pinche* (*pincheth?*)
 1701. *Punder*
 1718. *Exit* (*Exit.*)
 1725. *Ablas* (*Ablas*,)
 1728. *hane* (*haue*)
 1737. *guid*, (*guide.*)
 1739. *dape time and ryde*,
 1743. *Exiunt* (*Exiunt.*)
 1777. *no part* (*not part?*)

1786. Const ancye.
 1790. in struckt
 1795. minde, (minde)
 1799. who so
 vs, to (vs to i.e. us two)
 1806. *Conflanci*
 1813. anelcestary
 1816. *Ianakell*
 1819. *Paciencie* (final *e* doubtful)
 1820. coustancye (constancye)
 Exiunt (*Exiunt.*)
 1823. whom (i.e. home)
 1824. *Hellin*
 1830. here of
 1832. tractable, (tractable.)
 1833. How (*Ho*,)
 1845. do (doth)
 1866. in tende,
 1883. *Daughtr*
 1890. see, (*see*.)
 1901. aredines,
 youngman
 1911. courtuous:
 1919. courtuous
 1926. diffinition: (colon
 doubtful)
 1947. seeist
 1959. *Daughtr*
 1962. fructes,
 Clidolie
 1967. von (?)
1972. depert
 1981. for goe,
 1986. alittill
 1994. creatuers
 1999. Here in
 2000. a boyding
 scrupelous
 2005. fruts,
 2010. a legeaunce
 2017. *Marques* (a doubtful mark
 after the s)
 2019. curtuosie
 2021. vnsettie,
 2029. With in
 2030. a bound,
 2033. in creale
 2053. Where as
 2056. *Daughtr*
 2060. in crealeth
 for ow, (not room for a
 second ?)
 2062. be waile,
 2064. with in
 mightest (mightest)
 in ioye
 2069. entder (enter)
 2089. *Daughtr*
 2090. ioyfullnes, (ioyfullnes.)
 2093. *Postemus*
 2100. metoz (i.e. metre)
 2119. quight, (i.e. quite)

Many of the headlines are cropped, and in some cases it is impossible to tell whether the consonant in the middle of the word **Patient** is a **t** or a **ç**. The headlines on F₃, G₂^v, and H₄ are doubtful in this respect. On D₂ and E₂^v the period at the end of the headline is doubtful. Catchwords disregard speakers' names and also the ¶ at the beginning of speeches (but not of stage directions) except in one instance (G₄^v: ¶ **Daughter**; but cf. E₄). The names Gautier and Grissell caused an

excessive demand on the stock of italic upper-case *G*, and in some cases a *C* was used instead. Since, however, the difference is not sufficiently marked to allow of the instances being distinguished with certainty, *G* has been always used in the reprint, cases open to suspicion being recorded in the above list. Periods are quite arbitrarily inserted or omitted after speakers' names: in some instances a comma is used, but this is presumably a mere misprint and has been recorded as such. In many places, especially where the dialogue is rapid, commas are freely used at the end of speeches, but all instances have been recorded in the above list.

At the foot of B3^v the words *The Sonje*. have been treated as catchwords, in which case the period is a misprint. The words at the head of B4, however, *The Sonje of Patient Grissell*. recur on the verso, and have to be treated as a running-title. If, therefore, the words at the foot of B3^v are intended as catchwords they are altogether wrong, for *God* is the first word of text on B4. Most probably *The Sonje*. was intended as a heading (the catchword being omitted), and if so the line should have been included in the numbering.

LIST OF CHARACTERS

in order of appearance.

POLITIC PERSUASION, the Vice.	Nurse of Grissell's children.
GAUTIER, Marquis of Salutia.	Maid to Grissell.
FIDENCE	COUNTESS OF PANGO, sister to
REASON	Gautier.
SOBRIETY	Maid to the Countess.
GRISSELL, daughter to Janicle.	a Midwife.
the Mother of Grissell.	RUMOR.
JANICLE, a peasant.	VULGUS, a citizen of Salutia.
INDIGENT POVERTY, his friend.	PATIENCE.
two Lackeys.	CONSTANCY.
Ladies of the court.	Daughter
DILIGENCE, messenger of Gautier.	Son
	} of Grissell.

A list of characters appears on the title-page. It is incomplete, omitting the Ladies of the court and Grissell's maid. Indigence is, of course, Indigent Poverty; the Pages, the Lackeys; and Common people, Vulgus. The parts are distributed among eight actors, but the arrangement is faulty. Thus the fourth actor was to play Reason, Diligence, the Countess' Maid, Patience, and the Daughter of Grissell. But Reason

and Diligence are on the stage together from l. 944 to l. 951: Diligence and the Countess' Maid from l. 1257 to l. 1280: Reason and Grissell's Daughter from l. 1877 to l. 1976: while, though Patience and Diligence are not actually on the stage at the same time, they are allotted almost consecutive speeches, ll. 1819-21. Again the fifth actor was to play Sobriety, the Countess, Vulgus, and Constancy. But Sobriety and the Countess are on the stage together from l. 1877 to l. 1976, and Sobriety and Vulgus from l. 1703 to l. 1718. The epilogue, spoken by Postremus Actor, is assigned to the actor of the Vice. The last individual speaker is Gautier, but the phrase may merely mean that one actor appeared after the others had gone off and spoke the epilogue. Politic Persuasion is not on in the last scene.

At l. 58 is marked the entrance of Sansper (Sans-peur?) of whom nothing more is heard. It is possible, however that the name does not indicate a separate character, but is a mere epithet of Fidence. There is no intervening comma, nor much room for one. The spelling of several names varies. Gauter appears frequently for Gautier; Janickel or Janickell for Janicle. Janakell is presumably a misprint. Grissill for Grissell, though occurring on the title-page, is rare elsewhere. Variants such as Sobrietie are, of course, frequent. Among place names Salutia stands for Saluzzo, Bullin Lagras for Bologna, Pango for Panago.

The original bears no trace of division into acts and scenes, and since the intended arrangement is not absolutely certain none has been attempted in the reprint. A list, however, of entrances and exits, together with a tentative division into scenes, may help to make the action clearer, and is therefore added in this place. An asterisk distinguishes those directions which are unmarked in the original.

1. SCENE I. Enter Politic Persuasion.
58. Enter Gautier, Fidence, Reason, Sobriety.
213. Exeunt ditto.
215. *Exit Politic Persuasion.
216. SCENE II. Enter Grissell, Mother, Janicle, Indigent Poverty.
347. Exeunt.
348. SCENE III. *Enter Politic Persuasion.
- 360 (?) *Enter Gautier, Fidence, Reason, Sobriety.
468. Exeunt ditto.
478. Exit Politic Persuasion.
479. SCENE IV. Enter Grissell.
527. Exit.
528. SCENE V. Enter two Lackeys.
550. Exeunt.
551. SCENE VI. Enter Grissell.
564. *Exit.
565. SCENE VII. Enter Gautier, Reason, Sobriety, Ladies.
594. *Enter Grissell.
619. *Exit Grissell and re-enter with Janicle.
777. Exeunt Grissell and Ladies.
820. *Re-enter ditto.
877. Exeunt all but Janicle (see 838).
888. Exit Janicle.
889. SCENE VIII. *Enter Politic Persuasion.
903. Enter Reason, Sobriety.
944. *Enter Diligence.
951. *Exeunt Reason, Sobriety, Diligence.
968. Enter Gautier.
1008. *Enter Diligence.
1057. *Enter Grissell, Nurse, Maid (?).
1192. Exeunt all but Gautier, Grissell, Politic Persuasion.
1218. Exeunt Gautier, Grissell.
1234. Exit Politic Persuasion.
1235. SCENE IX. *Enter the Countess, Maid.
1257. *Enter Diligence.
1280. Exit Diligence.
1292. Exeunt Countess, Maid.
1293. SCENE X. *Enter Politic Persuasion.
1309. *Enter Midwife.
1323. Exeunt.
1324. SCENE XI. *Enter Gautier.
1335. *Enter Diligence.
1341. Exit Gautier.
1349. Exit Diligence.
1350. SCENE XII. *Enter Politic Persuasion.
1369. Exit.
1370. SCENE XIII. Enter Nurse.
1400. Enter Diligence.
1447. Exit Diligence.
1471. Exit Nurse.
1472. SCENE XIV. *Enter Politic Persuasion.
1488. *Enter Gautier, Grissell, Maid.
1664. Exeunt all but Politic Persuasion.
1670. Exit Politic Persuasion.
1671. SCENE XV. Enter Rumor.
1687. *Exit.
1688. SCENE XVI. Enter Vulgus.
1703. *Enter Grissell, Reason, Sobriety.
1719. Exit Vulgus.
1723. *Enter Janicle.
1743. Exeunt Reason, Sobriety.
1786. Enter Patience, Constancy.
1820. Exeunt.
1821. SCENE XVII. *Enter Diligence.
1833. *Enter Grissell.
1876. Exeunt.
1877. SCENE XVIII. *Enter Gautier, Countess, Daughter, Son, Reason, Sobriety.

1901. *Enter Grissell.
1976. Exeunt.
1977. SCENE XIX. *Enter
Janicle.
1989. *Enter Gautier, Reason,
Sobriety.
2043. Exeunt.
2044. SCENE XX. *Enter the
Countess, Grissell,
Daughter, Son.
2072. *Enter Gautier, Janicle.
2091. Exeunt.
Postremus Actor speaks the
Epilogue.
-

The best thanks of his fellow members are due to Mr. Bernard Quaritch for his generosity in placing the unique original at the disposal of the Society.

THE COMMODYE OF
patient and meeke Griffill,

Wherein is declared, the good example,
of her patience towarde her hus-
band: and lyke wise, the
due obedience of Childien,
toward their Parentes.
Newly.

Compiled by Iohn Phillip.

¶ Eight persons maye easely play this Commodity.

1. Politicke Perswasion the Vice. the Epilogue. For one.
2. Preface. Parquis. For another.
3. Fidence. Indigence. The second Page of Serving man,
The Sonne of Griffill. For another.
4. Reason. Dilligence. Countis Payd. Pacience.
and the Daughter of Griffill. For another.
5. Sobrietie. Countis of Pango. Comon people. Constancy.
6. Humour. Iannickle.
7. Iannickells Wife. The first of the Pages. The Parisse.
8. Griffill. The Widow.

Imprinted at London,
in fletestreat beneath the Conduit,
at the signe of Saint Iohn Euang-
gelist by Thomas Colwell.

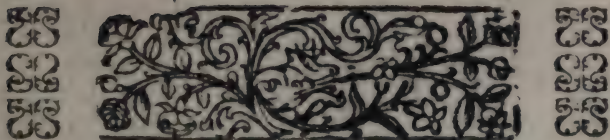
The Preface.

If case by Poets skill, or *Pallas* prudent ayd
Hystorians oft in Hystories, their hole delightes haue staide
To pen & paynt forth painfully, the modest liues of those,
That do in Vertues Schoole their hoap, and confidence repose:
Then wandring in the Forrestes wyde, wher fragrant flowers
I meane in searching Hystories, wherin both wisdom flow. (grow
Our Auctoz found out one, wherin he tooke delight,
And moued therto by his frend, gaue franke consent to wright:
So simple as hee coulde, though wantyng hawtie skill,
In that from *Helicons* fayre spring, the *Muses* him exile:
He would *Kay Citheria* seeme, Dame *Clio* to permit,
To garnish him with Rethoricque, the Gods did frowne at it:
So peulth Pan possessed him, whose rusticke Pipes did carpe,
Whose concozdes were far dissonant, to sweete *Appollo*s Harpe:
Yet beare with him, and vs also, wee homblye you desyre,
Let *Griffalls* Pacience swaye in you, wee do you all require,
Whose Hystozye wee vnto you, in humble wise present,
Beseechyng God, wee alwayes maye in trouble bee content:
And learne with hir in weale and woe, the Lord our God to praise,
My time is past, my charge is done, I needs must go my wayes.

Finys.

A.ii

Enter





¶ Enter Politicke perswasion.

Peneideste, Same, good Lorde where am I now,
 Parie I may say to you I had a sodden fall,
 Euen now I sawe *Venus* milkinge a Colwe,
 Who toke me by *h* hand & led me to her palace royall
 I hear *Cupid* hir sennē sat with his bowe in hande,
 Lyke a manlye Archer his foes to with stande,
 She spread the table and made me good cheare,
 We had Cakes and Creame plentifull stoze,
 But thence I was taken and carried by the beare,
 And placcke at the entrie of *Iupiters* doze,
 Who peeping out at the keyhole espied my face,
 And with cappy and knce welcommed my good grace,
 Lorde what sollace was made at my enteruance,
Orpheus the God of harmonie, was sent soz to supper,
 And *Mercurius* soz apzēsent, a friend of mine elde acquaintaunce,
 Brought to welcome me, avilhe of Almond Butter,
 Saint Peter fryed Pancakes a iolly good pace
 And sent them as daynties to *Iupiters* grace
 Ther was no remedie but I must lodge ther all night,
 And in the mozninge after bzeakefast was done,
 I was set on a Hoise which to my Judgement and sight,
 Was snouted like a wodroke, and bellied like a Tonne,
 But Lorde so he pzaunted from the topp of *Iunus* Towze,
 Hee carried me thze hundzeth mille in the space of an hour,
 But by chaunce comminge to the paullion of mightie *Mars*,
Bellona the goddis of battaile in Armoz was clad,
 With twentie thousand men waightinge at hir ars,
 Which sight so amazed me that as one bestraught oz mad
 I spurred cut with my furie outragious and fell,
 That he cast me hedlonge to the Danguion of Hell,
 As a new come gest I was plased at *Belzabubs* Table,
 But such a sight of Crabtree sacst knaues were seruitozz ther,
 I wear by myne honoz, I use not to fable,
 They put my manly hart in a wounderfull feare.

B.i.

But

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

That vnto thy truth they may beare lone and zeale,
Vnto them (O God) the spright of knowledge reueale,
That synne may be extirped and rooted out quight,
And we vnto truth, and virtue, for our delight.

Finis. qd. John Phillip.

Imprinted at London,
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THE COMMODYE OF
paciēt and meeke Griffill,

Wherin is declared, the good example,
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band: and lykewise, the
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4. Reason. Dilligence. Countis Mayd. Paciēce.
and the Daughter of Griffill. For another.
5. Sobrietie. Countis of Pango. Comon people. Constancy.
6. Rumor. Jannickle.
7. Jannickells Wife. The first of the Pages. The Purle.
8. Griffill. The Midwife.

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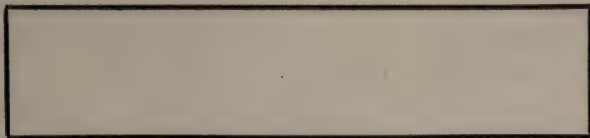
The Preface.

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Historians oft in *Hystories*, their hole delightes haue staid
To pen & paynt forth painfully, the modest liues of thole,
That do in *Virtues* Scoole their hoap, and confidence repose:
Then wandring in the *Forrestes* wyde, wher fragrant flowers
I meane in searching *Histories*, wherin doth wisdom flow. (grow
Our *Auctoz* found out one, wherin he tooke delight,
And moued therto by his friend, gaue franke consent to wright:
So simple as hee coulde, though wantyng hatotie skill, 10
In that from *Helicons* sayre spring, the *Muses* him exile:
He would *Kay Citheria* seeme, Dame *Clio* to permit,
To garnish him with *Rethozique*, the Gods did crowne at it:
So peuisly *Pan* possessed him, whose rusticke *Pipes* did carpe,
Whole concordes were far dissonant, to sweete *Appollois* Harpe:
Yet heare with him, and vs also, wee homblye you desyre,
Let *Griiffills* Patience swaye in you, wee do you all require,
Whole *Histoye* wee vnto you, in humble wise present,
Beseechyng God, wee alwayes maye in trouble bee content:
And learne with hir in weale and woe, the Lord our God to praisse,
My time is past, my charge is done, I needs must go my wayes. 21

Finys.

A. ii

Enter



¶ Enter Politicke perswasion.

Benedicite, Sante, good Lorde where am I now,
 Marie I may say to you I had a sodden fall,
 Euen now I sawe *Venus* milkinge a Cowe,
 Who toke me by y^e hand & led me to her palace royall
 I hear *Cupid* hir sonne sat with his bowe in hande,
 Lyke a manlye Archer his fooes to with stande,
 She spread the table and made me good cheare,
 We had Cakes and Creame plentifull store,
 But thence I was taken and carried by the heare, 10
 And placke at the entrie of *Iupiters* doze,
 Who peepinge out at the keyhole espied my face,
 And with capp and knee welcommed my good grace,
 Lorde what sollace was made at my enteraunce,
Orpheus the God of harmonie, was sent for to supper,
 And *Mercurius* for apresent, a frend of mine olde acquaintaunce,
 Brought to welcome me, adithe of Almond Butter,
 Saint Peter fryed Pancakes a iolly good pace
 And sent them as daynties to *Iupiters* grace
 Ther was no remedie but I must lodge ther all night, 20
 And in the morninge after byreakfast was done,
 I was set on a Horse which to my Judgement and sight,
 Was snowted like a wodcoke, and bellied like a Tonne,
 But Lorde so he prauled from the topp of *Iunos* Towze,
 Hee carried me thze hundryeth mile in the space of an hour,
 But by chaunce comminge to the paullion of mightie *Mars*,
Bellona the goddis of battaile in Armoꝝ was clad,
 With twentie thousand men waightinge at hir ars,
 Which sight so amazed me that as one bestraught oꝝ mad
 I spurred cut with my surie outragious and fell, 30
 That he cast me hedlonge to the Dungeon of Hell,
 As a new come gest I was plased at *Belzabubs* Table,
 But such a sight of Crabtree sack knaues were seruitoꝝ ther,
 I swear by myne honoꝝ, I ble not to fable,
 They put my manly hart in a wounderfull feare.

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

But then calling to *Jupiter* for his fauour and grace,
 I was sodenly transepoyted, by his Aungell from that place:
 And set on my Horse backe euen as I was befoze,
 And postinge to and froe, my prauicer fell on his knees:
 Euen right against the entyre, of his glozious goodly doze, 40
 Who sat by the fyres syde, eating of Bzead and Cheese:
 God spede quoth I and quickly open the gate,
 But he gaped gredelye and bad me cease my prate,
 Thou wilt wake God al mightie & his Aungels out of their slomber
 Nay quoth I thou art loath thy dynner to lose,
 But at that worde I sweare by sayncte Duncomber
 He cast me downe churlishye, and had lyke to broke my nose,
 Throughe the thicke cloudes I had a merueilous fall,
 That I had lyke to broke my necke on the tope of westminster hall
 But charinge crosse was my frende and caught my lege in his hand
 The wethercocke of Paules to ayd me to his flight, 51
 And betwen these two franions ye shall vnderstand,
 I was set on my legges and reyzed vp right,
 The crosse in cheape for ioye I had scapt this ill fauoured chaunce,
 Did playe on abagpype, and the standerd did daunce.

Heare let ther be aclamor, with whouping and halowinge,
 As thoughe ye weare huntinge, or chalinge the game.

Enter *Gautier*, *Sansper Fidence*, *Reafone*, and *Sobriete*.

Gautier. ¶ Euen now from hatwie woods, wher Eccole syluer sownde,
 Amonge the shroubs and valies loe, to skyes doth sozth rebound 60
 Euen synce *Aurora* gan to shoue, on earth feaire *Phebus* race,
Dianais knyghts by earnest toyle, haue followed the chace,
 The wādzing Bucke by staggrig strocke, of launch from bloody boe
 And nimble course of silly houndes, hath caught the ouer throe,
 To noble states the Venall game, of huntinge doth pertaine,
 To recreate ther tristie mindes, and make them ioye againe,
 So we which longe in secret close, haue kept the walled towne,
 Did iudge it mete the chace to sue, ther by to wyn renoune,
 A worthe wight I *Gautier* am, and *Marquis* by discent, 69
 Of parents noble sanguine race, whose fames most excelent, (bin
 In auriat troump, w chearfull voice, throughe Europe blowne hath
 Whole iust deserts in marciall feats, the laurell wreath did win.

As

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

As they did lastie rule, *Salutias* worthye towne,
So I their seede do fame atchine, who thundzeth my renowne:
Speake on my knightly knightes, eche one shewe forth your mind
If that in vs throught ruling state, once faultie ye vs fynde.

Eidence. As you molste worthye wight conserue, our countrie men from
And seeke *Salutias* lawes by toyle, & studie to maintaine, (paine,
So wee your leige men still consent, your honoz to obaye,
Insufficient are wee noble Lorde, thy vertues to displaye: 80

Politicke Hunters quoth you? mary heres agoodlie rable,
They haue slaine Buckes as manie as Ile holde in my hand,
To eate Venisson the knaues be able,
But the flesh that they kill, feedes in the Sea land:

God speed master Hunter, haue you killed anye Chukes,
I beleue your Houndes haue spoyle my Beldames Duckes.

Gautier What art thou that thus vnreuerently dost prate,
Ether for what causedost thou thy selfe thus myluse,
Dost thou not blushe my honozable estate,
Thus shamlesly with skorninges to abuse. 90

Politicke. If yst to reaunswer your former assercion,
what am I nay stape ther, I know not my selfe,
But you may see by my naturall condicpon,
I am nemyther Coltit, Calke, Dre, nor Elke,
Nether the quallites of any but beast can I put in bre,
Hauinge such a thinge a midst my face I am sure.

Gautier. Thou semest some merxe companion to be,
What is thy name declare vnto me.

Politicke My name, body o God, I am cleane nipt in the head,
My name, whye wher is it, what is it fled, 100
A name quoth you? marie I am nowe dyelled in my kynde,
I had rather then fortie pence my name I could fynde:

Reason Hearest thou selowe, what shall wee call thee,

Politicke Euen as you please, so let it bee:

Politicke Euen as I please, I perceiue thou doest doat, (Boat,

Politicke In faith sir my name is gone to hunt Hadockes, in cocke Loyells
But I will not cease huntinge, as a Hound doth for his praye,

Till I haue found it agayne by this good daye,
So, so, so, lo, now seeke all about,
Howe searthe euerie hole, wythin and without,

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

Well sought and now found at the last,
I haue followed my chace wonderfull fast,
Would you know my name saye me with speed,
I am cauled Politicke perswasion in deed.

Gautier. Politicke perswasion a name right excelent,
And for our person very conuenient,
Wherefore if thou wylt with vs haue residence,
Thou shalt be intertayned, vntill thy diligence,

Politick. I thanke you, and I will so do, that my behauiour,
Shall meritt I trust your loue and fauour.

120

Gautier. Well now my seruants sith ye eleuate my prayse,
For imperie and rule what other occasyon,
Beset, that shold not augment our same alwayse
Expressely to shew it straight make inuasion.

Reason Done that we know, but one thinge we desyre,
Trustinge in God that our reasonable petiscyon,
Which of your honour we craue with hartes intyre,
Shalbe fulfilled hearing therof desyniscyon.

Gautier Say what you please we doo you frely licence,
I can not graunt before I heare your sentence.

130

Fidence. Long time haue we your seruants hard, y^e comons muttrig voice
Long time haue we concealed the cause, why they can not reioice
Long time haue we in secret close, gushit forth our bitter teares
Long haue we spent in dolful plaints, these fragrant fertile yeares
The cause unknown to you we Judge, of this our meekful chear
Which to redresse prepare wth speed, to heare thy listning eare.

Politicke For twentie pounde here is some hioyle toward,

Per. Now Politicke perswasion shew forth thy skill,
I will make him obstinate stoberne and crowarde,
If that I may atchiue my purpose and will.

139

(cōplaine

Gautier. Why friends what thing should moue you thus, in secret to
Why shold you kepe from me y^e thing, y^e doth augmēt your paine,
Of nature am I such a one, that rigors force doo vble,
To giue regarde to your complaints, did I as yet refuse,
Then why from me shold ye thus hide, the thing that causeth grief
Speake on saint not, ostend your woe, doubt not to finde releef.

Politicke Honistlie spoken I were by Saint tan,

Per. My master you see is a francke harted Gentillman.

W^{ll}

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

- Reasone* ¶ We can not cease but iustlie yeld, to thee condingly praise,
Which gratfully reaunderst vs, the Lord prolonge thie daies, 150
And graunt thee doble *Nestors* yeares, tranquillite and peace,
That thou maist rule and lastly raigne, with honours iust increase.
- Politicke* ¶ This is a goodly kind of salutacion, & a wonderfull kind of regratu
Per. I am plaine Duntable I may say to you, (latyon
I am as homlie as the good wife that for loue kist her Cow.
- obrietie* ¶ This is the meane why we remaine, in pensieue pained plight,
This is the cause that anguiste doth, our sollace banishe quit,
That you in single state abyde, and marriage do refraine
Wold god you wold inioye that yoake, thē swaged were our paine
Thē should our mestfull harts that long, haue subject bine to woe
Cast of the clogge of heauines, and dyppe teares forgoe, 161
Then hold our cristfull mindes exile, their dolfull deadly care,
And ioy, in frig those grisly gulphes, which doth our footsteps snare
- Politicke* ¶ Bones is all this intretauce for wiuinge,
Per. Some men are married, and would be bñwedddid againe,
And some men neuer fall to thziuinge,
Befoze they be spouled, this is eident and plaine,
But who so euer intendeth of that misterie to be tastar.
Findeth oft times the graie mare better maister.
- cautier* ¶ My frendes full frendly I repleie, with protestacyon due, 170
That single life preferred is, in sacared scripture true,
But happie are the married lozt, which liue in perfit loue,
Twice happier are the single ones, S. Paull doth plainly proue,
For such as leade a virgins life, and sinfull lust expell,
In heauen aboute the ethall skies, with Chzist ther lord shal dwell.
- idence.* ¶ We graunt that scripture doth ertoull, *vestais* lauozie flower
And happie are the continent, which rest within hir bower,
But yet for you more mete it were, conioyned for to be,
That after you your lead of rule, might haue the dignite,
For wher ther is no ishue left the wise man saieth plaine, 180
That euery man in Lordlie state, doth couit for to raigne.
- oliticke* ¶ Baw waws is no weddinge the prouerbe doth tell,
er. Marie quoth you? I hard many a one saye,
That the first daie for weddinge all other doth excell,
For after they haue had not one metie daie.

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

Quod the good wif I wold be uncopled, & with sobbs the same wist
For I shal neuer haue helth in my hed, while he hath pith in his list,
Sapth the good man, I haue such a shewe to my wyfe,
I speake vnlaynedlye, I swere by Gods mother,
I am halfe werpe of this present life, 190

To be rid I would giue the Deuill one halfe to fetch the other:
I speake not generally, all ronne not this race,
But some are redie to catch their husbandes by the face.

Reason ¶ What ioy should such as subiectes be, to see this daye possesse,
Gautier. ¶ Content your myndes if case I graunt, your state for to redresse:
We shall permit your worthie Lord, in choyce to vse his skill,
And eke permit as reason is, to marve whom I will.

Sobrietic ¶ Chuse wher you please, take whō ye list, we wil you not gainsay.

Gautier. ¶ Then will I soone elect my mate, and time shall halke the daye.

Politicke ¶ Loe nowe my Lorde wilbe married, we shall haue a feast, 200

But wher is his wife, can anie man tell,
He will haue such a one I iudge at the least,
Whose bewtifull countenaunce, shall Hellen excell,
A fayre gerle, tricke, and minikin trim:
A neat trull, which in peres shall be like vnto him,
Nowe God of his grace, in your choyce sende you good lucke,
And graunt that your loue maye laste for euer,
I beseech God send you with her, as manye hornes as a Bucke,
That your tounge, hir nose, & my tayle: may be ioyned togirher.

Gautier. ¶ What is that? 210

Politicke ¶ God graunt that in loue ye maye continewe togirher.

Gautier. ¶ Well nowe let vs depart this place.

Both. ¶ Wee will wait vppon you by Gods grace. *Exiunt.*

Politicke ¶ Paye I will followe after as fast as I can,
For if I be missing my Lorde lackes a man.

Heare enter Grissell, Syngyng.
and Spinning: wyth her Parents,
and Indigent Pouertie.

The Songe.

The Songe of Patient Grissell.

GOD by his prouidence deuine,
Hath formed mee of limie Claye, ²²⁰
Then whye shoulde I in ought repine,
Or seeke his will to disobaye:
Be it far from me to do such ill,
As to contende against his will:
Singe danderlie Distaffe, & danderlie
Ye Virgins all come learne of mee.

Let Childzen to their parents giue,
Obedience due, as they are taught,
Then they on earth full long shall liue,
& ioy y^e place which Christ hath bought
With his hert blood, & deadly wound, ²³¹
Whear lasting ioyes shall aye abound,
Singe danderlie Distaffe, & danderlie,
Let childzen all come learne of mee.

Though Aetas on my parentes heare,
By crooked shape haue showen his po
Yet I am bound to dread & feare, (wer,
Them tide and time & euerie hour:
For God to me hath giuen such charge,
As in his lawe is seene at large, ²⁴⁰
Singe danderlie Distaffe, & danderlie,
Each child with speed come learne of me.

Set

The Songe of Patient Grissell.

Set Natures lawes before your eyes,
which may your tender mindes cōstrain,
All crooked language to dispise,
And mend your misse, for feare of paine,
The stoberne childe, the Lord doth threāt
In hell to chaſt, with torments great,
Danderlie Diſtaffe, and danderlie,
Ye Virgins all come learne of me.

250

Conserue and keepe virginite,
Your conscience do not pollute,
But walke in true integrite,
all sinfull lust do cleane confute,
Fly such men as, wold you allure
To spot with lust your liues so pure,
Danderlie Diſtaffe, and danderlie,
Ye Virgens all come learne of me.

Obaie such men as you do serue
Use dilligence at all assaie,
Then fame hir Troumpet will p̄serue
To thunder forth to skies your praise
From filthie speach your toungeſ refraine,
Let godlines in you remaine,
Danderlie diſtaffe, and danderlie,
Ye Virgens all come learne of me.

260

How

The Plaie of Patient Griffell.

- Griffill.* How do you my Parentes? I praye you declare:
- Mother.* Well good daughter God be prayled.
- Tanikell* Trulye I thanke God that merite ye are.
- Indigent.* Oh how ioyfull would I bee, if God in my aige had rayled, 270
 Hee such a chylde, to comfort my needfull indigence,
 She neuer ceaseth toyling, but laboꝛeth alwaye,
 Shewyng to you the fruites of true obedience:
 Of her birch good neighbours bee ioyfull ye maye,
 For to your horie heads, shee is a perfit staye.
- Griffill.* In youthfull dayes when sappie youth, his blossoms did displaye,
 Whē euery lim, for wāt of strength through green yeres had no stay
 My Parentes here stil carefull were, their child with food to noyssh,
 As dutie was so Nature wrought, they did me euer cherishe,
 From tender dayes to this estate, by payne they haue me brought,
 And now that aige hath clogde them both, to comfort them I ought
 But yet my paine vnable is, their paines to recompence: 282
 Whose studies still imployed were, to saue from inconuenience,
 Their only childe they soltred ought, with sustinaunce full due,
 And should I now vngratfullye, with vile disdayne pursue
 So God for bid, that through mysalt, I should ther griefes increase
 To laboꝛe still to comfort them, these hands shall neuer cease
- Tanicle.* Ah my deare Child whole flourig youth, in vertue stil doth flourish
 Our hoꝛe heades if thou wert not, for foode were like to perishe,
 Our backes were lyke for want of cloth, extrem cold to abyde,
 But thou for vs continually, by laboꝛe dost prouide, 291
 Thy dilligence my neighbours all, can iustly foꝛthere port,
 Thou art thy parents only staye, and staffe of their comfort.
- Mater.* Griffill I pray the to my talke giue good head,
 Thou sest thy father is lame and I very oulde,
 Cease not as thou hast begonne to comfort his nead,
 For the panges of death on me haue taken hould,
 I fele me selse herie lycke, increased is my paine,
 Prought now but the ground can make me saine.
- Griffill.* Good mother comfort your selse be of good cheare, 300
 You shall want nothinge your paines to alwaige,
 Let not sicknes cause you anie thinge to feare,
 For that may be a meane to inlarge your domaige.
- Mater.* Deare Childe of thy wonted care and dilligence,

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

Thy father and I haue perfit intelligence,
 Whose aidge se thou hould in worthy estimacyon,
 Loue and obay him giue him, due veneracion,
 Then God will blesse the with his spirit and grace,
 Pea on earth thou shalt longe ronne thy race,
 Be not hye mynded, let not Pride infecte the,
 Lest God in his wrath with his scourge correcte the,
 Be no pickthanke, seke not the scruts of discensyon,
 Be rather a peace maker to bannish contentyon,
 Be sloe to speake let thy wordes be wittye,
 For, for a Damsell to haue manie wordes it is vnfyttie,
 Let loue and obedience in thy hart be fullpe placed,
 Let contimelypous disdaine be vtterlye defaced
 Grudge not in ought againste thy fathers will,
 But be alwaies readie his mynde to fulfill,
 And showe thy selke of a godly behauior,
 That of God and man thou maist merrit the fauor.

310

320

Grissill. Mother all that you haue saide shall obserued be.
Ianickel. Oh my deare wise how is it with the.
Mater. Euen as it pleaseth God good husband *Ianakell*,
 But fleshe and blood is very fraile and bytill,
 For such was the cause wherfore mankynd was framed.
 But hoap is my stafe which fleshy affectyon hath tamed,
 Where with throughe Christ my only iustificacyon,
 I strue ageinst sinne, death and, damnacyon,
 And euen amidst the bitter pangs of death,
 Whose gripes most sharp lemd to close my bzeath,
 I appele to Christ for mercy and grace,
 Trustinge amonge his saintes in the heauens to haue place.

330

Ianickel Alas pooze man in created is thy paine,
 Just cause hast thou to languish and complaine.

In. pouert Good neighbour I am hartely loy for your sycknes,
 But comfort your selke byother *Ianickell* let goe your heauines.

Grissill. Come on deare mother stay on my shoulder let vs depart this
 You shall want nothinge to comfort you with all. (place,

Mother. I know that thou wilt respeckt my case,
 How be it I am glad that death to me is befall,
 For now shall I as a pylgrim from pilgrims trauell be free,

340

And

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

And throughe Chyft inioye heauenly felycite.

lanickle ¶ Well beinge fully furnished with anguish and paine,
I will to my cottaige to comfort my wife this is plaine.

ndigent ¶ And I will beare you companie with all festinalyon,
Doinge all I may to turne to ioye your lamentacyon. *Exiunt*

Politicke ¶ I mary now all is as it shoulde bee, Gods ye God morowe gam,
I trow ye will saye that well nurrred I am.

But ponder is such tidinges as will make you glad, 350

The Marques for Mariage I trowe will ronne mad,

For all his minde I tell you with out any lett,

To prayle his spoule I promise you is set,

We shall heare a none how he will lift hir vp to skies,

As thoughe there were none more wittie vertuous or wylse,

I can not blame him thoughe he comend his owne,

But to none of his court the gentilwoman is knowne,

And therfore to wonder there mindes I incence,

So that euery man longeth to bew the Ladies presence.

Gautier. ¶ Oh so this hart doth longe, to spred my Ladies fame, 360

And yet my tounge vnable is, to laude that worthie dame,

For beautie I to Hellin maie, aptly the maide compare,

Such vertues in a yonglings brest, is seldome seene or rare,

A Phillis for hir costant truth, a Thilbe for hir loue,

Hir arguments most pythie doe, hir vertues daylye proue.

Politicke ¶ For beauty quoth you, is shee so ampyable to the eye,
Are hir vertues superabundant that they can not be toulde
I saye no more trackt of time the thinge shall trye.

I thinke such a wife would very well be soulde,

You maye coarlse hir if it lyke you, and perhaps catch awoyse, 370

The pride of some dames make the hulband beare an empty purse

They must be trimmed after the trickest fassion,

Fyne watters must be bought for beawties preseruacyon,

There heare with abodkin muste be curld after the fynest guise,

Ther Peates tongs with peakes must hange ouer ther eyes,

And to make them seeme proper headid, fyne caps they haue,

Such as will scantly couer the crowne, I thinke as God me saue,

But to make them syt cleane I were by Saynt tan,

They cut of ther heare, as I am an honist man,

Some bodye can tell that I vse not to lie,

380

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

And I warant you ye shall some of these trickes in her espye,

Fidence.

¶ Truth such pryde in the world is now resident,
As in no time the lyke hath bin seene with eie,

Reason

¶ Many men and women I iudge are impudante,
For pryde they imbrace with mindes full greedie.

Sobrietie

¶ As God for pryde did plauge Sodome and Gomoza in hys yre.
So will hee distroie the wicked with flaminge fyre.

Gautier.

¶ I know that pryde imbralled is, and some ther state exlcead,
But my ellected mate God knowes, with vice will not procead,
She will obserue a modest meane, hir vertues shall increase, 390
All hatfull hate in hyz shall end, she loueth perfyte peace,
She seareth God, she dreads his name, she leades a Godly life,
And dayly sekes for to subdue, contentyon and strife,
She will as dutie byndes, hir spoused mate obaye,
From hulbaudes heastes at no time she for any cause will straye.

Politicke

¶ If shee bee so hollye a saynt as you make hyz,
Refuse hyz I beleche you and I my selke will take hyz,
Such a Marriage would I haue, if I should chuse,
Then should I be sure she would me not mysuse,
I might saie what I would, and do what I list, 400
Hee that hath such a wife of God he is blist,
But moast wyues are so knappish and cutted now,
That they will be knowen to heare rule I saie to you,
Rule quoth I, yea and moze then reason doth require,
Yea and espelyally after that to masterhip they aspire,
Then huse all a boyh there toungez must be tauntinge,
The flage in the topp mast, must needs be flauntinge,
And now and then I swere by all hallowes,
The noblis be so nice that they will eat no mallowes,
So coye are the minlinge mules, that dyinke of bellonas well,
That oft times they conquer ther hulbands in battell, 411
Yea and now and than I swere by this light,
Betwext them on her part is proclaimed open fight,
God lend the graie mare good footinge and to amble apace,
For now & thē her tēcōmaundemētz are sene in the goodmans face

Reason

¶ This talke from a mind malliscyous doth proceade,
Therfoze cease this vaine clatter,

Politicke

¶ I tell you plaine y some wiues recemble the cockatrice in dead.

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

I speake plainlye I can not flatter,
 Thinke not that enuy doth giue me occasion, 420
 No there natures be knowne to Pollyticke perswasion,
 Trie them who will shall my words true fynde,
 Summe of them I tell you will be stoberne and bnynde,
 Denye them of ther willes and then ye mar all,
 Ye shall see what there after is like for to fall,
 Ether brauling, saulynge, sknappinge, or snarringe,
 Ther tounge shall not cease but alwaies be sarringe,
 Or els they will counterfait a kind of hipocrisy,
 And symper lyke a fymentie pot, the finger shalbe in there eye
 Theyle saie, loue is forgotten though my loue be showne, 430
 I see you loue another better then your owne,
 Tush, tush, I know full well there meaninge and intent
 They be the craftiest cattell in Cristendome or kent.

Fidence. Well set all these wordes a parte deare frend,
 Though some be froward all do not to frowardnes condissend,
 For I of Mariage know the iust probacyon,
 And dowtles my wife leadeth an honist conuersacyon.

Politicke Fidence. Pea but some times you giue hir, hyr owne will.

Politicke Fidence. Pea and reason.

Politicke Fidence. Or els I warant you your ears with braulinges she wold fill,
 If the good wife should not some times beare all the stroake, 441
 Throughe out the house she wold raise such almoake,
 That ether bytterly hir tounge should ronne at large,
 Or els should hir eyes fountaynes of teares discharge,
 Tush whole bushels of teares fall from there eyes,
 The serrop were notable to sauer wardon pyes,
 But if selse will were bydded, then men should lyue at rest,
 With womanlie aclyons they should not be opprest.

Fautier. My subiectes now whole long desier, doth wish my Mariage date
 Shall haue the thinge that they expectt, with out longer delaye,
 Wherfore my knights your selues bedeck, in sumptuous araye,
 To solemnise with out all let, this longe desyred daye, 452

obrietie Reason. Oh noble Lorde with willinge mind we graunt to do the same.

Fautier. We will apparell our selues, y all the world shall speake of your
 To morowe next I will seatch home my spouse, (same

Politicke By my troth if it lyke your honoz she is a handsome blowse.

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

- Gyll Sparow* that milkt good man peatches Cowes,
Gautier. ¶ I said I would fetch home my Ladie with celeritie,
Sobrietie. ¶ And ile waight on you this is the veritie,
Fidence. ¶ I will goe with you as dutie doth me binde, 460
Politicke ¶ And I of your companie will be glad,
 And if I can euer an olde blankit fynd,
 I hoap for my parte to be hansomly clad,
Reason ¶ What sayst thou.
Politicke. ¶ I safe after diner abanquit shalbe allynd,
 Notable faire in your Hall shalbe had.
Gautier ¶ Come on let vs depert with spedines.
Omnes. ¶ To doe as you will vs we be in a redynes. *Exiunt.*
Politicke ¶ Pay face ye well God be your speede,
 I tell you I come after as fast as I can, 470
 I am a goodlye fellow to help at aneed,
 Pay by myne honoz I am a hansom seruinge man,
 Well I will goe poast to fetch home his wife,
 Whose vertues as hee saith are wonderfull ryfe,
 God dyld ge, God thanke ye, for my frendly companie,
 I must needs be packinge I were by Saynt Antonye,
 Fare ye well, God be with you, gentill frendes adue,
 I am the properest fellow that euer man knew. *Exiunt.* 478
- Grissill.* ¶ Ah Grissell now maist thou complayne, infortune thine (alasse)
 This tender dayes in deadly dole, thou now must learne to passe,
 For, thou haste lost a Jewell great, whose lyke is rare to finde,
 Whose want to waile, vnto thine eyes, a flood of teares is kinde:
 Thou now art motherlesse become, the graue hir lodge doth rest,
 Whose deth to mourne w sobbing shrieks, & sighs, þ now art prest
 Was neuer child had greater losse, noz cause of carking care,
 Helpe me to weepe all such (ah las) that carefull Childzen are:
 For I alacke do misse my ioye, and best instructris found,
 I rest aliuē? but shee by death, lieth closed fast in ground.
 Wherfore ye Muses nine: that on *Pernaso* rest, 489
Caleiope, *Thersicora*, and *Clio*, do your best: (with mee:
 Strayne forth your noates of wailfull woes, weepe you & mourne
 That Gods and men, my inward grief, apparant now may see.

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

¶ Here Grissell Singith a songe,
to the tune of Damon & Pithias.

CAN my pooze harte be still,
can I possesse sweete peace:
When Ioue hath giuen *Parchas* the chardge,
my blisfull ioyes to ceale:
Iudge you my cause, you tender youtnes
that gaynd your mothers loue, 500
And you shall finde to mourne and weepe
Dame Nature doth mee moue:

¶ My moother was my blisse,
her sight did bannishe care:
But now to weepe and mourne alacke,
her absence I prepare:
I misse her counsels sweete to mee,
thrice blisled happie Dame:
Who traynd mee vp in Vertues scoole,
that I maye purchase Fame. 510

¶ And when that *Atropos*
came stealyng on a pace,
To see howe shee in tender armes
her Grissell did imbrace:
My teares like Fountaines rushed out,
to shewe my grief and payne:
Whose want to wayle in woofull wise
Nature doth mee constrayne.

¶ But shee the heauens hath wone,
and with the Saynctes doth raigne, 520
In endles blisse wher Chyist our Lambe,
doth hir reuyue againe,
And I am left behynd to lye,
with my swete father deare,
To whom whilst lye shall raigne in mee,
obaysaunce I will beare.

¶ Finis.

Exiunt.

¶ A

The Plaie of Pacient Griffell.

¶ Enter two Lackyes.

- i. ¶ A sya my master is gone to my Lorde Marquis place,
And I by his side haue poasted a pace, 530
- ii. ¶ And so haue I by mine, I sweere by Gods mother,
I warant the I sweate so that euery dyope ouer taketh other,
- i. ¶ Gogs woundes let me se, sure herke a mad smell,
All the place saoureth of thy knaues greale I see well,
- ii. ¶ Gogs blood knaue, art thou knauinge by kynde,
A greasier knaue then thy selfe, a man can not fynde
- i. ¶ Crie you mercy gentillman, can ye hyde no boorde
Ile clap ye about the costerd with the hiltes of my sword,
Art thuo knauinge of me, hence distardly foole, 539
- ii. ¶ Guts I haue sene as wylse a man as you, wear a hood and a coloe,
- i. ¶ Am I a foole, goges harte Iacke lauce I shake you by the eares,
Go prate with thyne equals you horson folish hope,
- ii. ¶ Gogs flesh, heares more a do w Iacke Napes, thē twēty Beares,
Alas goodman man you neede not be so coye,
- i. ¶ Blood shal I be flouted of a bagage boye, I ryd the hould thy prate
But for wearig my masters pātapls I wold beat thē about thy pat
- ii. ¶ About my pate not a rush for the I do not care,
Spare not me mast man but do what you dare,
- i. ¶ Then I will bob you you patch, for your mockes, 549
- ii. ¶ Be well assured thou shalt beare me some knockes. Exiunt.
- Griffill.* ¶ Now that my spinninge ended is, and house full cleanly made,
To boyde the gulphes of Idlenes, and ble some honist trade
To well spring wher y chystall streames, of watters still in crease
With prone and readie willinge minde, to go I may not cease,
For I will fetch from thence w speed, some dulsome water sweete
And depntie brothe for parent make, as sitlye is and meete,
It is the dutie of a childe, hir fathers aidge to loue,
To nourishe him as he dyd me, it doth mee now behoue,
In armes full oft he lulled me, and foode me often gaue,
Then why should I in any iot, of dutie him depaue, 560
For God full straightlie hath giuen charge, to honoz him a right,
Which precept I will aye obserue, to vtmoast of my might,
And hastelie from Well retourne, to comfort him with foode,
Warme meates are meet for aged folke, to nourish bp ther blood.

¶ Enter Marquis, with hys Lordes.

Come

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

Come on with me ye worthe wights, which aye deserue renome,
Ye Nobels all which aye restyd, with in *Salutias* towne,
Most gratfullye I yeld you thanks, for this your taken paine,
If God permit to lengthe my life, I will requit againe,
Your frendly hartes with frendlynes, syth frendships fruts ye shoe
The fulnes of the same in time, on you I will bestowe. 571

Reason. ¶ As dutie byndes so loue constraines, vs on you to attend,
Your honoꝝ gentill nature doth, such loue to vs extend,
That loue inflames our gentill hartes, to honoꝝ you aright,
And to aduaunce thy hie estate, to vrmost of our might.

Sobrietie ¶ Condinglie we to the D Lord, our offred seruise giue,
Beseechinge Ioue that sitt a boue, the heauens, you longe may liue
In prosperous state to comfort ours, then shall our ioye in crease,
And eke *Salutias* loue shall reap, though you the fruts of peace.

Gautier. ¶ I giue you thankes assuredlye, from depth of secret hart. 580

¶ Turne to the Ladies.

Ye matrones all ye Ladies faire, lyke thankes I do impart,
To you whole pregraunt myndes, such clemencie bestowe,
As doth belong to gentle hartes, lyke frendlines to shoue:
Wherfore Nature doth vrge me stil, to shew your worthe praise,
Showne largelie to me youthfull wight, in these my tender dayes.
Which thus much haue respected mee, to decke with rich renoune
Your gouernour and onlie Lord, which rules *Salutias* towne,
I meane in that ye readie are, attendaunce due to giue,
And to featche home my mate elect, with whom in loue I liue.

¶ Let ther be .ii. or .iii. Ladies. 591

Ladies ¶ Somore but dutie we do shewe, wherfore your mynd content,
To honoꝝ you with reuerence due, we Ladies all be bent.

Grissell. ¶ Nowe that my Pot to bynkes I haue filled,
I will haste mee home with all conuenient speede:
God graunt I may do as my mother mee willed,
Then God will prosper mee in tyme of neede,
Let all Childzen bee mindesfull of obedience in deede:
Flye selfwill, which doth stoubernes ingender,
To honoꝝ your Parents do dayly remember: 600

Be they neuer so pooze or indigent,
If God haue blessed thee with store and increase,
Remember the paps of thy mother gaue thee nourishment,

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

To feede and clothe thee, their care did neuer cease,
 Relieue and comfort them, so end thy dayes in peace,
 If not looke for Gods scourge and curstled maledictyon:
 Which shall fall vpon thee, for thy stubberne infection,
 Well I will home with my water Pot without delaye,
 I would be loath to offende my father with longe tariaunce,
 For such as prouoke their frendes to yre day by daye,
 Can not escape Gods terrible vengeance.

610

Gautier. God speede Damcell, lost whether awaye,

Grissill. Trulye my Lorde homward, as fast as I maye.

Gautier. What is your father, expresse to mee with speed.

Grissill. In his pooze Cottage hee resteth in deed.

Gautier. Hastte and tell him with all festination,
 That with him his Lorde will haue communication.

Grissill. Your commaundement with speede performed shall bee,
 I will retourne quicklie, your honor shall see,
 Good father be not offended with mee I you desire,
 Because so longe from you I haue bin absent.

620

Ianickel. Ah daughter Grissell, why shouldest thou such a thing require,
 Thou art returned verie soone in my iudgement.

Grissell. Not so good father, for comming by the waye,
 I had an occasion and was forced to staye:
 My Lord Gauter our gubernor excelent,
 Whom courteously I saluted, with wordes reuerent:
 Willed mee to halte home to my habytacion,
 Who stayeth hereby, with you to haue communication:
 Wherefore good father without lenger delaye,
 Let vs repaire to his presence as fast as wee maye.

630

Ianickel. O deare Childe I will halte to him with dilligence.

Grissill. God graunt hee maye relieue our indigence.

Ianickel. Oh honorable lorde, God sende thee felicitie,
 Thy hoare headdid subject, thy person doth reuerence:
 Right worthy Lordes God blesse you with prosperitie,
 And sheeld you faire Ladies from all inconuenience.

Gauter. Oh *Ianickel* wee thee regreet, againe in friendly wise,
 That God protect both thee and thine, that sits in eth' all skyes:
 Incline thy aiged eares to mee, my loquise well perpend,
 Harke, marke and giue regard, to that I shall ostend:

640

Requite

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

Requite my frendly hart, and gratefie againe,
Thy Lord which for thy Daughter here doth suffer extreme paine
Who knoweth the panges of loue, or feeles hyr passyons dyre,
What liuinge wight moze then my selke, abydeyth Cupids ire,
Such is the force of ardent fire, that boyles in secret brest
So seuer is the darterd wound, with which I am oprest,
That my pooze bleding hart doth faint, and comfort none can find,
Except that you doe graunt a salue, to ease my dolefull mind.

anickell ¶ God who would haue thought, that such anoble hart, 650
Would haue byn set on flaminge fyre, by blinded Cupids dart,
Alwaige your fylthie lust, slye Venus wanton wayes,
O mortifie your appetite, doe nought regard hir plaies,
Abhoze hir carles court, hir muster Bookes elchue,
So shall you quench that flaming fyre, which giues you cause to rue
So shall you staunch the wound, wheare with your hart is paind,
So shall no sparke of grefe be left, but parfyt health be gaind.

autier. ¶ Know that I minde not to polute, the chaste virginite,
But rather seeke the losse of lyfe, to keepe integrite,
I am not Venus darlinge I, hir court I doe not vse, 660
To be incouled in hir Bookes, my sences all refuse,
Hir bestiall playes I hate, hir pleasures fylthie are,
Disloyall lust can not attempt, to trap me in his snare,
But from profounded hart, doth persit loue proceed,
How condiscend to saue or spill, graunt mercie to my meed.

anickell ¶ If case your loue be faithfull pure, your loue deserueth praise.
Grissell ¶ Right iusttraine Lord, respectt your yonge and tender dayes,
Pour Noble state your dignitie, your honoz and your name,
Pour worthy birth your parents race, archiuinge troump of fame
And eke lyst by thine eyes, my pooze degree behould, 670
My pooze estate my misery, the tyme doth foryth vnfold,
What better prose can be here of, then these our ragges so tozne,
These painte and thoe our penurie, which wee to hide were bozne,
These thinges full duely waide, in ballaunce equall right,
Hape alter and infringe thy minde, and purposed delight,
For they maie blemish quit, thy stocke and worthy race,
Thy honoz and thy ancetours, attonce they doe deface,
Therfoze goe chuse abetter choice, elleckt ameeter mate,
Which may increase and ample make, thy worthy sanguine state.

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

- Gautier.* Oh Grissell thee I loue, now length or short my lyfe, 680
 Let pittie now apeare to be, with in thy best full rise,
 It shall no whit abase my state, nor minishe my renowne,
 But cause thy fame thoundyed forth, through out our royall towne
 What shall each wight report of the, if rigor thou now ble,
 If my vntymly death thou haste, canst thou thy selke excuse?
 A murdres thou shalt termed be, all men shall the disdaine,
 Which cruelly with out deserte, thy only Lord hast slaine,
 An Iphis I whose kindly hart, doth begge and craue thy grace,
 If thou Anaxaretis be, and turne from me thy face, 689
 Pooze Teucers sonne is then for loyne, the Troyan is vndone,
 If Iphis I doe play my part, contempt thou canst not honne,
 Thy pouertie can nought preuaile, thy rigor to obscure,
 But rather cause and sty each wight, disdaine to put in bre
 Thy ragged clothes the argue not, in pooze estate to lye,
 Thy vertues noble doe the make, such fate doth Fortune giue,
 That thou aboue all virgins art, by troump of fame extould,
 Giue rightfull Dome to Pyramus, lyke Thilbe loue vnkould.
- Ianickel.* My Daughter is a Virgin puer, and wanteth terren stoze,
Gautier. Ifor that respekt doth faithfull loue, in me increase the moze.
Grissell. Much musinge in my minde, in this sort I reple, 700
 Why should you seme me wretched wight, to loue thus faithfullye
 I nether haue faire Helins shape, nor comly shininge hew,
 Be yet no kinde of earthy quoine, ne substaunce this is true,
 And as for costlie ornaments, and sumptuous araye,
 I want, the best euen now on me behould you maye,
 Ther restes within this noble Towne, fulmanie a worthy dame,
 Which both for stoze & feature saye, deserues the voice of Fame:
 They may you hie renowne augment, and eleuate to skies,
 Take one of them, my lowe estate and Parents stocke dispise:
 Let Grissell with her father liue, bestowe on them your loue, 710
 This answere take? To equall state learne now your sute to proue:
 Bee Iphis true to such a one, as plentie hath and stoze,
 Chuse like to like leaue of for shame, expresse thy sute no moze.
- Gautier.* Oh carelesse youth y nought regardst, my plaints & dolfull teares
 Oh dyfull daye, oh haples hap, oh shortner of my yeares:
 Oh praye appoynted for my death, which lightly doste regard
 The life of him, which thou with loue shouldst gratefully reward:

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

Inlunder breake thou hart, which thus with greef art toft,
 Yeld vp thy breath from Pison free, thy pooze tormented ghost:
 Whie shouldst thou lenger liue, to couch on heapes thy payne:
 I loath my life, sith my good will doth reape my selse disdain, 721
 If euer ruth did rest, within your rusfull hartes, (Smartes:
 Streame forth your plaintes ye Muses al, with teares bewaile my
 Take Wellpringes to your eyes, let dolfull tunes abound,
 Oh pearce and fill the hawtie clowds, with your lamenting sound:
 Shewe forth my faithfull hart, be records of my loue,
 These plaintes throwne forth, my constancy apparantly do proue,
 Oh Ianickle whose aige, ought honored to bee,

If case that Nature in the rest, I praye thee pittie mee. 729

anickle ¶ If that these teares streamed forth, from depth of hart proceed,
 And I shall graunt to giue thee grace, to recompence thy meed:
 Plight faith and troth to mee: thou wilt not her desflower,
 Pe spoyle her Garden fragarant, of Virings fruitfull flower.

Fautier. ¶ To record Heauen I call, and God that liues therein:
 Plighting my faith in open preale, to shunne such filthy sinne,
 I mynd not as a Harlot I, with her to lead my life,
 But by the force of wedlocks knot, to take her as my wife.

anickell ¶ Then to your honor I, my daughter deare do giue:
 Beseeching God that in his feare, together you may liue.

Fautier ¶ Oh happie bee thy aiged life, and fortunate I praye, 740
 Which hast preserued thy louing Lord, from daunger and dekaie:
 Welcome to mee my mate elect, my ioye and harts delight,
 The perfect length of vitall life, which greef extirpest quite.

Grissill. ¶ Sith it hath pleald you louinge Lord, to fix your loue on mee,
 Faith, Loue, and obedience due, I yelde here vnto thee.

Fauter. ¶ These giftes more precious are then Goulde,
 And farre excell all terren treasure:
 Oh it delighteth mee much thee to behould,
 In thy presence consisteth my solace and pleasure.

¶ Tourne to Ianickle. 750

Grissell ¶ Ahlas) pooze sillie girle increased is thy smart,
 From father nowe in aiged dayes, perforce thou must departe,
 Who now in time of neede, shall thy estate releue?
 To leaue thee destitute of helpe, thy daughter soze doth greeue,
 Who now shall roule thy backe, and daylie giue thee food:

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

I knowe not one that readilie, will do my father good,
 If that thou pine, I pine like case, I dye if ought thou want,
 To wend from thee thus sodainlye, my dolloys are not scant,
 Who now shal kembe thy hoary beard, who now shal wash thy hed
 Who nowe to ease thy aiged bones, shall heat and make thy Bed.

Ianickell Comfort thy selke my childe, for mee God will prouide, 761
 Hee is my Rocke, my stafe, my stay, my trust and perfect guid,
 And sith that hee by prouidence, respected hath thy state,
 And to the top of Fortunes wheele, in mercie eleuate,
 Lament no moze, distill no teares, though thou departe mee froe,
 For God that rules both heauen and earth, hath wold it shold be so:
 Swell not in Pride still gentel bee, and lead a lowlye mind,
 To all estates full curtious bee, as Nature hath allind.

Grissell I will obserue your heastes, to vtmoaste of my might.

Ianickell Then God will blesse thee with his grace and sprite. 770

Gauter. My Ladies all I you requir, my comly spoule araye,
 That we maye haste to solemnise, our happie wedding dape,
 These ornaments receiue, to decke her copes with all.

Ladies Right worthye Lorde in euery poynt, fulfill your mynd we shall:
 Come Ladie mine to fathers house lead vs the readie waye.

Grissell I yeald ye matrons to your heast, come on with mee I praye.

Exiunt.

Ianickel Right honorable Lorde gyue thy seruaunt licence,
 To shewe my mynde at large vnto thee.

Gautier. Good father shewe forth the fulnes of thy sentence, 780
 Without lenger let I hartely pray thee.

Ianickel If God pourforth on you the Dyle of his Anction,
 And with fertillitie thy Vineyard increase,
 I meane if hee ad his spirituall benediction,
 And giue you children bringe them vp in his peace,
 Instruct them to feare God, and their Parents to obaye:
 Then God will preserue them from ruinous decaye,
 Keepe them alwayes vnder lawfull correction:
 Restraine in them, swearing, and all vngodlynes,
 Chastice and ponish them, lest sinfull infection, 790
 Alure them to all mischise and wickednes,
 So shall God prosper you wyth his spirit and grace,
 And they as he hath promised, shall on earth long ronne their race:

Loue

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

Loue one another, the seedes of Enmitie eschewe,
For whear as faithfull Loue is remanent,
Theare Hatred is subdued, this is moast trewe:
And Gods feare is euermore with such couples resident,
But whear as is the contrarie, I meane strife and Variaunce:
Theare the Deuil is head, and hath the hole gouernaunce.

Gautier

¶ Father thinke not that obliuion shalbe frequentid,
Godwilling all that you haue sayd shalbe attemptid:
For wheare Childzen are not ponished for their sinne,
Theare mischife to sprynge doth fully beginne:
Theare Dathes abound, theare Lies moast odious,
Begin to take roote, as hurtfull and pernicious:
If Nature be corrupted with poplsoned infection,
Then resteth there Gods curllle and heauie malediction,
Therfore in tender yeares, while youth is greene and fresh,
All lewd inozmities a Rod maye redyelle:
Lest further inconuenience, in aige happen to growe,

800

810

Reason

¶ In dedde a man maye bowe a Twigge which way he liste,
So in Infancie a Childe with good manners furnished,
In aige in Vertue will willingly perstist,
And such a one of God is surelye blessed.

Sobrietie.

¶ Childzen chasticed in Infancie, in aige sie sinne,
But if Parents cloake their godlesse conuerlacion,
In the end to contemne their superiours they beginne,
Therfore correction byingeth them to good education.

Ladies.

¶ Low noble Lorde haue wee long bin absent.

820

Gauter

¶ No trulye and therfore I am the better content.

Grissell

¶ O noble Lord, these costlye Robes, vnfitly seeme to bee:
My ragged weed much more then this, doubtles contented mee.
¶ These garmentes nowe to thine estate belong, my Lady deare,
Disdaine them not, but for my sake refuse them not to weare.

Gauter

¶ Set Gods feare before thyne eyes good Grissell.

Janickell

¶ Your healt shalbe obserued good father Janickell,
But my harte is much pained to depart thee froe.

Grissell

Janickell

¶ Reioyce for needly from mee thou must goe.

Grissell

¶ Receiue this frendly kille, so nowe God bee thy ayd.

Janickell

¶ Faynt not for on him all my care is laide.

830

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

Gauter. ¶ Come let vs depart with all celeritie,
 Sound by your Instrumentes, be ioyfull Nobillitie?
 And in token of Victorie, some Song I will singe,
 Which to performe Ladie, I must haue your helpinge.

Grissell ¶ Begin when you please my Lord, for with a willing mind,
 To helpe you all I maye, redie ye shall me finde.

¶ Singe and then go out.

To the tune of malkin.

Marques

Sith Fate and Fortune thus agree,
 My onlie ioye and Ladie deare:
 A *Romeo* I will rest to thee,
 In whome the fruites of Faith appeare:
 Heigh hoaw, my true loue,
 I ioye in thee my *Turtell* Doue.

840

Grissell

¶ Sith heauenly Gods that rule aboue,
 Haue lotted mee to be your wife:
 A *Thisbe* iust thy spowle will proue,
 Whilst Ioue giue chardge to end my life:
 Heigh hoaw, my sweete hart,
 I honoz thee, while death vs part.

850

Marques

¶ Lowe, heare thy Lord doth thee imbrace,
 Whose sight farre dearer seemes then life:
 Within my brest thou gainest place,
 Welcome to mee moste louing wife:
 Heigh hoaw, my true loue,
 I phancie thee, my *Turtell* Doue.

Grissell

¶ No *Tarquins* knight, ne *Appian* now,
 Shall cause mee thinke from duetie due,
Penelope, Ile stande to you,
 As *Lady* iust and faithfull true:
 Heigh hoawe, my sweete hart,
 I am thine owne, while death do part.

860

Marques

¶ Thy Vertues seeme no lesse to bee,
 With *Alcest* fayre compare you maye:

Thy

The Plate of Patient Grissell.

Thy modest life inflamed mee,
To ioyne and knit this knot to daye,
Heigh hoaw my true loue,
I am thyne owne my Turtell Doue.

¶ Not *Cresus* Gould nor *Midas* mucke,
My phancye fyrst may seeme to chainge,
Diana doth me still in strucke,
To *Venus* knightes aye to be strainge,
Heigh hoaw my sweet hart,
I honoz the while death vs parte.

Finis.

870

Gautier. ¶ Fare well to thee good father *Ianickle.*

anickell ¶ God giue your honoz ioy, of my daughter *Grissell*,
The Lorde bee with you, and both your loues increase,
And graunt you to end your dayes in his peace:

880

I can not but wonder to see the inflamation,
Of Loue, which here sully hath showane her operacion:
Prouokinge this *Marques* nourished in prosperitie,
To loue pooze *Grissell* tassing so much pouertie,
But it is thy prouidence my God, that this to passe hath brought,
By thy deuine wildome this action was wrought.

God bee their defence and keepe them from domaige:

Well I will leaue musinge and go to my cottaige.

Exit.

Politicke ¶ Powe Politicke Perswasion, nowe or els neuer,
Phie, for chassing I can skant keepe my teeth to gether,

890

I tell you I haue found out such an inuention,
As among the common sort, shall kinde discencion:

A *Marquis* married to a beggerlye *Grissell*,
Her father an olde foole, and an impotent crippe,

His stoz and substaunce in value not worthy twentie pence,
This geare cannot chuse but breed inconuenience,

I will not cease priuely her confusion to worke,
For vnder Honnie the prouerbe saith popson maye lurke:

So though I simulate eternally Loue to pretend,
My loue shall turne to mischife, I warrant you in the end:

900

The pretie foole is puffed vpp, her belly is bigge,
I coniecture the trull will bringe forth some proper Pigge:

E. i.

¶ Enter

The Plate of Patient Grissell.

¶ Enter Reason and Sobrietie.

- Reason* ¶ In publicke toyle in countries straunge, full often I haue been,
Wher Matrones chaste & Ladies faire, these earthy eyes haue seen:
But nowe for wisdoms obsequies, to *Grissill* I compare,
To saye the truth his modest life, and vertues are moste rare.
- Sobrietie* ¶ You saye the truth for onely thee, all men confesse the same,
For curtuous facts and loquie milde, deserues a worthe name.
- Politicke* ¶ Oh so these gentlemen praise and list her to the skyes, 910
I could finde in my hart to plucke out the beggers hats eyes:
Phie ont, it greeueth mee to the verie hart,
A Ladie honorable, naye a Whippe and a Cart:
Bones heres stuff if the worlde were quicke,
These ponkers with auengeaunce, are come in the nicke,
I will to them I, to put my practise in bre,
My countenaunce shalbe graue, sad and demure.
God speed gentlemen ye are welcome hether,
We thought of *Grissell* I harde you common together:
Praylynge her for Vertues, such as bee seene but rare, 920
To commend her so highly very much to blame ye are:
I knewe her offspringe I, from the beginning,
As thee anie more then a Beggers hat, brought vp in spinning,
Her father is indigent, needie, and lame,
An old doatinge foole, that Janicke hath to name:
In her ther is no iot of noble languinnite,
Therefore vnfitly that her seed should rule or haue dignitie.
- Reason.* ¶ Content thy mynd thy talke is vaine, thou seekest to heap vp strife,
I can not chuse but needs commend, his good and honest lyfe,
Aboue all spouled Dames, which hyde within this towne, 930
She best deserues the pryce of prayle, and Helme of rich renowne.
- Sobrietie.* ¶ The Scorpion forth will stinge, his poyson to anoye,
And passingers that passe him bye, with Vennome to distroye,
So thou whose mallice doth abound, thy stinge doste now prepare,
To vex and harme those wightes, whose liues most vertuous are.
- Politick.* ¶ Not I for twentie pound, will hurt his by the Rood:
That which I haue spoken is sure the veritie,
If I could hurt hye yet would I do her good,
Because ye extoll her for perfect integritie,
But I had rather seee wer hanged by saint Antonie: 940

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

I would she were slaine or banished the countrie,

Politicke What sayst thou.

Reason It is good to ble such honest companie.

Diligenc God saue you my Lordes, whose honors be excellent,

My Lorde Gautier for you both hath sent,
And desireth you to halke to him with out delaye,

For my Ladie his wife is deliuered this daye,

Of abewtifull Childe ampyable to behould.

948

obriete Oh happie day, oh tidinges sweete, our ioyes can scarce be tould.

Reason Incontinent wee readye are, with thee from hence to wende.

Diligenc Lead you the waye right worthye Lords, on you I will attende.

Politicke I fare ye well gentle gentill men, God be your speede,

Brought a Bed all readie, they haue plyed the box in deed,

I dare saye it is some pretie mophedid twigge,

Its meruell shee brought not a litter, for hir bellie was bigge:

Well let this passe, nowe this gere to cotten doth begin,

Let them lasse in the end that the victorpe doth winne:

Sith my former deuice, is thurst to exemption,

And that I cannot preuayle with rancoz and contencion:

I will frequent through pollicie, another meane,

960

Wherwith I will molest and distrope her cleane,

I will tpe her patience, another kynde of waye:

Let mee see euen so, it shallbe I swere by this daye,

Peace conceale thy purpose as yet Politicke perfwacion:

Till such time as thou see farther occasion,

Not a word more my Lorde *Marques* entreteth the place,

Nowe maist thou contriue thy drift within thort space.

Enter *Marques* Singing to the tune of the latter Almain.

Marques I Liue in ioyfull iollytie,

With my true loue and Ladye deare:

970

To mee shee gyueth loyaltie,

For Vertuous acts shee hath no peare:

So true, so iust, in worde and deed,

I maye her trust, in time of need:

Hir gentill harte through Wildomes arte,

So curtuously doth playe her parte:

That needs I must expelle hir prayse,

Till direfull death cut thort my dayes.

E. ii.

Finis.

De

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

980

Ye Heauens and powers deuine, which did predestinate,
 To mee your creature framd of lime, such hap and luckie Fate:
 As tenderh still to brge mee forth, your praise to eleuate,
 Moste happie bee the time that I elected such a mate:
 Whose louing hart excelleth farre, *Salusias* Noble Dames,
 Hir Godly hart is cleane bereft of vaine and wanton games:
 A *Dido* for her Chastitie, *Penelope* for truth,
 A *Thyse* for her ardent loue, and *Pyramus* insueth:
Cassandra thee for pacyence, full aptly maye be namde,
 Amonge the rout of chasted Dames, my Matrone may bee samde:
 Whose vertues farre abound, and sandie shoxes excell, (bell.
 From Courtlie Dames for counsell graue, my spouse doth beare y

Politicke

¶ God ge goddeauen my Lorde wyth all my hart,
 If your wyfe be so vertuous as nowe ye import,
 Surelie, surely thee is worthy commendacion,
 Shee may be made a saynte for her good conuersacion:
 But harke my Lorde nay nowe harken in your eare,
 Try hir that waye and by myne honestie I sweare,
 You shall see hir decline from Vertues so rise,
 And alter topsie turuie hir saintish lyfe:
 Hir pacyence quicklye shall chaunged bee,
 I warrant your honoz will say it is not thee.

992

1000

Gauter

¶ As sure as God doth lyue, and sitt in heauen aboue,
 So sure will I in euery poynt, this thy deuice approue:
 Therfore call in with speede, my seruaunt Dilligence,
 That of this act, wee maye giue him intelligence.

Politick.

¶ Your will shalbe perfozmed without delaye,
 Hoaw Messenger, this place appropriat.

Dilligenc

¶ Who calleth for mee, I am here by this daye,
 What is thy will? thy pleasure intimate.

Politicke

¶ Hastte thee incontinent to my Lordes ptesence,

1010

Dilligenc

¶ That to do I am in a readines.

Politicke

¶ See that his person thou honour and reuerence,
 Dispatch hozson Dreame, go forward with speedines.

Dilligenc

¶ Soft sye the common Prouerbe saith, sweete Malt doth make.

Politicke

¶ The matter requireth haste, hence thy passaige take.

Dilligenc

¶ God saue your honoz and graunt you his grace.

Gautier,

¶ Wellynger thou art hartely welcome to this place,

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

I haue secret thinges to thee to inculcate,
Giue dilligent eare, marke what I ostentate:
Thou knowest Grissill, my Ladie and wife, 1020
With whom in Loue and feare I haue lead my life:
Farther thou knowest my Daughter, which shee doth nourish,
And with the Mylke of her bestes foster and cherishe,
I will that thou make semblant, at my commaundiment,
With thy swerde in sonder, to deuide that Innocent,
Yet shalt thou not hurte it, but to *Bullin Lagras* it conuaye,
To the Countise of *Pango* my sister, without let or staye,
Who will nourish it and giue it sustentacion:
And bying hir vp in Godlye and honest conuersacion.

Politicke ¶ To this mellaige you must take good regarde, 1030
Be well assured, thou shalt not lose thy rewarde.

Dilligenc ¶ All that to mee in charge, you now committed haue,
Shalbe performed in all the haste, els God my soule ne saue.

Gautier ¶ If thou to anie wight that lyues, these Nouels showne disclose.

Pollitcke ¶ Gellerye Grimston at midnight,
Shall plucke thy bowells throughte thy Nose.

Gautier. ¶ My fauourable loue thy selke for aye, shalt surely lose.

Pollitcke ¶ For thy behauior hozson elke, thine eares shalt surely lose.

Dilligenc ¶ God let mee neuer liue on earth, his vengeance heape my woe,
If I to any lyuing wight this secret charge do shoue: 1040

And as for this committed act, with all conuenient speede,
These handes shall straight prepare, to execute the deede:
With violence the babe to pull from armes my hart is prest,
Thus then the mothers harte with care & grief shall be distrest,
For I will kayne that blooddie sworde, shall sonder and deuide,
And scootch the Infants tender corps, with wounds both large & wide.

Politicke ¶ Peace not a worde but gossip for twentie pound,
Your Spouse with her Purle and Childe, Enter into place,
You must counterfaite that Doller may amply abound:
Let tricklinge teares be nowe dystyld apace. 1050

Gautier. ¶ Your counsell graue to imitate, moste willingly I will,
I am decreed in euery poynce, your heast for to fulfill:
To teares my ioyes I nowe deuert, my lookes shall meastfull bee,
No kynde of solace nowe shall seeme, to hide or rest in mee:
My bigur and my feature faire, sault teares with spotts shal staine

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

And wofull playnts shall forth ostende, my plight & pensyue payne.

Grissell ¶ Come on my *Nours* how doth our Child, I praythe forth expresse.

Nurs ¶ The Child no dout hic perfit helth, hath such is Gods goodnes.

Grissell ¶ God blesse the lyttill one, and sheld the with his grace,
Eeke graunt thee helth and long to conne, on earth thy vitall race,
My Lozde and spoused mate, recydeh here in place, 1061
Him to salute as dutie byndes, I will procead a pace.

Nurs ¶ And I will to his ptesence goe, perhapes to get some gaine,
Foz sylly *Nurses* with yonge Babes, do watch and take much paine,
Thy smilynge lookes will gratulate, and heape thy fatheres ioye,
God graunt the grace & the pteserue, from Gulphes of grefes anoy.

Grissell ¶ God spead my Lord moast honozable,
Why are you pensyue what greeke doth you betide,
Be of good cheare thoe your selse comfozt table,
Set sorowe and sadnes my Lord cleane aside. 1070

Politicke ¶ Bones howe now how standeth the case,
In faith Dame thy sorowes do hast them a pace. (Simple

Nurs ¶ Oh my Lord behould your Daughter deare, how pretly shee doth
Hic pretie lookes your tristfullnes, with ease maye cleane exile.

Gautier. ¶ A way *Nours* these wordes are all to gether vaine,
They minishe not but moze and moze augment my paine,
The cause of doler is so great that grefe doth still a bounde,
No kynde of ioye to ease my woe, can none for me be found,
The heauiest hap that euer chaunste, is now to me be fall, 1080
Was neuer Lord so tost with paine, noj pinched to the gall,
Oh cruell wightes, that cause my care, oh stonie harts of flint,
Can neuer teares noj dolfull paints, cause rigoz for to stynt,
But that ye will procead to worke your cursted will,
About all grefes this grefe surmounts, an Infants bloode to spyll.

Grissell ¶ O thoe to me thy mated wife, the thinge that causeth care,
And I to swage thy pensyue mind will remedie prepare.

Gauter ¶ Thou canst not ad celese my deare, if I the thinge repeate
It rather will toyment thy minde with painfull passions great
The cause is this? my nobles my weeded state disdaine,
And ether will that I pooze wretch, an exill shall remaine, 1090
And lose my rullinge state, my treasure and my store,
Which luckles hap in gushing kind, with teares mine eyes deploze,
Or els that our sweete childe, which from these loynes ishude,

with

The Plaie of Patient Griffell.

with dirful sword, shold murthred be, which thig my hart hath rued
Now to auoid ther wꝛathfull yꝛe, and fauoz wꝛynne againe,

I graunt and yeld that this our Child wꝛ sword shall straight be slain

Griffill.

Oh Lord my God what words are these they fill my hart wꝛ woe,

Oh lilly wꝛetch, must thou thy Childe thus rufully for goe,

Would God in pooꝛe estate pooꝛe *Griffill* had remaind, 1099

Then void of cause thy tender hart, with woe had not bin paind,

Ye matrouis milde deploze my case, take fountaines to your eyes

Oh let your clamozs penitrat, the hawtie clouded skyes,

My Child alas in Childehode nowe, subiected to the sword,

A ruthles hartes which hir to kill doe cruellie accorde,

What hart would condiscend, to reauē the of thy lyfe,

Who would consent to scoꝛtche thy flethe, with cruell cut of knife,

This chaunce with patience, I will sustaine and beare,

God will reuenge this bloody factt, in end I nothinge feare

My Lord the Daughter is your owne, with hir attompt your will,

If it seme pleasant to thy hart, thy pleasure now fulfäll,

1110

Gautier

Then take with speed thy glitring sword, proceed & play thy part

End thou hir race fulfäll ther minds, straight gorg hir through y hart.

Dilligenc

Alouffe thou Dame giue me the Childe, a waie and get the hence.

Nurs

Alas my Loꝛde be mercifull, commit not such offence,

Consider how that God, whych rules the hawtie skyes,

Eachē litill thought for to be houlde, hath opened wyde his eyes,

And how then can so great a factt, from him concealed be,

Which doth the thoughts of euery wight, discernē and plainly see,

Can murder then from him be close, no no my Lord not soe

Ther is a God which to reuenge, this act will not be soe, 1120

Perpend attend and giue regard, to that which he hath sayde,

Thou shalt not kyll, let this procept of the be rightlye waide,

Now if thou condecend thy fleth with death for to toyment,

Thou canst not scape Gods wꝛathfull yꝛe, and greuous ponishment.

Gauter.

Oh *Nours* leaue of such talke, in vaine thou spendst thy bꝛeath,

It is not I that yeld my Child to stroacke of grisly death,

But spitfully my commons now, are inly puffed with hate,

And goe about to thozt my life, such is my haples state,

For ether I from dignitie, shall straight exempted be,

And abieckt like bee thyowne from rule such hap is chauncst to me

That in exile as bannished I euer shall remaine.

1131

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

O els in hast deliuer them this younglinge to be slaine,
And rather then from natiue towne, I Gautier will goe,
Not my swet babe but onlye I, will life and bzyeth for goe,
Therefore leaue of thy teares, thy plaints can fynd no grace.

Politicke

A Tush folish woman this is a heauie case,
Better were it for him to haue the Childe slaine,
Then his owne person should suffer such paine.

Nurs

Yet Noble Loyde if nature seme in the to haue aplace
Preserue thy Childe from death, end not hir vitall race, 1140
The Tyger that in Wildernes, doth lead and ay remain,
Will to the vtmoast of hir might, hir yonge ones sheeld from paine
The rauenous rampyng Lion will, hir whelps from dainger saue
The sauaidge Beare with shap defournd will close in secret caue,
And often licke and cherish them, accordinge to hir kinde,
Till clad with heare, and vglye shap, she lyke hir self them fynde,
Then sith that beastes which reason want, ther proper ones defend
Much moze should mā, which wisdom hath for his own flesh cōtend.

Dilligenc

Cease for I will share with sword, the Infants copes by force,
Be on thy plaints nor on his teares I mind to take remourse. 1150

Politicke

Bodie a God this a Dicke for the nonce by the roode,
Hele doote hee, and hee laye the worde,
I warant you full soone the yonglings hart bloode,
Hele searche and pearce with his glittringe sword,
Tut I promise you this youncar is one of them that God had whoe,
For with him though I layt, thers but aword and a blowe.

Gautier.

I graunt y beastes preserue by toile, ther yonglings from all woe
But if I should attempt the same, I should my life forgoe,
What hotes it one though rule he beare, to take a sword in hand, 1160
Athousand armed fightinge men, to banquishe or with stande,
I then my life should lose, each wight my bloode would spill, (will
Yet my death could not quēch ther thirst, but they wold haue there
And then should Childe and ffather both, be slaine on bloody sword,
Yet first that she be slaine, my senses all accorde.

Maid,

Alas my Ladie and Mistres must haue a heuy hart,
To see hir Child subieckt to such painfull smart.

Nurs

Oh do not so but condiscend, and graunt my pooxe request,
And suffer not with violence, thy babe to be distreste,
Giue me the Childe I praye, and saue hir from thes sone,

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

For I will lead and nourishe hir, and take hir as mine owne 1170
 These brests shall bringe hir vp these handes shall fynd hir food,
 I will not cease but carefull be to fend hyr guiltles bloode,
 Thus doing thou shalt stop the mouthes, y^e would the babe deuoure
 Thus doinge she shalbe preserud, hir foes shall haue no powre,
 To hasten this vntimlie death, and dirfull heauie fate,
 And they against that mightfull Ioue, no crime shall perpetrate,
 For I from hence will take my flight and hence be cleane exile,
 This will I do oh worthie Lord, for safegarde of thy Childe,

Gauter. Politicke Let be these words they more in crease my paine.
 Nay nay with out all doubts the Chylde shalbe slayne, 1180
 Dispatch hyr speedely cease all thys pratinge.

Dilligenc To sunder hir bodie I straight will take paine,
 The safegarde of hir life hath cauld this longe ratlinge.
 Make as you would kill it.

Gautier. Dilligenc Nay stay thy hand good frend, conuaye hir out of place,
 For nature will not let me see, hir slaine befoze my face,
 But I shall yeld vp beth, and bitall lyfe soone end,
 Therfoze from out our syghtes I praye, the hastely doe wend,
 All shall be done right sufferain Lord, as now you haue me willed
 I will not cease till rigoznie, hir bloode with sword be spilled.

Nurs Nay I will follow perhapes my moynfull petiscyon, 1191
 Nay cause him to leaue his sinfull intensyon. *Exiunt.*

Politicke Bones how lyke you this gere, the Nurs is gone after,
 I can not blame you if ye moyne for your Daughter.
Grissill Oh God my God what rigoz now, haue subiects gaynst vs bled
 Alas my woe increaseth much, how is my Lord abused,
 Nay rather how doth Nature vrge, me meastfully to waile,
 To see how cruell destinie, against me doth pueaile,
 My Daughter rest from tender Paps, alas my wofull paine, 1199
 And caullesie by Tyrants scarce, with bloodie sword thus slaine,
 Face well swet Childe thy Mother now, shall se thy face no more,
 Helpe spoused Dames help Grissill now, hir fate wth teares to ploye
 Bushe forth your Bynie streames let tricklinge teares abound
 The earth and firmament aboue, fyll with your moynfull sownd
 My Child alas in swadlinge clouts, bereft and slaine with sword.
 Lord help, Lord ayd, my wofull plight on me take some remord,
 Albeit such dirfull hap haue chauncd, graunt pacience to my paine

The Plaie of Patient Griffell.

That I maye seme this crosse of thine, with ioye for to sustaine,
 How now my louing Lord reuiue your heauie minde,
 Come goe with me to solace you, some ioye shalbe assurde. 1210

Gautier. Beloued mate, whose wislie troth the landie Seas excell,
 I graunte to excequite such things as you shall forth reuell.

Pollitick Bodie a God what woman here cold take the matter so patient
 But rather pourforth teares hir dole to complaine,
 Yet she semeth with this fact to be well content,
 Though that hir Childe be murdered and slaine.

Griffill Come on my mate let vs from hence to pastimes sport now wēd,

Gautier. To go with you assuredlye, my loue I do in tend. *Exiunt*

Politicke Ah sya are you all goue.

As *Politicke Perfwacion* left here alone, 1220

Well then wher art thou horsone awake or a slepe,
 I thinke thy wittes be gone gollings to kepe,
 Whop quoth I to my sheep, and had neuer a one,
 Bodie and heres an emptie head, for all the wit is gone,
 Let me see, euen so now lo, I haue that I sought,
 How lyke you my pollicies how wyslie haue I wrought,
 Nay rather how like you hir constancie and pacience,
 Truly that is wounderfull stronge in this inconuenience,
 But as I haue begon so will I afflict hir still,

I am kyn to a woman in all poynts she haue my will, 1230

Fare ye well no remedie I must depart,
 Fare well God be with you my Pigges nie with all my hart,
 If you had *Griffills* pacyence and condiscyons excelent,
 You and I would make a match to marye incontinent. *Exit*

Countes, Of *Pango* I the *Countis* am, my praise doth splendish bright,

Be loued I am for iustice cause, of euery faithfull wight,
 But one thinge, heapes on heapes, our grefe and dolefull paine
 And giues vs cause in gushing kinde, with teares to waile & plaine
 How spitfully hath death delt now, with me moast wofull wretch,
 What ment you deskenies so dire, your hands thus forth to stretch
 And merciles to giue such doome, as works a Ladies woe, 1241

Forlynge me my faithfull mate, so soone for to for goe,
 Why rather rest ye not, my file by force in twaine,
 Pour hatfull ye with rigoz mixt, to mozne doth me constrain

Maid, Comfort your selse my Ladie deare, let sorowes now decrease

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

It is longe time since that he died therfore your teares do cease
 Can teares giue life, or him restore to former life againe,
 No, why then do you most meakfully for him your mate complain
 I iudge that God displeas'd be, with thys your heauy mone, 1249
 His race was ronne leaue of your plaits for God wil haue his own
Countis My heaule minde you comfozt much, but nature shoes hir kynd,
Pango For thee hath wellsprings to mine eyes, to moyne his death allynd,
 His loue his faith so fully showne, to me his spouled mate,
 Doth giue me cause to poure out plaints, to shoe my haples fate,
 But who is that that now to vs hasterh thus a pace.

Maid A messinger my Ladie faire, this is the certaine case.
Dilligence God saue and p̄serue you my Ladie amiable,
 And lengthen your lyfe with prosperous increase,
 Your brother *Gautier* my Lord most honozable,
 Doth wishe your helth with quiet rest and peace, 1260
 Whose loue to the world shall neuer cease,
 He hath sent you here his Daughter young to cherishe,
 Which he with *Dilligence*, doth trust you will nourishe,
 And to trye the patience of hys Ladie and wise,
 This actyon doubtles was attempted,
 For thee thinketh that the sword hath rest the babe of life,
 Now therfore sith my Lord this triall hath frequented,
 He despyeth your honoz, as loue trixt you hath euer bin ostendid
 To conceale and kepe secret this his intent,
 And let it not be knowne but that it hath felt deathes dent. 1270

Countis Greet wel my Lord and brother dear, I wil perfourme his mind
 To vtmoast of my might this shall, be done he hath allynd,
 Welcome to me thou pretie one, thine aunte doth thee imbrace,
 My hart reuyues and skipes for ioye, to see thy pretye face,
 Greet thou in my behalfe my brothers noble wise,
 Whose vertues blowne a broad by fame, apere in hyr most ryfe.
Mefinger All shalbe done as you doe will, the Lord do you defend,
 For to *Salucia* now I purpose straight to wende.

Countis Fare well thou messynger, God in thy trauell sheld thee. 1279
Dilligence And to his safeguard noble Dame, thy seruāt aye doth yeld thee. *Exit*
Countis Oh lylly Babe whose feature saye surmountes the ruddie rose
 In shapinge every lim of thee Nature did forthe descloze,
 Hir cunnynge skyll for every wight that hath thy visage seene,

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

May saye and sweare a fairer peece hath neuer framed ben,
Come now receiue this Child behould his seemly face,
Hir smillinge cheare doth comfort me, God pour on hir his grace.

Maid, Oh God thou God of mightful powre, thou rocke on whō is staid,
My confidence and all my trust, my buckler and my ayd,
What liuinge wight hath seene, a fairer female Childe,
Hir liuely lookes and shape so cleare, hath doler cleane exild. 1290

Countes, Come on to giue it foode let vs departe this place.

Maid I will attend on your honoz by Gods grace. *Exiunt.*

Pollitick Ah sira yonder is poastinge to euery place,
Some ronne one waie and some ronne another,
And I am sent also this is aplaine case,
But by my hallidome I wot not whether,
Euen so now lo stodie and call to mynde,
And see if the occalyon thou canst fynde,
So loe now I haue it I sweare by Saint Richard,

The *Marquis* is in trauell God be hir speed, 1300

And I am sent for mother Apleyarde,
Who is a *Hydwylfe*, a *Midwife* in deade,
Such matters you know should not be slackt,
Perchaunce if I tarry my flesh may be hackt.
Whotop who the *Deiull* dwells here can any man tell,
Art thou a *Mayd* or a *widdow* that tendeth this house,
I thinke thou be syster to the *diccar* of *Hell*,
By mie worshop if I enter thou shalt beare me a louse.

Midwife What pratest thou thou solithe knaue canst thou tell,

Politick. Bones I promis you I haue got a liuery coate, 1310

Thers neuer a yard butts worth a flat groate,
Come on sira weele parte stakes and that by and by,
For I knaue can thou knaue hastly espie.

Midwife What lacke you sira tell me with spede.

Politicke I am sent for you *Misteris* *Midwife* in dead,
My *Ladie Marques* desyret you to come to hir presence,
For of your aid she standeth in great need.

Midwife I will goe with you with all diligence,

For that *Ladies* vertues do fare exceed.

Politicke Come on I be sech you for we will goe to gether,

The clouds be cleare God send vs sayre wether. 1320

God

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

- Midwife* ¶ God in this enterpise be our stafe and stape,
And send vs in our hulynes a moast happie daye,
Exiunt
- Gauter* ¶ Oh Lord so my hart with pensuenes is afflictid,
To see how my Ladyes, sorowes increase,
All solace and ioye from hir is reiected,
Of Child birth hir pangs as yet do not cease
So that to see hir tolled in such stormie woe,
My hart is perplexed all ioye I forgoe,
Well as one penyue, deuoid of consolacyon,
I will rest me here some tidings to heare,
I discry one of my seruants which with festinacion.
Unto my presence doth approch and draw neare,
Wellcome my frend what newes hast thou broght.
- Diligenc* ¶ Such honozabell Lord as to ioye may eleuat your thought,
My Ladie of a beawtifull man Chylde is delyuered.
- Gautier.* ¶ These tydings be ioyefull and sorowes haue bereued,
Take this reward thy paine to recompence,
To visyt my spoule I will doe my dilligence,
Which thus longe hath suffred sorowfull smart,
But the littyll Babe will much reuiue hir hart.
1330
Exiunt.
- Diligenc* ¶ My Lord hath giuen me aliberall reward,
His honor is now a verye ioyfull man,
To vs his seruants he giueth such regard,
That we be bent to please him as we can,
The hole houthould are very ioyefull now,
Because our Lady mistris is delieuerd of a man Childe,
And so is the hole cuntrie I may say to you
All tristfull sorow from them is erld.
Exit
- Politicke* ¶ Chear quoth you? mary chear in blacke Botoles,
Quassing, and caroulling, for all chrysten soules,
1350
A Chyistining quoth you marye ther was anotable feast,
Fyfte and forty hogheads of wine spent at the least,
Fyfte dosen Capons, and thye tymes as many Swans,
Lafe, ther was ould sport to see the Skuls like the Pang,
But a murin ont it was my chaunce the feast to leese,
But I cramd my belly full of Cake bhead and Cheele,
Stuft like a Poddinge bagge full bp to the throat,
See how fast the Buttons lie out of my Coate,

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

Feed yea faith I spare not, no I lustely lead 1360
Eate my meat I can thanke God, with him that Beares a head,
And as for carouling I thinke I did my parte,
Seuenteen gawns for my share, sixe portels and a quarte,
Thus iudge my friendes whether I haue lead well or no,
I eat and drinke merely wher euer I do goe,
But I must hence for the *Marquis* for mee doth looke,
Pay tis as I tell you, by the crosse of this booke:
Fare ye well and adewe I must hence a space,
But after a while you shall see this gentilmans face. Go out.

Enter the Nurse, bearing the childe in hir Armes.

Nurs A ioye to see howe pretelis, this Infant young can smile: 1371
The syght of this the parents care and woe,
From hidden best doth certainlye exile,
This to be certain trew the Gods do knowe,
And I poore *Nurs*, am not a littell glade,
To dandle this sweet soule my hart is faine,
I wishe for it of Gods longe life maie be had,
That in *Salucia* ioyfull ioye maie remaine,
To singe and to daunce it, I minde to take paine,
I carfull and dilligent for it will a bide, 1380
To rise early and slep late I will not disdaine,
To cherish and loue it, it doth me betide.

The Nurse singeth.

Lulla by baby, lulla by babye.
Thy Nurse will tend thee, as dulie as may be.

BE still my sweet sweeting, no lenger do crye,
Sing lulla by baby, lulla by baby:
Let dolloys bee fleetting I fancie thee I,
To rocke and to lull thee, I will not delay mee.

Lulla by baby .&c.

1390

What creature nowe liuing, would hasten thy woe,
Singe lulla by, lulla by, lulla by baby:
See for thy reluyng, the tyme I bestowe,
To daunce, and to prauce thee, as pretly as may bee.

Lulla by baby .&c.

The

The Plate of Patient Grissell.

The Gods bee thy shield, and comfort in need,
Sing lulla by, lulla by, lullaby baby:
They giue thee good Fortune, and well for to speed,
And this to desire, I will not delaye mee.

Finis. Enter *Dilligence* his sword drawn.

Dilligenc ¶ Gogs hart and his heele, wher is the hat, 1401
Dispatch it quickly, nay I am flat:

I must and I will, dispatch it by S. Tan,
And whie not, who should let mee, no man:
Good fortune, the Purle and the hat I espie,
With out peradventure, Ile make as the chylde should dye.

Nurs ¶ Sweete babe be still, and take thy quiet rest,
Thy Purle still to lull thee, doth giue hir consent:
To rocke thee a sleepe, I mynde to do my best,
Hushe littell babie, no lenger do lament. 1410

Dilligenc ¶ Hushe I will hushe it, of this be thou bolde,
Thou shalt of thy charge be nowe set free:
And thinke not but truth to thee I haue tolde,
The blood of the Infant, effused shall bee,
My Lorde hath giuen such commaundement to mee:
And therfore, see thou render it mee with out delaye.

Nurs ¶ To shield the poore Infant, I will do what I maye,
Although the one be slaine, yet this shall not die.
Dilligenc ¶ From thee force perforce, I will haue it I,
To weake thou art found, with mee for to strue. 1420

Nurs ¶ Yet will I assaye, the victooye to atchieue,
Though inferyor I seeme to thee, in fortitude and strength,
Yet by wordes and playnts, I may preuasle at length:
And therfore with out delayeng attend vnto mee,
Giue heede to my teares, let my wordes pondyed bee:
To slaye this young Infant is contrary to reason,
Thy raise and surpe vouch thou, with pittie to reason:
Who would commit murther, or slaye an Innocent
At anie mans chardge, and transgresse Gods commaundement,
Though fauour of my Lord thou fortune to fynde, 1430
Yet the righteous Judge aboue, hath thee vengeaunce allinde:
I wishe thee therfore dilligentlpe my wordes to skan,
And knowe it is better to please God, then anie moztall man.

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

Diligenc ¶ What telst thou me that, I knowe it well ye nough I,
 But if I kill it not I my selve shall dye,
 Therefore better to slaye, then with the sworde to be slaine:
 Giue mee the h̄at therfore, thy plaintes are spent in Vaine.

Nurs ¶ Alas yet heare mee, one woide let mee speake,
 Seeme not to kill it, neither so thy curse weake,
 That therbie you purchace then death and damnation, 1440
 But harke I will worke I, for the childes preservation:
 I will nourish it I and bring it vp as mine owne,
 And that it liueth to my Lorde neede not be knowne:
 Thus shalt thou please God, and the *Marques* I save,
 Peild to my desire I do thee hartelpe praye:

Diligenc ¶ No? all this is vaine, thy wordes are but wast,
 I will take the childe and murther it in haste. Go out.

Nurs ¶ O cruell father, O most intolozable case,
 In the brest of this *Marquis* Nature hath no place,
 Neyther canst thou befoze God, thy selve excuse 1450
 That seemest such tyrannie to thy flesh to vse,
 To murther thy children, inlargeth my care:
 To perseuer in sinne thy selve thou doste prepare,
 But wo to thee woe, whom the beastes do excell,
 That in the desertes continuallpe do dwell:

The Lionis her whelpes, doth earnestly tender,
 The Bear to her young ons in loue is not slender,
 But thou to thy owne flesh art father unkynde,
 To crye out against thee, pooze Purse I do mynde. 1460
 The benemous Serpent the Crocodill most dire,
 To bying vp her young hath carefull desire:

The mercilesse Tiger deuouide of all fauoz,
 To nourish her younglinges doth earnestly laboz,
 But thou (alas) disdaynest thy flesh for to feed,
 Thou rather delightest to make their hartes bleede.
 Two Childzen to death, thou nowe haste condemned:
 But knowe that the Lord, thou hast greatlye offended,
 I mourne thee pooze Grissill, thy hap I lament,
 But thou in this case art merueilous patient: 1469

To court I will haste mee, to comfort thee all that maye bee,
 But to crye out on the *Marquis* I will not delaye mee. Exit.

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

Politicke Ah sira I haue toucht hir I troe,
 Politicke Perfwacion hath giuen Grissell abloe,
 Abloe quoth you? such a one as sorow myght in create,
 But by his Bones hir mourninge doth cease,
 Yet she thinketh hir lyttill sonne is laine,
 But my pollices disceaue hir this is plaine,
 For it is sent to Bullin Lagras the truth is so,
 To the *Marquis* sister, the *Countis* of *Pangoe*,
 Who will nourish it, as it is well knowne, 1480
 As she doth his Daughter, which is kept as his owne,
 But sith that nether of these attempts hir pacience can moue,
 I am minded ageinst hir a new assault to proue,
 Which shall exempt hir from the top of fortunat prosperitie,
 And plounge hir deepe in the floods of aduersytie,
 Behould yonder they enter both to gether,
 Suerly I minde to giue hir, hir welcome hether,
 God saue your honors may I be bound with you my Lord to haue a
 Truly for your profit I wold speake w you faine. (word or twain

Marquis Say what you please I am readie the to heare. 1490
Perfwa Then I beseeche you come apart for it is secret geare.
Marquis With all my hart heare the I will.
Politicke And in faith I will seeke to pleasure you still,
 Harke it is euen so, you shall well espye,
 Harke againe, this is the mean hir pacyence to trie.

Marquis Lord this deuice I will straight put in bre,
Politick. I warant you hir domaige it shall procure,
 Now shall ye see my purpose sadge,
 I trowe we shall haue some pastime anone mother madge. 1499

Marques Hadam my deare and spoused mate, attend and giue good heade,
 To such words as from me thy Lord, at this time shall proceade,
 Thou seest our painfull plight, our grefe full well is showne,
 Our childrens losse to ech of vs, apparantly is knowne:
 Yet can not death of Infantes deare, appeale the blooddie mynde,
 Of nobles al, nor staunch the raige of commons moast vnkind,
 But now ther raige reuerted is, to quite me with disdaine,
 They seeke God knowes to banish me, from Impery and Raine,
 And thou art roote of all my grefe, my anguise and my care.

Grissell Am I the sprynge that vexeth thee, my louinge Lord declare.

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

Grissill Hath wispe troth aye sayled thee, hath dutie bin neglect, 1510
Doth anie wight that liueth nowe, of these thynges mee suspect,
But if I be the cause, that reaues thee of thy ioye:

If I see thee oh noble Lord, that worketh thyne annoye,
As my sweete Babes at Tirants heast, haue died on blooddy knife,
To swaige their raige, & win thee grace: spare not thy faithful wife
Let thousand galshes scootch this flesh, let them their raige displaye,
Let thousand woundes by stroake of kniues, take *Grissills* life away

Politicke Bodie of mee see her gentill disposed mynde,
Howe manie such wiues maye a man fynde:
Whiche seepng their husbands oppzessed with woe, 1520
Would willingly offer their liues to forgoe,
To mittigate the husbands paine, or ease his greef:
Not one I coniecture I am so harde of beleef.

Marquis My louing mate, thy life vntoucht, in sauegarde shall remayne,
Thy blood shall not effuzed bee, but needs I must be playne,
And eke expresse the hole effecte, why they frequent this spite
Ther muttring voyce conceailed longe, is showne in open sight,
They enuy my estate, so fell doth Fortune frowne,
Thou only art the blemmisher, of honoz and renowne,
Thy pooze degree, impouerisheth, my worthines and fame,
Thy pouertie eclipseth much, my dignitie and name, 1531
Therfore as pooze thou wert, so pooze thou shalt abyde,
And to thy neadie father wend, these Robes set clean alyde,
For I will wed another wife, which shall mine name aduaunce,
To top of foztuns hautie whele my fame thee shall in haunce
Hir noble stocke and yeares shall equall be to myne,
She shall prolead and I shue from some pzincly famous lyne,
But as thou didst in naked plight from thy pooze parent wend,
So barlie nackt to him againe I purpose thee to lend,
Thus shall my nobles ioye, their hate, full soone shall cease,
And I their Lord successiuelly, shall spend my dayes in peace.

Politicke Bones quod toyner who made God all mightie, 1542
These newes will vex and greue hir spitfullye,
To be banished so soddainly from hir husbands side,
And he to marrye another, clockinge Mistris Bide
Would moue the pacience of a good manye wyues,
I dare saie they had rather be ryd of their lyues.

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

Grissell Most humble here my sufferaigne Lord, thy listnig eares prepare
 Attentiuelie giue good regard, to that I shall declare,
 When I in poore estate did liue, ther with I was content, 1550
 I praisd my God, and bare the crosse, that he to me had sent
 Lyke case when that to this estate, your mate ye did elect
 My loe degree this choice of thine, vnfitte did suspekkt,
 I thought that twirt my vacant plight, and neadfull indigence,
 Thy ryche estate, and Lordly rule, deseruinge reuerence,
 Might no comparisson be made, and therfoze as vnmeete,
 I dempt my selke within thy roose to place or let my feete,
 Yet dyd thine honoz noble Lord, elekt me for thy mate,
 The gretter ruty the moze my paine, and most unhappie fate
 Fyft both my babes dysmembred are, the sword their flesh hath
 Next caulesly to cruciat me, new troubles they adoyne, (toyne
 Which patientlie I wolfull wise, of women all kozlozne, 1562
 Will byde and beare lassinge my sooe, fond fortune all to skoyne,
 But if this bannishment, and ablsence of thy wise,
 And twirt the Lordly sozt and thee, end this conceaiued styffe,
 I graunt with willinge minde, from hence to take my passadge,
 And rest me as I did tofoze, with in my fathers cottadge.

Marques Oh hart now reauie and rend, nowe byeake thou cleane in sonder
 The heauens aboue & lumiuing stars, at this attēpt may wonder
 All liuinge wights that heare thys fact will me reward with shame
 No condinge praise, but ill repozt, shall thunder forth my fame,
 Shall I forgoe my wedded wise, whose wispe troth is such, 1572
 That aye to do hir husband good, hir life thinketh not much,
 What though from simple stocke, hir nature be derpude,
 Hir vertues yeld such equall dome, that honoys the atchiude,
 And shall I then reieck, as abieck from my syght,
 My Ladye deare, whose vertues all, my senses much delight,
 No no not so, plucke backe thy feete, such acts exile thy thought,
 Let no such sinne against thy loue in any wyse be woyght.

Politick. What bodie a me, my Lord plucke vp your hart, 1580
 Be frollicke and ioyfull let sorowes aparte,
 Are you not ashamed to blubber and weepe,
 It is time now to playe the man, and not a symple sheepe,
 Proceed forward faint not, your purpose prolequite,
 Be not reputed acoward, the factt exrequite,

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

Let your countenance be sterne, like agentillman looke byg,
Els for this dyst ile not giue a fyg.

Marquis ¶ Followinge the molypens of Politicke Perswasion,
Against his stowly I will make inuasion.

Politicke ¶ Then do you well I sweare by Saint tan, 1590
I sweare by mine honoz ye shalbe deempt a man.

Marques ¶ Atwight not me with fortune Dame, cease soone I do the pray,
I must and will defend my selfe lest haply I decaye,
Come of dispoyle thy selfe, cast of thy rich araye,
From pynchye state, to fathers house, all naked take thy waie.

Grissill ¶ Thy will forth with shall straight be done, obedyent I will be,
To doe the things my worthy Lord that you commaunded me.

Politicke ¶ Whope hoyda now Saint, *Gillian* blesse ye,
In faith pretie sweetinge these tidinges dealeas ye.

Maia ¶ Alas Madame it greueth me this daie to see. 1600

Grissill ¶ Be not sorowfull at all, for this much pleaseth me,
For by my deperture my Lord shall lyue in rest,
His afflicted hart with carfull thoughts opprest,
Shall fynde a salue of sauegard, to cuere his paine,
Which doubtles shall make poore *Grissill* faine,
Therfore deare Damzell thy lamentacion cease,
Sith that my ablence shall ioyes innumerable increase,
The commons raige to mildnes shalbe diuerted,
The nobillite shall shun skobernes, and become gentill harted,
These consuminge *Agonies* which so much torment the minde,
Of my singular sufferaigne, shalbe sure redresse to finde. 1611

Politicke ¶ Bones of a Taber with this fact shee is pleased,
She careth not so his Lords paines be ealed,
I haue not seene his like, his patience dothe exceed,
I saie no moze but God send vs good speede,
How many such be liuinge at this daye,
Not one I coniecture for Grissills decaye,
Therbe a number liuinge that Grissills haue to name,
But yet very shewithe by naturall dispoisyon,
Ther maners assuredly far differ from the same, 1620
Let the married soart here of make deffinicion,
For the woman oft times to choller the good man will prouoke,
Be well assured they must beare the greatist stroake.

Take

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

Grissell ¶ Take here these Robes and ornaments costly,
 Take here these things and Jewellus sumptuous,
 Take here the Kinge wher with we ioynded Matrimonie,
 Which daie was solemnysed and to all men ioyus,
 Bestow them where it shall please thee, my Lord most bountuous
 For all that euer I receiued of thee, I yeld thee againe,
 Beinge well contented in my former state to remaine, 1630
 Yet moast worthise Lord, I do the humblye desire,
 One simple boune graunt me for a recompence,
 The thinge is of small value that I shall require,
 Which I beg on my kneele with honoz and reuerence.

Marquis ¶ Speake Grissill if thy Boune be sypmple I graunt thy request
 Arise incontinent let it be forth exprest.

Grissell ¶ I thanke your honoz for your beneuolence,
 Belechinge God to sheild thee from all in conuenience,
 On mee some time thy wife take remoyle,
 Extend not against me the fulnes of rigors foize, 1640
 But plant pittie in thy brest be somewhat moze fauozable,
 Consider it were great ignomye to thy estate honozable,
 To send me awaie naked to my fathers cottage,
 And to me wretched wight ten times moze domaige,
 For all creatures shall be houlde the secrete cozps of myne,
 Which somtimes were most amozus and pleasant to thy eie,
 Grant therfoze this request to me wofull wight,
 Let pittie subdue and banquish the rancozous spite,
 A sypmple Smocke to hide and couer my nakednes,
 Be it neuer so simple I belech your goodnes, 1650
 Which I craue, to recompence my birginitie,
 The which I brought but cary not a waie with me,
 Let not me be made a lassinge stocke I praiſe the,
 But grant my request and take pittie on me.

Marquis ¶ I grant thy desyre a Smocke thou shalt haue,
 And be conuaded to thy father like case.

Grissell ¶ Truly no other thinge of the I will craue,
 I praye God that in thy syght I haue founde grace,
 And syth this as my dowye in aidge is ordained,
 Most louingly this scourge shalbe interrayned. 1660

Marquis ¶ Come Grissill with out lenger delaye,

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

Thou shalt to thy father this present daye.

Grissell

¶ Most willingly on your Lordship I will attend,
Being desyrous to him for to wend. *Exiunt.*

Politicke

¶ Ah syra this geare is trimly handled by St. tan,
Howe saye you hath not Pollicie nowe playd the man,
Shee shall home to her father see, this is trim:
But her sudden fall will trouble the harte of him,
Fare ye well all, I will bee packing,
Tush ther wants a man, where Pollicie is lackyng. *Exit.*

¶ Enter *Rumor* blowyng & puffing. 1671

Rumor

¶ What thyng so euer is attempted,
Or through the world frequented,
From *Rumor* can not concealed bee,
For I spread it through the whole countrie,
And nowe haue I occasion my troumpe to bloe,
And expresse publishe poore Grissells woe,
From the top of honoz, the Marquis will her exile,
For Fortune is sickle, although shee do simple,
Her chaunges vnstable, full of mutabylitie, 1680
Her wheele is full glyding, and of no certaintie,
Her freshe village, full soone chaungerth cheare,
As nowe by Lady Grissill, doth playnly appeare,
For shee is nowe throtone, from the top of prosperitie,
And with old Iannickle, must suffer paynfull pouertie,
Which fact swiftly through *Salutia* I will blowe,
That all liuyng creatures his crueltie maye knowe.

¶ Enter *Vulgus*.

Vulgus

¶ What Tumult through out *Salutia* is spred,
A wonderfull Rumoz among the commons is risen of late,
A sudden report through out the towne is fled: 1691
Which forceth vs all, to betwayne Grissells state,
Agaynst her causeles is by him kyndled much debate,
For hee will exile from him, this Ladie of excellence:
And constraine her nowe to lyue in needfull indigence,
Which thing to thinke on, so pinche these our hartes,
That for her sake wee are sayne teares to distill,
Shee often reliued our penurye and smartes,
And therfore for her nowe, of force lament I will:

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

It is euen so this chaunce hapneth most ill,

1700

Punder the entretch alas and well awaye,

Our harts ar made sorowfull to see this daie.

Reason ¶ Oh Ladie we mourne and shed teares, this daye to beholde.

Sobriete ¶ Our myndes are meastfull, pitious playntes wee vnfolde.

Grissell ¶ Comfort your selues my Lordes, let heauines apart,

Foꝛ Patience to suffer this, hath armed my hart:

This Crosse is not contemned, but willingly imbraced,

On God my trust, and confidence is placed,

Therfoꝛe mourne no moze, be neyther sorowfull noꝛ sad:

But I reioyce in God, my hart is full glad.

1710

Vulgus ¶ Oh Grissill, Grissill, our hartes are full of heauines,

Would God wee had wherewith, to couer thy nakednes:

Then should wee ad remedie to this thy greef,

Thou surely at our handes, shouldste finde some releef:

But woe be to this Marquis, which hath heaped thy payne,

On his crueltie, wee haue iust cause to complayne:

Woe be to this Marquis, ye cursted bee his dayes

And this shalbe my prayer, nowe and alwayes.

Exit

Reason ¶ Lowe Maddame, we appoche your fathers house at this season.

Grissell ¶ Friends in place I haue ben very gealon,

1720

But nowe my fathers pꝛesence I shall continually behoulde,

Whose company to mee, is moze dearer then Gould.

Jannickle ¶ What clamorous noyle is this, that I heare,

That all be not well, I greatly feare,

Ahlas) my Daughter Grissill, all naked I see,

Which sight to discern, much greeueth mee,

Well I will haste to cloth her, with all conuenient speed,

With this ragged coat, which I hane kept .xii. yeares in deed.

Reason ¶ Behould father Jannickle, my Lord hath sent you a present.

Sobriete. ¶ Foꝛ as thee came naked, so naked hee hath her sent.

1730

Jannickle ¶ Thanke my Loꝛde of his gentlenes and courtesie,

Tell his honoꝛ my Daughter, is right welcome to me.

Reason ¶ Wee are but the messengers, of his honoꝛable minde,

And nowe that our functions is ended,

Wee commit thee to God, Oh Grissill molke kynde:

To go homeward, wee are intended.

Grissell ¶ God in your goyng be your aid and guid,

Commend

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

Commend me to your Lord with humble salutation,
Tell him I will praye for him daye time and tyde,
I beseech God be his preseruacion.

1740

Sobrietie

¶ Grissill all that you haue said shall performed be,
Father Iannickle our messaige is ended
And God be with ye. *Exiunt*

Ianickle

¶ Fare ye well, God be your defender,
For your Lordes courtesie, thanks to you I render.

O my chylde, and dearely beloued,
To pour forth foylon of teares, for thee I am moued:
O harte breake in peeces, nowe sorowe is reuiued,
To see thee of dignitie thus cleane depriued:
Receauue thine owne Coate, and couer thy nakednes,
Which I haue kept as treasure is, with dilligentnes:
Euer doubting that this *Marquis* would displeas'd bee,
With thy lowe estate, and indigent pouertie,
What father could chuse, but on Fortune complayne,
Which such hard Fate for thee doth ordayne,
O froward Fortune, all together disceaueable,
Full of Cerise flatterye, all together varyable:
The chaunges of thy hatwre wheele, to Luna I may compare,
Who so trusteth thee hath often cause of care:

1750

From prosperitie to aduersitie the simple thou doste throe,
Phis on thee Fortune, whiche art cause of my woe.

1761

Grissell

¶ O my father bee ioyfull & praye God for my fall,
For hee that gaue prosperitie, can lend aduersitie:
And at his prescript pleasure hee can swaidge the thzall,
Of such as bee afflicted with needfull pouertie,
Embrace Pacience, let go rashe timeritie:
Blame not Fortune for my ouerthroe,
It was the will of God, that it should be so:
And what creature liuing, can withstand his prouidence,
This Crosse is to trye vs, as hee doth his elect,
Therefore good father, arme your selve with Pacience:
Let not murmuracion your hart infect,
But blesse mee *Iehoua* which his doth direct,
Then will hee protect vs, from daunger and harme,
Therefore with Pacience, our selues let vs arme.

1770

¶ Daughter

The Plaie of Patient Griffell.

- Ianickel* ¶ Daughter I praise God as durie doth me hynde,
But yet thys fall of thine will no part from my minde,
Oh how is my hart perplexed with woe,
Not one but God my anguish doth knowe.
- Griffill* ¶ Good father I beseeche you let mourninge alyde,
Cast your care on God who for vs will prouide,
These handes shunne idlenes the Purse of wickednes,
My Rocke and Distake, are instruments doubtles,
With which as I haue in times past, so now in dead,
Will I labor and toyle our bodiex to lead.
- ¶ Enter Pacience and Constancye.
- Pacience* ¶ I represent a vertue called Pacience,
Very meete and needfull for such as suffer affliction,
I comfort the mind tolled with inconuenience,
And in struckt them humblye to suffer punission,
I teach them patiently to duer correction,
So that in trouble I am a safe preservation,
Meete for all those that hyde veracion.
- Constanci* ¶ Like case I Constancie, am of like excelence
I kepe the minde, vpright from the gulphes of dispaire,
A sufficient preseruatiue am I, to the feebled conscience
I teach him on God to laye the yoke of all his care,
Constancy cauleth him to truth to repaire,
So that who so hath vs, to much ease shall finde,
For we are perfit props to the disquieted minde.
- Pacience* ¶ I pacience expulsee teares lachrymable,
And ad to the sorowfull comfortable releef.
- Constanci* ¶ And I constancye, to the tristfull am prophitable,
I teach them amidst their trouble, to forget greef.
- Pacience* ¶ To these two present, my selfe I iniugate.
- Constanci* ¶ With pacience I constancy am alwayes confederate,
And ther with them, lyke case I will resyde.
- Griffill* ¶ Father be ioyfull let your sorowes slide,
Behoulde these vertues which God hath vs lent,
To embrace pacyence with mee, good father be dilligent,
This is a medicin for vs very comfortable.
- Ianickel* ¶ Deare Daughter to your sayings I am agreable,
Welcom pacience anecessary instrument,

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

To them that in consyence do suffer toyment.

Grissell ¶ Laye holde on Constancie, which from Dispaire will vs theild.

Ianakell ¶ To do as you do, in all things I yeild.

Grissill ¶ So, now if you please let vs depart.

Ianickell ¶ I graunt to go hence with all my hart.

Pacience ¶ And I Pacience, on you will attend.

Constanci ¶ In stoymes tribulous coustancye shall you defend.

Exiunt

Diligence ¶ From my Lord *Marquis*, euen now I am sent,

1821

Who euen now is ioyned to Bullin Lagras,

To seatch whom his new spouse a Lady excelent,

As beawtifull as euer the Greekishe *Hellin* was,

Whom *Paris* the Troyeane, hath wone in fight,

And brought to *Priams* Court, by puissaunt might.

But at this season accordinge to my Lords commaundiment,

Which with humillitie I will bynge to perfection,

As it becometh euer seruant to be dilligent,

So as I am charged, I will giue Grissill here of intellection,

Harke, me thinkes I here heyr voice delectable,

1831

Suerly to vertue, this Lady was tractable,

How God be here, who resteth in this place.

Grissell ¶ My pooze father and I this is a plaine case.

¶ Go once or twise about the Staige, let Grissill
Singe some songe, and sit Spinninge.

¶ A songe for Grissill, when the
Wellinginger commeth to hir.

Grissell

How greatly am I bounde to prayse

My God that syts in Throne,

1840

Which hath allwaidged by prouidence,

My anguiste and my mone.

¶ These vertues which with mee relyde

all greekes haue banisht quit,

Pacience do ease my heaulnes

and pensue pained plight.

¶ Ceke Constancye from all anoye

doth Grissill dayly theild,

So that I will be ioyfull still,

and prayse to God aye yelde.

1850

Which

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

¶ Which in this greuous dolfull fall,
Suche mercie doth extend:

As from the gulphes, of fond Dispaire,
his creatures doth defend.

¶ The surgyng Sea, so troubulous,
which tost mee to and froe:

Whole watrye waues had suncke mee nyghe,

In flooddes of deadlye woe,

¶ Alayed are, and I set free,
from perrill and from payne:

The Lord aboue, of his meare loue,

no doubt hath made mee sayne. Finis.

1860

Diligenc

¶ God saue the Grissill, and sheild the from care,
My Lord Marquis, doth him to the commend,
Desiringe the home to his place, to repaire,
For to wed a new Lady, hee doth purpose and in tende,
But the rule of his house, is assignd onlie to thee,
All the officers of his house, shall to thee obedient bee,
But aboue all thinges thou must make prouision,
That his newe Spoule maye be lodged after the best wise:
The order of all thinges, must bee assinde to thy discreccion,
All thinges shall bee done, as you do deuise.

1870

Grissill

¶ With all my harte I will laye my Rocke aside,
To pleasure his honoꝝ, in all that I can.

Diligenc

¶ Then in this place, let vs no lenger abyde,
For I purpose to bee your waityng man.

Exiunt.

Marques

¶ Come on my Ladie deere, my Spoule and louing mate,
The gods be blest which vnto mee, haue giuen such luckye Fate,
As to inioye so faire a wife, whose feature doth excell,
The Goulden Pimphe, and Mules nine, which on *Pernasso* dwell:
These armes thy corps imbrace, on thee my ioye dependes,
To pleasure thee my Ladie deare, thy husbands minde attendes.

1879

Daughte

¶ And eke to thee as dutie byndes, loues fruites I will imparte,
Thou onlye my beloued mate, inioyest thy seruants harte:
The fruites of frendly loue, to thee shall still be showne,
My hart is thine, receaue the same, and take it as thine owne.

Marques

¶ Possesse thou myne while death deuise, & shed my file in twain,
As long as life abides in corps, thine owne I will remaine:
Reioyce ye Nobles all, deere sister ioyfull bee,

The Plaie of Patient Griffell.

- For nowe my ioyes increaled are, my *Nuptials* you shall see, 1890
Countis O Brother mine gods giue you ioye, & lengthen long your liues,
 Be present *Himeneus* thou, the vanquisher of strives:
 Subdue the *Furies* fell, whose distages hgly blacke,
 Prognosticate that ioyfull ioyes, shall come to ruinous wozacke.
Brother Amen and *Ioue*, that rules, the earth and heauen aboue,
 The *Plannits* seauen and euery thyng, that orderly doth moue,
 Sende such increale of frendlines, that discords fruits may cease,
 And faithfull loue betwixt you twaine, may more & more increale.
Marquis I thanke you both for your good wills, now let vs haste awaye,
 In pompous wise to solemnise, our happye spouall daye. 1900
Griffill Now that I haue set all thinges in aredines,
 For the commying of my Lord, I purpose to attend,
 Whose honnor I will receaue with willingnes:
 And the fruites of good will to him still ostend,
 Patience is the Buckler wherwith I contend,
 And Constancie in combat, stayeth mee vpright,
 These so arme mee, that I can not be vanquisht in fight:
 Lo behould yonder thay begin in presence to appeare,
 Certes his spoule is wonderfull Amorous,
 With him lyke case, commeth a youngman wonderfull sayre,
 I will salute them with loquie courtuous: 1911
 God saue you my Lorde, and send you his peace,
 Welcome sayre Ladye, God send thee prosperitie,
 God blesse the O my Lord, with *Widomes* increale,
 God preferue you all, right worthy *Nobillitie*.
 God graunt you to spende your time in tranquillitie:
 God streame on thy famous assembly, the spirit of grace,
 And graunt you long, on earth to conne your race.
Marquis Wee thanke thee Griffill for thy courtuous salutation,
 And regreet thee agayne, with like gratulation, 1920
 But tell one thinge, that I shall of thee require,
 Shewe frankly thy minde, I do thee homblie desyre:
 How laist thou? is not my spoule beautifull and faire,
 Washe not I praye thee, but bouldly thy fancie declare.
Griffell My Lorde touching your inquisition,
 Gladly ye shall heare poore Griffills diffinition:
 Her comly shape Nature hath framd aright,

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

Each liuely lim appeares, full shining in my sight,
Her villaige white, with rednes mixt I deeme,
Would moue euery creature, her beautie to esteeme, 1930
And to conclude, in my simple iudgement,
Ther can not in the world bee a fayrer, this is euident:
But harke my Lord, what I saye to thee agayne,
Take heed thou picke her not, with the Needles of disdayne:
As thou hast done the other, for thee hath bin brought by dayntelie,
And peradventure, can not take the matter so pacientlie.

Marquis Oh Grissell, thy Vertues I must commend,
Euen thou onely, deseruest perpetuall prayse:
What tounge sufficiently, can thy laude ostend,
I haue not seene thy lyke in all my dayes, 1940
For faithfull loue, thou doest far exceed,
Dido, Penelope, or anie such in dead:

Thou onely art my Spouse, and beloued mate,
Thee onely I fancye, all other Spousalls I hate:
And this Virgin which thou deemest, my Spouse shall bee,
Is thy Daughter and mine, this is the veritie,
And this young man, which thou seeist in sight,
Is thy sonne and mine, my loue and Ladie bright:
They were not slayne, but Nourished tenderlye,
With my sister, the Countis of Pango herelye: 1950

Therefore be ioyfull, set sorowes alyde,
Thou art my loue, my Ladie, and Byde:
And this whiche I haue done, I promise thee I,
Was done for this cause, thy Pacience to trye.

Grissell My Children, oh mosse fortunat daye,
Blessed be God, that kept you from decaye: ¶ Fall downe.
Ah I thought the sword, had ended your race,
But nowe I prayse God, I beue your comlye face.

Daughter Ah my sweet mother, did thou suffer such payne,
For mee thy Childe, great is thy Pacience, 1960
God graunt I maye kindly, reward thee agayne,
With the perfecte fructes, of Childlie obedience.

onne Ah deare mother, in whole wombe I was nourished,
And theatin by deuine essence, fortie weekes cherished,
Halt thou suffred for mee, such anguishing tribulation,

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

God graunt I may requite the, with condinge veneration.

*Countis
Grissell*

Oh Syfter great cause haue you ioyfull to bee.
Ah it delighteth me much, my Children to see,
My ioyes so farre exceed and be innumerable,
That no wight liuinge, to shoe them is able,
I can not vtter my minde teares so abounde,
Wherefore at this instant, let vs depert this place.

1970

*Reason
Sobrietie
Marques
All
Ianicell*

We are glad that Grissell such fauor hath founde.
Truly these tydynges, the commons will solace.
Come on Nobillitie, let vs hence wend.
On your honoz willinglie we will attend.

Exiunt.

Much musinge in minde, wheare my Grissell is thus longe,
My waueringe minde is tossed, with thoughts to and froe,
I pray God this Marques, haue done hir no wronge,
For sought meanes further, to trouble me w greeke and woe,
For then shall ould Ianickle, his life soone for goe,
Hir domadge is mine, hir harme as mine I take,
Till such time as I see hir, my sorowes can not slake,
Good lucke I trust, for the Marquis entreteth this place,
I will hast to him with all festinacyon,
And rest me behinde him, alittill space,
Peradventure I shall heare newes, by his communication.

1981

*Marquis
Reason*

What saie you my Lords, doth not Grissell excell.
From all spoused Dames she beareth the Bell,
I haue not seene hir like since the time of my creation,

1990

Sobriete

Grissell your spouse dothe merrit commendacion,
Hir Fame is blowne through euery nacion,
All creatuers liuinge may speake of hir praise,
I neuer knew hir like in all my life daies.

Marquis

Then this one thinge I praise you tell me,
Is it not conuenient, that after me hir Children raine,
And inioye ouer *Salutia*, rule and dignitie,
Here in I desire you shoe your iudgmentes plaine.

Reason.

Right honorable Lord a boyding daingers, and doubts scrupelous
I franckly and freely, make protestacyon,
That hir condiscion, beinge as they be most vertuous
Shall cause hir Children to be had in estimacion,

2001

And

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

And God willinge as our Superiours, they shall rule this nacion,
For sith they be the fruts, which from your loynes did proceed,
Of force they shall posses, your inheritance in dead.

Sobrietic. ¶ And I plight my faith therto, for perfourmaunce of the same,
Els God confound me with confusion and shame.

Marquis ¶ I giue you most humble thankes for your good will,
In that ye are bent to mine, after me a legeaunce to fulfill,
Come on I besech ye and walke with me a littill waye.

2011

Both ¶ We are readie yest, your honoz to obaie.

Ianickell ¶ These comfotable tidinges, comfot my aiged hart,
Be merry now *Ianickel* let all sorowes departe,
Blessed be God the giuer of all consolacion,
Which hath stirred this *Marquis* on Grissill to take compassion.

Marques ¶ God speede good father, how is it with thee,
Thinke not but thou art highly beloued of mee,
Oh thy curtuosie in my syght hath found grace,
Not as a strainger, but as my father I the imbrace,
Put of these garments for thee most vnfitte,
For thou shalt be honozed through out this Cittie,
Cloth thy selse with these Ornamentals with out lenger delais,
Helpe my Nobilitie, my father to araye,
Shall not I loue thee, and yeld the veneration,
Which to my spoused mate extendest compassion,
To harbor hit in neade you doubtles were dilligent,
Therefore to prefer thee to honoz, I iudge it conuenient,
With in my rouse thou shalt be placed,
Let ioyes a bound, and sorowes be defaced.

2020

2030

Ianickell ¶ Oh honorable Lord, Ioue reward this kindnes,
Which to me poore *Ianickle*, you presently ostend,
God in create the with wisdom, I besech his goodnes,
And from all daingers thy person defend,
Which the fullnes of frendship dost frendly extend,
To me croked wight, and my Daughter thy wise,
I beinge half dead, you haue reuiued my life.

Marquis ¶ O Father repeat not my vnkindnes I pray the,
Which afflicted thy Child, with the scourge of aduerstie,
But learne now in thine ould daies ioyfull to be,
And posses with vs Gods gift prosperitie,

2040

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

- Come on to our Hanlyon, let vs all together repaire.
All ¶ To waight on your honoꝝ we dilligent are. *Exiunt.*
Grissell ¶ Come on my deare Syster whose kindnes to recompence,
 Pooze Grissell is vnable, which keptt from inconuenience,
 My Childzen, fosfringe them as thine owne
 God graunt my good will to the may be showne.
Countis ¶ Syster that which I did, proceeded from my hart,
 It suffizeth me that thankes to me ye do imparte.
Grissell ¶ Els might I be counted of all creatures most vnkinde, 2050
 Verely your kindnes, shall neuer out of my minde,
 Oh my Childzen, your Mothers hart is madeaine,
 Where as with *Cleopatra*, I had cause to complaine,
 Now reiect I sorowe, and mourning cheare
 And constrained am to ioye, to see you liuinge heare.
Daughter ¶ Oh my beloued Mother, great was the tribulacion,
 Which your Motherly hart for vs did indure.
Sonne ¶ But now our presence, ten times moze consolacion,
 To you I hope shall dailye procure.
Grissell ¶ Truth, but yet one thinge doubtles in creaseth my sorow,
 And will force me to shed teares, euen and morowe, 2061
 Oh my deare Father thy absence I be waille,
 To see thee suffer indigente greef, doth my hart assaile
 Would God with in our roufe, thou mghtest thy place in ioye
 Then doubtles weare eased my greef and anoiē,
 Let me see oh hart thy doloyz abrogate,
 Let ioye abound thy former solace reuocate,
 Beholde thy husband and thy Fathers aidged face,
 Who both together frendly do entder this place,
 His rags are chainged to Sylkes I perfytylly see, 2070
 Now know I aluredly my Lord doth fauoz mee.
Marques ¶ Come on good Father, reioyce and be mearie,
 With pensyue state I iudge you be wearye,
 Behoulde thy Daughter my Ladie and wise,
 With whom God willinge, I will end this life,
 Behoulde my two Childzen reuiue thy selke againe,
 Embrace gladnes, oblight thy former payne.
Ianickle ¶ God be blessed, which from so great aduerfitie,
 Hath elleuated vs to great prosperitie,

The Plaie of Patient Grissell.

Ah sweete Childzen God blesse you, and send you his grace,
 My hart doth leape to behoulde your face, 2081
 Now haue I seene that, which I longe to see despyred haue,
 Now doth my hoarie head couit the graue,
 Now doth death delaie time and spare his dart,
 And will not sonder, ould *Ianickells* hart.

Grissell ¶ Good father couit not death, your race is not runne,
 The destinies moze lenger, your threed haue sponne.

Sonne ¶ Oh Grandfather praye God, and wishe not your death.

Daughtr ¶ Pay rather desire him, to lengthen your Breathe.

Marques ¶ Come on now let vs to our place with ioyfullnes,

All ¶ We all will attend on you with willyngnes.

Exiunt.

¶ The last speaker.

Postemus ¶ Here to conclude right gentell audience,

Actor At this season, wee purpose and intend

Besechinge you all, with vs to haue pacyence,

For loath would we be, the simplest here to offend,

In our auctoys behalke to you we did commend,

This histozie, wherin we haue bin bould to shoue

What virtues in *Grissell*, that Ladie did shoue :

Although rude our dosinges, and auctoys metoꝝ bee,

Yet seeme not vs, noꝝ him to deface,

We submit our selues, vnto your iudgmentes wee

And thus we knit vp, with support of your grace.

Desiringe your praiers with vs in this case,

In which our Noble Queene Elelabeth, to you we commend,

Whom God in the Bowels of his mercy do defend,

Blesse hir O Father, and graunt hir *Nestors* dayes,

Sheild hir with the wings of his mercie and grace,

That as shee hath begon to set forward thy praise,

So strengthe hir Lord, to aduance thine honoz in euery place,

Byz sooes and enemies vtterlye deface,

Whether they be fozen oz ciuill, let their confusion be seene

Lord blisse thou our lande, and preserue our Royall Queene.

The Lords of the Councell, Lord Gouverne arpyght,

That they may be mindfull of the common weale,

Shadowe and defend them, with thy glorious spright,

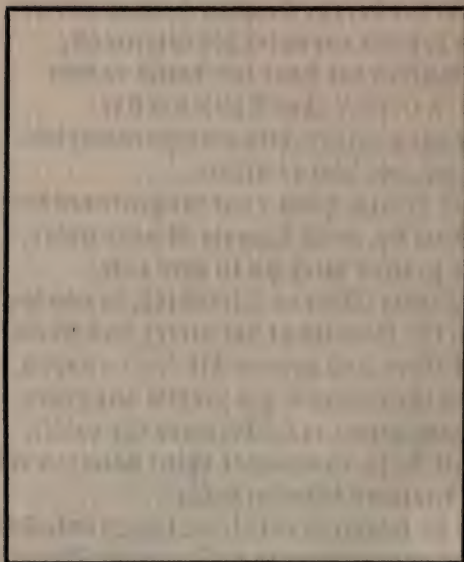
The Plaie of Pacient Grissell.

That vnto thy truth they may beare loue and zeale,
Vnto them (O God) the spright of knowledge reueale,
That synne may be extirped and rooted out quight,
And we vnto truth, and virtue, fyx our delight.

2120

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