ARCHBISHOP

I do not doubt you.

WESTMORELAND

I am glad of it.

(4.1.325-26)

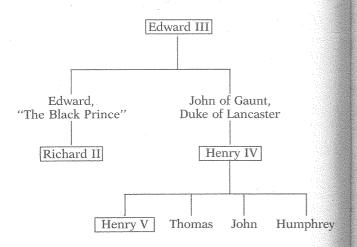
However, when there are a number of short verse-lines that can be linked in more than one way, we do not, with rare exceptions, indent any of them.

The Explanatory Notes

The notes that appear on the pages facing the text are designed to provide readers with the help that they may need to enjoy the play. Whenever the meaning of a word in the text is not readily accessible in a good contemporary dictionary, we offer the meaning in a note. Sometimes we provide a note even when the relevant meaning is to be found in the dictionary but when the word has acquired since Shakespeare's time other potentially confusing meanings. In our notes, we try to offer modern synonyms for Shakespeare's words. We also try to indicate to the reader the connection between the word in the play and the modern synonym. For example, Shakespeare sometimes uses the word head to mean source, but, for modern readers, there may be no connection evident between these two words. We provide the connection by explaining Shakespeare's usage as follows: "head: fountainhead, source." On some occasions, a whole phrase or clause needs explanation. Then we rephrase in our own words the difficult passage, and add at the end synonyms for individual words in the passage. When scholars have been unable to determine the meaning of a word or phrase, we acknowledge the uncertainty.

HENRY IV Part 2

Henry IV's Ancestors and Descendants



Characters in the Play

RUMOR, Presenter of the Induction

KING HENRY IV, formerly Henry Bolingbroke PRINCE HAL, Prince of Wales and heir to the throne. later KING HENRY V

JOHN OF LANCASTER THOMAS OF CLARENCE HUMPHREY OF GLOUCESTER

younger sons of King Henry IV

in rebellion against

King Henry IV

supporters of King Henry IV

EARL OF NORTHUMBERLAND, Henry Percy NORTHUMBERLAND'S WIFE LADY PERCY, widow of Hotspur

Richard Scroop, ARCHBISHOP of York LORD MOWBRAY

LORD HASTINGS

LORD BARDOLPH

TRAVERS

MORTON

SIR JOHN COLEVILLE

EARL OF WESTMORELAND

EARL OF WARWICK

EARL OF SURREY

SIR JOHN BLUNT **GOWER**

HARCOURT

LORD CHIEF JUSTICE

SIR JOHN FALSTAFF

POINS

BARDOLPH

PETO

PISTOL

FALSTAFF'S PAGE

HOSTESS of the tavern (also called Mistress Quickly)

DOLL TEARSHEET

JUSTICE ROBERT SHALLOW

JUSTICE SILENCE

DAVY, servant to Shallow

MOULDY

SHADOW

WART

men of Gloucestershire

FEEBLE BULLCALF

FANG

London officers

EPILOGUE

Drawers, Musicians, Beadles, Grooms, Messenger, Soldiers, Lords, Attendants, Porter, Servants

HENRY I Part 2

ACT 1

Induction. Following the battle of Shrewsbury (where King Henry and Prince Hal were victorious and Hotspur killed), Rumor spreads the false information that Hotspur was the victor and the King and Prince were killed.

2. vent of hearing: ear(s)

4. **post-horse:** a horse kept at an inn for the use of travelers; **still:** continually; **unfold:** reveal, disclose

12. **fearful:** terrible; **musters:** gatherings of soldiers

13. big: i.e., pregnant; grief: injury

15. **no such matter:** i.e., none of that is true; **pipe:** small wind instrument, like a flute or recorder

16. jealousies: suspicions

17. of ... stop: i.e., so easily played plain: simple stop: finger hole or opening in a recorder or flute

18. **blunt:** rude, dull; **monster...heads:** Proverbial: "A **multitude** of people is a beast of many heads."

19. **still-discordant:** i.e., always in conflict (with a pun on **discordant** as "out of tune")

22. my household: i.e., those who attend or serve me (here, the theater audience)

23. **King Harry's victory**: i.e., Henry IV's **victory** over rebel forces, dramatized in *Henry IV*, *Part 1*

$\langle INDUCTION \rangle$

Enter Rumor, painted full of tongues.

[RUMOR]

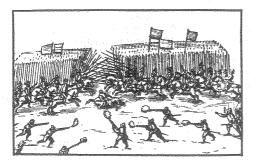
Open your ears, for which of you will stop The vent of hearing when loud Rumor speaks? I, from the orient to the drooping west, Making the wind my post-horse, still unfold The acts commenced on this ball of earth. Upon my tongues continual slanders ride, The which in every language I pronounce, Stuffing the ears of men with false reports. I speak of peace while covert enmity Under the smile of safety wounds the world. And who but Rumor, who but only I, Make fearful musters and prepared defense Whiles the big year, swoll'n with some other grief, Is thought with child by the stern tyrant war, And no such matter? Rumor is a pipe Blown by surmises, jealousies, conjectures, And of so easy and so plain a stop That the blunt monster with uncounted heads. The still-discordant way'ring multitude, Can play upon it. But what need I thus My well-known body to anatomize Among my household? Why is Rumor here? I run before King Harry's victory,

10

15

20

- 25. **Hotspur:** i.e., Henry Percy, son of the Earl of Northumberland
 - 28. office: assigned part; duty, function
- 29. **Harry Monmouth:** i.e., Prince Hal, called **Monmouth** after his birthplace in Wales
 - 31. the Douglas: i.e., Archibald, Earl of Douglas
- 35. **hold:** stronghold (The castle walls are made of **ragged** [that is, rough] **stone**, but there is wordplay on **ragged** as old and **worm-eaten**.)
- 37. **crafty-sick:** i.e., pretending to be sick; **posts:** messengers
- 41. **smooth...false:** i.e., flattering or pleasant misinformation
- 41–42. worse . . . wrongs: i.e., more harmful than painful truths



The Battle of Shrewsbury. (Ind. 24)
From John Speed, A prospect of the most famous parts
of the world . . . (1631).

Who in a bloody field by Shrewsbury Hath beaten down young Hotspur and his troops, 25 Ouenching the flame of bold rebellion Even with the rebels' blood. But what mean I To speak so true at first? My office is To noise abroad that Harry Monmouth fell Under the wrath of noble Hotspur's sword, 30 And that the King before the Douglas' rage Stooped his anointed head as low as death. This have I rumored through the peasant towns Between that royal field of Shrewsbury And this worm-eaten hold of ragged stone. 35 (Where) Hotspur's father, old Northumberland, Lies crafty-sick. The posts come tiring on. And not a man of them brings other news Than they have learnt of me. From Rumor's 40 They bring smooth comforts false, worse than true wrongs. [Rumor] exits

' Rumor ' exits.

- 1.1 Northumberland, who had pleaded illness as an excuse for not appearing at the battle of Shrewsbury, learns that his son, Hotspur, is dead and that King Henry's troops are up in arms. He throws away his crutch and prepares to do battle.
 - 1. keeps: guards
 - 3. What: i.e., who
 - 5. attend: await
 - 6. orchard: garden (See illustration below.)
- 7. **Please . . . Honor:** a courteous phrase of request; **knock but:** i.e., only knock
- 8 SD. a kerchief: a linen headcloth, worn around the head when ill
- 11. Should be: i.e., threatens to be; stratagem: violent deed
 - 12. Contention: strife, dispute



An orchard. (1.1.6; 5.3.1) From Octavio Boldoni, *Theatrum temporaneum* . . . (1636).

 $\langle Scene \lceil 1 \rceil \rangle$ Enter the Lord Bardolph at one door.

 $\langle ACT 1 \rangle$

LORD BARDOLPH
Who keeps the gate here, ho?

Enter the Porter.

Where is the Earl?

PORTER

What shall I say you are?

LORD BARDOLPH Tell thou the Earl

That the Lord Bardolph doth attend him here.

His Lordship is walked forth into the orchard. Please it your Honor knock but at the gate And he himself will answer.

Enter the Earl Northumberland, his head wrapped in a kerchief and supporting himself with a crutch.

LORD BARDOLPH

Here comes the Earl.

[Porter exits.]

NORTHUMBERLAND

What news, Lord Bardolph? Every minute now Should be the father of some stratagem.

The times are wild. Contention, like a horse

11

J

10

- 13. high feeding: i.e., too-rich fodder
- 14. bears down: overwhelms; him: i.e., it
- 16. certain: reliable
- 17. an: i.e, if
- 20. in the fortune: i.e., through the success
- 21. both the Blunts: Sir Walter Blunt was killed by the Earl of Douglas; Sir John Blunt appears later in this play.
- 24. brawn: swine fattened for the table; Sir John: i.e., Falstaff
- 26. followed: i.e., followed through, successfully pursued
- 28. fortunes: i.e., successes (an allusion to the Roman military leader Julius Caesar, famous for his "I came, I saw, I overcame") See page 168.
- 29. How is this derived: i.e., how do you know this
- 33. freely: readily, openly; these news: i.e., this news
 - 34. who: i.e., whom
 - 36. overrode: overtook, outrode
 - 37. furnished: provided
 - 38. haply: perhaps: retail: repeat
- 40. Sir John Umfrevile: See longer note, page 247. turned: sent

rull of high feeding, madly hath broke loose	
And bears down all before him.	
LORD BARDOLPH Noble earl,	15
I bring you certain news from Shrewsbury.	
NORTHUMBERLAND	
Good, an God will!	
LORD BARDOLPH As good as heart can wish	l.
The King is almost wounded to the death,	
And, in the fortune of my lord your son,	
Prince Harry slain outright; and both the Blu	
Killed by the hand of Douglas; young Prince	John
And Westmoreland and Stafford fled the field	1
And Harry Monmouth's brawn, the hulk Sir J	, Iohn
Is prisoner to your son. O, such a day,	25
So fought, so followed, and so fairly won,	2.0
Came not till now to dignify the times	
Since Caesar's fortunes.	
NORTHUMBERLAND How is this derived?	
Saw you the field? Came you from Shrewsbur	rv? 30
LORD BARDOLPH	. ,
I spake with one, my lord, that came from the	ence
A gentleman well bred and of good name,	
That freely rendered me these news for true.	
Enter Travers.	
NORTHUMBERLAND	
Here comes my servant Travers, who I sent	
On Tuesday last to listen after news.	35
LORD BARDOLPH	~ ~
My lord, I overrode him on the way,	
And he is furnished with no certainties	
More than he haply may retail from me.	
NORTHUMBERLAND	
Now, Travers, what good tidings comes with y	/O112
TRAVERS	
My lord, Sir John Umfrevile turned me back	40

50. armèd: spurred

52. starting: i.e., leaping forward

54. Staying . . . question: i.e., waiting for no further discussion

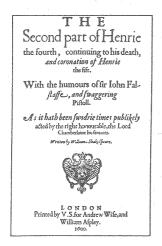
60. have not the day: i.e., was not the victor

61-62. for . . . barony: i.e., I'll exchange my title for a trifle point: lace to hold up stockings

66. hilding: good-for-nothing

68. at a venture: at random, without thought

70. title leaf: i.e., title page, which often indicated the nature of the volume (line 71) See below.



A "title leaf." (1.1.70) Title page of Henry IV, Part 2, 1600.

With joyful tidings and, being better horsed. Outrode me. After him came spurring hard A gentleman, almost forspent with speed, That stopped by me to breathe his bloodied horse. He asked the way to Chester, and of him 45 I did demand what news from Shrewsbury. He told me that rebellion had bad luck And that young Harry Percy's spur was cold. With that he gave his able horse the head And, bending forward, struck his armed heels 50 Against the panting sides of his poor jade Up to the rowel-head, and starting so He seemed in running to devour the way, Staying no longer question. NORTHUMBERLAND Ha? Again: Said he young Harry Percy's spur was cold? Of Hotspur, Coldspur? That rebellion Had met ill luck? My lord, I'll tell you what: LORD BARDOLPH If my young lord your son have not the day. 60 Upon mine honor, for a silken point I'll give my barony. Never talk of it. NORTHUMBERLAND Why should that gentleman that rode by Travers Give then such instances of loss? LORD BARDOLPH Who, he? 65 He was some hilding fellow that had stol'n The horse he rode on and, upon my life, Spoke at a venture. Enter Morton.

Look, here comes more news.

70

NORTHUMBERLAND

Yea, this man's brow, like to a title leaf. Foretells the nature of a tragic volume.

85

72-73. the strand . . . usurpation: i.e., the beach on which the ocean has left lines in the sand (like wrinkles in a frowning brow) flood: ocean witnessed usurpation: i.e., evidence of its trespass

76. **his:** i.e., its

83. Drew Priam's curtain: i.e., opened Priam's bedcurtains (Priam was king of Troy, which was destroyed by the Greeks.) See below.

86. my Percy's: i.e., Hotspur's

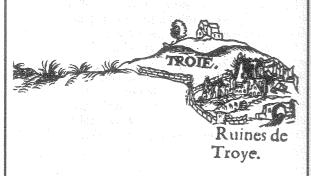
89. Stopping: closing up, as with a stopper or plug

90. to stop my ear indeed: i.e., close my ear permanently

99. is chancèd: i.e., has happened

101. his divination lies: i.e., his guess is false

105. spirit: ability to perceive, mental power: certain: well-grounded



The ruins of Trov. (1.1.84) From Pierre Belon, Les observations . . . (1588).

So looks the strand whereon the imperious flood Hath left a witnessed usurpation.— Say, Morton, didst thou come from Shrewsbury? MORTON I ran from Shrewsbury, my noble lord, Where hateful death put on his ugliest mask To fright our party. How doth my son and brother? NORTHUMBERLAND Thou tremblest, and the whiteness in thy cheek Is apter than thy tongue to tell thy errand. Even such a man, so faint, so spiritless, So dull, so dead in look, so woebegone. Drew Priam's curtain in the dead of night And would have told him half his Troy was burnt: But Priam found the fire ere he his tongue, And I my Percy's death ere thou report'st it. This thou wouldst say: "Your son did thus and thus: Your brother thus; so fought the noble Douglas"— Stopping my greedy ear with their bold deeds. But in the end, to stop my ear indeed. Thou hast a sigh to blow away this praise. Ending with "Brother, son, and all are dead." MORTON Douglas is living, and your brother yet, But for my lord your son-NORTHUMBERLAND Why, he is dead. See what a ready tongue suspicion hath! He that but fears the thing he would not know Hath, by instinct, knowledge from others' eyes That what he feared is chanced. Yet speak. Morton. 100 Tell thou an earl his divination lies. And I will take it as a sweet disgrace And make thee rich for doing me such wrong. MORTON You are too great to be by me gainsaid. Your spirit is too true, your fears too certain. 105

NORTHUMBERLAND

106	for:	in	spite	of
100.	2020	221	SULL	ンル

107. strange: reluctant

108. fear: a frightening thing

111. belie: misrepresent

114. office: duty, function

115. sullen: mournful

116. tolling: i.e., ringing slowly to announce the death of

119. would: i.e., wish

120. state: condition

121. quittance: reprisal, retaliation; outbreathed: out of breath

125. In few: i.e., in short, in brief

125-38. **spirit... field:** See longer note, page 247.

127. bruited once: i.e., once reported

128. **best-tempered**: i.e., of the finest temper (Steel is **tempered** through a process of heating and cooling that brings it to the proper degree of elasticity and strength.) **courage**: i.e., heart

129. mettle: spirit (with a pun on metal, which

continues in the word **steeled**)

130. abated: blunted

131. **Turned on themselves:** i.e., bent (like weapons made of soft metal)

133. **Upon enforcement:** i.e., under force (specifically, propulsion)

134. heavy: sorrowful (with a pun on the word's usual meaning)

Yet, for all this, say not that Percy's dead. I see a strange confession in thine eye. Thou shak'st thy head and hold'st it fear or sin To speak a truth. If he be slain, (say so.) The tongue offends not that reports his death; 110 And he doth sin that doth belie the dead. Not he which says the dead is not alive. Yet the first bringer of unwelcome news Hath but a losing office, and his tongue Sounds ever after as a sullen bell 115 Remembered tolling a departing friend. LORD BARDOLPH I cannot think, my lord, your son is dead. MORTON, Tto Northumberland I am sorry I should force you to believe That which I would to God I had not seen. But these mine eyes saw him in bloody state. 120 Rend'ring faint quittance, wearied and outbreathed. To Harry Monmouth, whose swift wrath beat down The never-daunted Percy to the earth. From whence with life he never more sprung up. In few, his death, whose spirit lent a fire 125 Even to the dullest peasant in his camp. Being bruited once, took fire and heat away From the best-tempered courage in his troops: For from his mettle was his party steeled. Which, once in him abated, all the rest 130 Turned on themselves, like dull and heavy lead. And as the thing that's heavy in itself Upon enforcement flies with greatest speed, So did our men, heavy in Hotspur's loss, Lend to this weight such lightness with their fear 135

That arrows fled not swifter toward their aim

Than did our soldiers, aiming at their safety.

- 138. Worcester: i.e., the Earl of Worcester, brother of Northumberland
- 141. **three...King:** i.e., had killed three men disguised as King Henry (See *Henry IV*, *Part 1*, 5.3 and 5.4.)
- 142. **Gan:** began to: **vail his stomach:** i.e., subdue his appetite for battle; **grace:** countenance, condone (the shameful flight)
 - 144. took: i.e., taken
 - 146. power: army
 - 147. Under the conduct of: i.e., led by
 - 148. the news at full: i.e., all of the news
- 150. In . . . physic: i.e., poison can be medicinal; these news: i.e., this news
 - 151. Having . . . that: i.e., that, if I had been well
 - 152. Being sick, have: i.e., I being sick, has
 - 154. under life: i.e., under the weight of his body
- 155. Impatient of: i.e., (when he is) unable to endure
 - 156. keeper's: attendant's
- 157. grief: pain, suffering (used in line 158 to mean "sorrow")
 - 160. nice: effeminate, unmanly
- 161. **scaly gauntlet**: i.e., a **gauntlet** made of small plates of armor (See page 78.)
 - 162-63. sickly coif: i.e., cap worn by the sick
- 164. guard: protection, defense; wanton: frivolous
 - 165. **fleshed with:** inflamed by, made eager by
 - 167. ragged'st: roughest
- 171. **stage:** The metaphor of the **world** as a **stage** is continued through line 176, with the words **act** (line 172) and **scene** (line 175).

Fly from the field. Then was that noble Worcester So soon ta'en prisoner; and that furious Scot. The bloody Douglas, whose well-laboring sword 140 Had three times slain th'appearance of the King. Gan vail his stomach and did grace the shame Of those that turned their backs and in his flight. Stumbling in fear, was took. The sum of all Is that the King hath won and hath sent out 145 A speedy power to encounter you, my lord. Under the conduct of young Lancaster And Westmoreland. This is the news at full NORTHUMBERLAND For this I shall have time enough to mourn. In poison there is physic, and these news. 150 Having been well, that would have made me sick. Being sick, have in some measure made me well. And as the wretch whose fever-weakened joints. Like strengthless hinges, buckle under life. Impatient of his fit, breaks like a fire 155 Out of his keeper's arms, even so my limbs, Weakened with grief, being now enraged with grief. Are thrice themselves. Hence therefore, thou THe throws down his crutch. 160 nice crutch. A scaly gauntlet now with joints of steel Must glove this hand. And hence, thou sickly coif. THe removes his kerchief. Thou art a guard too wanton for the head Which princes, fleshed with conquest, aim to hit. 165 Now bind my brows with iron, and approach The ragged'st hour that time and spite dare bring To frown upon th'enraged Northumberland. Let heaven kiss earth! Now let not Nature's hand Keep the wild flood confined. Let order die. 170 And let this world no longer be a stage

172.	feed	contention:	i.e.,	nourish	controversy;
1:		long-drawn	· cont		

173. **one... Cain:** i.e., a single murderous **spirit** (**Cain**, the **firstborn** son of Adam and Eve, murdered his brother Abel [Genesis 4.8–12].)

175. courses: proceedings; rude: violent

177. strained: forced, unnatural

179. complices: associates, comrades

181. perforce: necessarily

182. **cast th' event:** calculated the outcome (The metaphor of calculating is continued in **summed the accompt** [line 183].)

185. make head: raise an army; or, press forward; presurmise: i.e., beforehand conjecture or suspicion

186. **dole:** distribution, delivery (but also, perhaps, grief, sorrow)

189. You were advised: i.e., you knew

189-90. capable/Of: susceptible to

190. forward: ardent, eager

191–92. **where . . . ranged:** i.e., to the level where the greatest danger lay **trade of:** trafficking in

195. stiff-borne: i.e., resolutely maintained

197. was like to be: i.e., was likely to happen

198. engagèd to: involved in

200. wrought out life: i.e., preserved our lives to the end

202. respect: consideration

203. o'erset: overthrown, defeated

204. **put forth:** stake, wager (continuing the gambling metaphor of **loss, gain,** and **venture**); also, set out, go forward

To feed contention in a lingering act; But let one spirit of the firstborn Cain Reign in all bosoms, that, each heart being set On bloody courses, the rude scene may end. 175 And darkness be the burier of the dead. LORD BARDOLPH [This strained passion doth you wrong, my lord.] [MORTON] Sweet earl, divorce not wisdom from your honor. The lives of all your loving complices (Lean) on (your) health, the which, if you give o'er 180 To stormy passion, must perforce decay. (You cast th' event of war, my noble lord. And summed the accompt of chance before you said "Let us make head." It was your presurmise 185 That in the dole of blows your son might drop. You knew he walked o'er perils on an edge, More likely to fall in than to get o'er. You were advised his flesh was capable Of wounds and scars, and that his forward spirit 190 Would lift him where most trade of danger ranged. Yet did you say "Go forth," and none of this. Though strongly apprehended, could restrain The stiff-borne action. What hath then befall'n. 195 Or what \[\forall \text{idd} \] this bold enterprise bring forth. More than that being which was like to be? LORD BARDOLPH We all that are engaged to this loss Knew that we ventured on such dangerous seas That if we wrought out life, 'twas ten to one: 200 And yet we ventured, for the gain proposed Choked the respect of likely peril feared: And since we are o'erset, venture again.

Come, we will all put forth, body and goods.

207.	gentle:	honorable;	well-born;	up:	i.e.,	up	in
arms							

208. well-appointed powers: i.e., well-equipped forces

209. **surety:** bond (The **double surety** may refer to that of soul and body [as in lines 221–22] or to the archbishop's temporal and spiritual authority.)

210. corpse: i.e., bodies

211. But shadows: i.e., only semblances; shows: illusory appearances; to fight: i.e., as fighters

215. **drink potions:** i.e., take medicine or poison; **that:** i.e., so that

216. for their: i.e., as for their

219. the Bishop: i.e., the Archbishop of York

220. to religion: i.e., into religion

221. Supposed: i.e., rightly believed

223. **enlarge his rising:** i.e., enhance his rebellion; or, attract followers; **with the blood:** i.e., by reminding people of **the blood** (The murder of **King Richard II** at **Pomfret** [i.e., Pontefract] Castle was instigated by his successor, King Henry IV.)

227. bestride: i.e., protect, defend (like a warrior

standing over a fallen comrade)

228. **Bolingbroke:** King Henry IV (By giving the title of **King** to Richard and calling Henry by his family name, the Archbishop strengthens his case that **his quarrel** against Henry's kingship comes **from heaven**.)

229. more and less: i.e., highborn and lowborn

232. **counsel every man:** i.e., let each man give advice about; or, let us all consider

234. posts: messengers

MORTON	
'Tis more than time.—And, my most noble lord,	205
I hear for certain, and dare speak the truth:	
(The gentle Archbishop of York is up	
With well-appointed powers. He is a man	
Who with a double surety binds his followers.	
My lord your son had only but the corpse,	210
But shadows and the shows of men, to fight:	
For that same word "rebellion" did divide	
The action of their bodies from their souls,	
And they did fight with queasiness, constrained,	
As men drink potions, that their weapons only	215
Seemed on our side. But, for their spirits and	
souls,	
This word "rebellion," it had froze them up	
As fish are in a pond. But now the Bishop	
Turns insurrection to religion.	220
Supposed sincere and holy in his thoughts,	
He's followed both with body and with mind,	
And doth enlarge his rising with the blood	
Of fair King Richard, scraped from Pomfret	
stones;	225
Derives from heaven his quarrel and his cause;	
Tells them he doth bestride a bleeding land,	
Gasping for life under great Bolingbroke;	
And more and less do flock to follow him.)	
NORTHUMBERLAND	
I knew of this before, but, to speak truth,	230
This present grief had wiped it from my mind.	
Go in with me and counsel every man	
The aptest way for safety and revenge.	
Get posts and letters, and make friends with speed.	
Never so few, and never yet more need.	235
They exit	

- 1.2 Sir John Falstaff is confronted by the Lord Chief Justice. Since Falstaff has come away from Shrewsbury with the reputation of a warrior and has been commanded by the king to march to York to join Prince John, the Lord Chief Justice forbears to arrest him for the Gad's Hill robbery.
 - 0 SD. buckler: small shield (See page 52.)
- 1. Sirrah: a term of address to a boy or a male social inferior
 - 1-2. to my water: i.e., about my urine
 - 4. that owed it: i.e., whose it is owed: owned
 - 5. knew for: i.e., knew about
 - 6. gird: jeer
- 7. foolish-compounded clay: i.e., fool (For the notion that man is clay, see Genesis 2.7 and 3.19.)
 - 8. intends: tends, inclines
 - 9. on: i.e., about
- 14. set me off: i.e., make me conspicuous by contrast
- 15. whoreson: wretched (a generally abusive epithet); mandrake: a plant whose forked roots resemble the human torso (here referring to its small size) See page 120.
 - 16. wait: follow; serve
- 17. manned with an agate: i.e., had an agate as my servant (An agate was a quartz crystal set in a ring, often carved with tiny figures.)
 - 20. juvenal: i.e., juvenile, young man
 - 21. fledge: covered with down
 - 22. off his cheek: i.e., with a razor
 - 23. stick: hesitate

(continued)

(Scene [2])

Enter Sir John (Falstaff,) with his Page bearing his sword and buckler.

FALSTAFF Sirrah, you giant, what says the doctor to my water?

PAGE He said, sir, the water itself was a good healthy water, but, for the party that owed it, he might have more diseases than he knew for.

FALSTAFF Men of all sorts take a pride to gird at me. The brain of this foolish-compounded clay, man, is not able to invent anything that intends to laughter more than I invent, or is invented on me. I am not only witty in myself, but the cause that wit is in other men. I do here walk before thee like a sow that hath overwhelmed all her litter but one. If the Prince put thee into my service for any other reason than to set me off, why then I have no judgment. Thou whoreson mandrake, thou art fitter to be worn in my cap than to wait at my heels. I was never manned with an agate till now, but I will inset you neither in gold nor silver, but in vile apparel, and send you back again to your master for a jewel. The juvenal, the Prince your master, whose chin is not yet fledge—I will sooner have a beard grow in the palm of my hand than he shall get one off his cheek. and yet he will not stick to say his face is a face royal. God may finish it when He will. 'Tis not a-hair amiss yet. He may keep it still at a face royal, for a barber shall never earn sixpence out of it, and vet he'll be crowing as if he had writ man ever since his father was a bachelor. He may keep his own grace, but he's almost out of mine, I can assure him. What said Master Dommelton about the satin for my short cloak and my slops?

55

23-24. face royal: i.e., a princely face (with a pun at line 25 on the royal as a coin with the king's face stamped on it, and worth ten shillings)

25. keep it still at: i.e., continue to value it as

27. writ man: reached manhood

28-29. keep . . . mine: i.e., retain his title though he's lost my favor (punning on two meanings of grace)

31. slops: wide, baggy breeches

33. assurance: guarantee; Bardolph: one of Falstaff's men, not the Lord Bardolph of scene 1

34. band: bond; security: surety or guarantee

35-36. damned ... hotter: an allusion to the rich glutton in Luke 16.19-31, who, burning in hell, begged for water to cool his tongue

36. Achitophel: i.e., traitor (in 2 Samuel 15-17, King David's counselor who conspires with David's son Absalom against the king)

37. **vea-forsooth**: perhaps, hypocritical; or, perhaps, lower-class or Puritan (See longer note, page 247.)

37-38. bear . . . in hand: systematically deceive, delude (from the French *maintenir*)

38. stand upon: attach importance to

39. smoothy-pates: See longer note to 1.2.37. high shoes: i.e., shoes with high heels and soles, worn by dandies

40. keys: i.e., keys to lock up their (supposed) hoards of gold

40-41. is through . . . taking up: i.e., has reached agreement with them for an honest purchase

42. I had as lief: I'd just as soon

43. stop it: i.e., close it up

(continued)

PAGE He said, sir, you should procure him better assurance than Bardolph. He would not take his band and yours. He liked not the security.

FALSTAFF Let him be damned like the glutton! Pray 35 God his tongue be hotter! A whoreson Achitophel, a (rascally) yea-forsooth knave, to bear a gentleman in hand and then stand upon security! The whoreson smoothy-pates do now wear nothing but high shoes and bunches of keys at their girdles; and if a man is through with them in honest taking up, then they must stand upon security. I had as lief they would put ratsbane in my mouth as offer to stop it with "security." I looked he should have sent me twoand-twenty yards of satin, as I am a true knight, and he sends me "security." Well, he may sleep in security, for he hath the horn of abundance, and the lightness of his wife shines through it, and yet cannot he see though he have his own lantern to light him. Where's Bardolph?

PAGE He's gone in Smithfield to buy your Worship a horse.

FALSTAFF I bought him in Paul's, and he'll buy me a horse in Smithfield. An I could get me but a wife in the stews. I were manned, horsed, and wived.

Enter Lord Chief Justice (and Servant.)

PAGE, to Falstaff Sir, here comes the nobleman that committed the Prince for striking him about Bardolph.

FALSTAFF Wait close. I will not see him.

They begin to exit. CHIEF JUSTICE, \(\text{to Servant} \) What's he that goes there? 60 SERVANT Falstaff, an 't please your Lordship.

CHIEF JUSTICE He that was in question for the robbery? SERVANT He, my lord; but he hath since done good

80

44. looked he should: i.e., expected he would

46-50. he may sleep . . . light him: i.e., he sleeps in foolish complacency, since his wife is unfaithful to him (See longer note, page 248.)

51. in Smithfield: i.e., into Smithfield, a London

district known as a market for livestock

53-55. I... wived: Proverbial: "Who goes to Westminster for a wife, to Paul's for a man, and to Smithfield for a horse may meet with a whore, a knave, and a jade." Paul's: i.e., St. Paul's Cathedral (See page 238.) An: i.e., if stews: brothels manned: provided with a servant

57. committed: sentenced to prison (See longer

note to 1.2.56-58, page 249.)

59. close: hidden

61. an 't please: i.e., if it please (a polite expression)

62. in question for: i.e., examined about

65. charge: command (of soldiers)

74. Is: i.e., are

78. to be on: i.e., to support

79. tell: state; know

80. make: regard, represent

81. mistake: misunderstand (Falstaff pretends that the servant means "identify wrongly.")

84. in my throat: i.e., deeply and deliberately

86. give me leave: i.e., permit me

90. grows to: i.e., is an integral part of

92. hunt counter: In hunting, a dog goes counter when it follows the trail in the wrong direction. Avaunt: begone! (a word used to send away devils)

97. abroad: out in public; out of doors

98. advice: i.e., medical advice

service at Shrewsbury, and, as I hear, is now going with some charge to the Lord John of Lancaster. CHIEF JUSTICE What, to York? Call him back again.

SERVANT Sir John Falstaff!

FALSTAFF Boy, tell him I am deaf.

PAGE You must speak louder. My master is deaf.

CHIEF JUSTICE I am sure he is, to the hearing of anything good.—Go pluck him by the elbow. I must speak with him.

SERVANT, plucking Falstaff's sleeve Sir John!

FALSTAFF What, a young knave and begging? Is there not wars? Is there not employment? Doth not the 75 King lack subjects? Do not the rebels need soldiers? Though it be a shame to be on any side but one, it is worse shame to beg than to be on the worst side, were it worse than the name of rebellion can tell how to make it.

SERVANT You mistake me. sir.

FALSTAFF Why sir, did I say you were an honest man? Setting my knighthood and my soldiership aside, I had lied in my throat if I had said so.

SERVANT I pray you, sir, then set your knighthood and your soldiership aside, and give me leave to tell you, you lie in your throat if you say I am any other than an honest man.

FALSTAFF I give thee leave to tell me so? I lay aside that which grows to me? If thou gett'st any leave of me, hang me; if thou tak'st leave, thou wert better be hanged. You hunt counter. Hence! Avaunt!

SERVANT Sir, my lord would speak with you.

CHIEF JUSTICE Sir John Falstaff, a word with you.

FALSTAFF My good lord. God give your Lordship good 95 time of (the) day. I am glad to see your Lordship abroad. I heard say your Lordship was sick. I hope your Lordship goes abroad by advice. Your Lord-

105

100. **smack:** taste, flavor; **ague:** chills and fevers (Many editions here follow the Folio and print "age" rather than the Quarto's "an ague.")

102. reverend: respectful

111. **this...apoplexy:** i.e., a wretched paralysis (**This same** was used to express irritation, contempt, or familiarity.)

112. I pray you: i.e., please (a polite phrase)

117. What: i.e., why; Be it: i.e., let it be

118. it original: i.e., its origin

120. his: i.e., its; in Galen: i.e., in one of Galen's medical treatises (Galen was Claudius Galenus, a second-century A.D. anatomist, physiologist, and physician.) See page xl.

125. marking: paying attention; withal: i.e.,

with

126. punish . . . heels: i.e., imprison you; or, put

you in the stocks; amend: improve

129. **Job:** the much-afflicted central figure in the biblical Book of **Job**, proverbial for his patience and his poverty

130–31. minister . . . imprisonment: i.e., impris-

on me

131. in respect of: i.e., because I suffer from

133. make . . . scruple: i.e., have a tiny doubt dram: tiniest bit (literally, an apothecaries' weight of 60 grains) scruple: doubt (also, an apothecaries' weight of 20 grains)

ship, though not clean past your youth, have yet some smack of an ague in you, some relish of the 100 saltness of time in you, and I most humbly beseech your Lordship to have a reverend care of your health.

CHIEF JUSTICE Sir John, I sent for you before your expedition to Shrewsbury.

FALSTAFF An 't please your Lordship, I hear his Majesty is returned with some discomfort from Wales.

CHIEF JUSTICE I talk not of his Majesty. You would not come when I sent for you.

FALSTAFF And I hear, moreover, his Highness is fallen 110 into this same whoreson apoplexy.

CHIEF JUSTICE Well, God mend him. I pray you let me speak with you.

FALSTAFF This apoplexy, as I take it, is a kind of lethargy, an 't please your Lordship, a kind of 115 sleeping in the blood, a whoreson tingling.

CHIEF JUSTICE What tell you me of it? Be it as it is.

FALSTAFF It hath it original from much grief, from study, and perturbation of the brain. I have read the cause of his effects in Galen. It is a kind of deafness. 120

CHIEF JUSTICE I think you are fallen into the disease, for you hear not what I say to you.

FALSTAFF Very well, my lord, very well. Rather, an 't please you, it is the disease of not listening, the malady of not marking, that I am troubled withal. 125

CHIEF JUSTICE To punish you by the heels would amend the attention of your ears, and I care not if I do become your physician.

FALSTAFF I am as poor as Job, my lord, but not so patient. Your Lordship may minister the potion of 130 imprisonment to me in respect of poverty, but how I should be your patient to follow your prescriptions, the wise may make some dram of a scruple, or indeed a scruple itself.

160

165

138. this land-service: i.e., military service

150. gall: irritate

152. **night's...Hill:** In *Henry IV, Part 1* Falstaff robs merchants at **Gad's Hill.**

154. **o'erposting that action:** i.e., escaping from the consequences of the robbery (literally, "riding quickly over **that action**")

156-57. **Wake . . . wolf:** Proverbial: "It is not good waking a sleeping dog."

158. to smell a fox: i.e., to be suspicious (Proverbial: "As rank as a fox.")

161. wassail candle: perhaps, a large candle burned on feast nights

162. of wax: i.e., all made of wax (with a pun on wax as "grow, expand"); approve: prove, confirm, demonstrate

164. his effect: i.e., its effect

165. gravy: fat from cooking meat

167. ill angel: i.e., evil spirit

168. Your...light: a complex pun on ill, on angel, and on light (See longer note, page 249, and picture, page 180.)

170. **weighing:** (1) judging; (2) measuring my weight

CHIEF JUSTICE I sent for you, when there were matters 135 against you for your life, to come speak with me.

FALSTAFF As I was then advised by my learned counsel in the laws of this land-service, I did not come.

CHIEF JUSTICE Well, the truth is, Sir John, you live in great infamy.

FALSTAFF He that buckles himself in my belt cannot live in less.

CHIEF JUSTICE Your means are very slender, and your waste is great.

FALSTAFF I would it were otherwise. I would my means 145 were greater and my waist slender.

CHIEF JUSTICE You have misled the youthful prince.

FALSTAFF The young prince hath misled me. I am the fellow with the great belly, and he my dog.

CHIEF JUSTICE Well, I am loath to gall a new-healed 150 wound. Your day's service at Shrewsbury hath a little gilded over your night's exploit on Gad's Hill. You may thank th' unquiet time for your quiet o'erposting that action.

FALSTAFF My lord.

CHIEF JUSTICE But since all is well, keep it so. Wake not a sleeping wolf.

FALSTAFF To wake a wolf is as bad as $\langle to \rangle$ smell a fox.

CHIEF JUSTICE What, you are as a candle, the better part burnt out.

FALSTAFF A wassail candle, my lord, all tallow. If I did say of wax, my growth would approve the truth.

CHIEF JUSTICE There is not a white hair in your face but should have his effect of gravity.

FALSTAFF His effect of gravy, gravy, gravy.

CHIEF JUSTICE You follow the young prince up and down like his ill angel.

FALSTAFF Not so, my lord. Your ill angel is light, but I hope he that looks upon me will take me without weighing. And yet in some respects I grant I cannot 170

171. go: (1) walk; (2) pass as current

172. **costermongers**': a term of abuse (literally, one who sells fruit or vegetables from a barrow)

172-73. **bearherd:** keeper of a tame bear (See page 224.)

173. pregnancy: quick-wittedness

178. **the heat of our livers:** i.e., our passions (See longer note to 1.2.178–79, **livers, galls,** page 250.)

179. galls: i.e., gallbladders

180. vaward: vanguard

183. **characters:** characteristics (literally, **written** or printed letters of the alphabet)

186. wind: i.e., breath; single: poor

191-92. something a: i.e., a somewhat

192. For: i.e., as for

193. **halloing:** calling to the hounds; **approve:** prove, confirm

196. **caper with:** compete in dancing with; **marks:** i.e., coins (a "mark" was worth about thirteen shillings)

197. For the box of: i.e., as for the blow on

199. **sensible:** (1) intelligent; (2) capable of experiencing physical sensation

200. checked: reproved, rebuked

201. Marry: indeed (originally an oath on the name of the Virgin Mary)

202. sack: costly dry Spanish wine, such as sherry

go. I cannot tell. Virtue is of so little regard in these costermongers' times that true valor is turned bearherd; pregnancy is made a tapster, and 〈hath〉 his quick wit wasted in giving reckonings. All the other gifts appurtenant to man, as the malice of 〈this〉 age 175 shapes 〈them, are〉 not worth a gooseberry. You that are old consider not the capacities of us that are young. You do measure the heat of our livers with the bitterness of your galls, and we that are in the vaward of our youth, I must confess, are wags too.

chief justice Do you set down your name in the scroll of youth, that are written down old with all the characters of age? Have you not a moist eye, a dry hand, a yellow cheek, a white beard, a decreasing leg, an increasing belly? Is not your voice broken, 185 your wind short, your chin double, your wit single, and every part about you blasted with antiquity? And will you yet call yourself young? Fie, fie, fie, Sir John.

in the afternoon,] with a white head and something a round belly. For my voice, I have lost it with halloing and singing of anthems. To approve my youth further, I will not. The truth is, I am only old in judgment and understanding. And he that will caper with me for a thousand marks, let him lend me the money, and have at him. For the box of the (ear) that the Prince gave you, he gave it like a rude prince, and you took it like a sensible lord. I have checked him for it, and the young lion repents.

[Aside.] Marry, not in ashes and sackcloth, but in new silk and old sack.

CHIEF JUSTICE Well, God send the Prince a better companion.

FALSTAFF God send the companion a better prince. I 205 cannot rid my hands of him.

- 212. look you: i.e., be sure that you
- 216. would: i.e., wish
- 217. **spit white:** perhaps, in contrast to spitting blood or phlegm (The phrase is much debated.)
 - 221-22. will needs say: i.e., insist upon saying
- 230. **furnish me forth:** i.e., supply me with what I need
- 232. **bear crosses:** (1) carry money (a "cross" being a coin stamped with a cross); (2) put up with adversity (with perhaps wordplay on the familiar biblical verse "whosoever beareth not his cross and cometh after me cannot be my disciple" [Luke 14.27, Geneva Bible])
- 234. **three-man beetle:** i.e., a mallet so heavy that it takes three men to wield it
 - 237. the pox: i.e., syphilis; pinches: torments
- 238. **both the degrees:** i.e., both youth and age; **prevent:** forestall, anticipate
- 241. **groats:** i.e., small coins (literally, coins worth four pennies)



A "cross." (1.2.232)
From Edward Hawkins, The silver coins of England . . . (1841).

CHIEF JUSTICE Well, the King hath severed you (and Prince Harry.) I hear you are going with Lord John of Lancaster against the Archbishop and the Earl of Northumberland.

FALSTAFF Yea, I thank your pretty sweet wit for it. But look you pray, all you that kiss my Lady Peace at home, that our armies join not in a hot day, for, by the Lord. I take but two shirts out with me, and I mean not to sweat extraordinarily. If it be a hot day 215 and I brandish anything but a bottle, I would I might never spit white again. There is not a dangerous action can peep out his head but I am thrust upon it. Well, I cannot last ever. [But it was always vet the trick of our English nation, if they have a 220 good thing, to make it too common. If you will needs say I am an old man, you should give me rest. I would to God my name were not so terrible to the enemy as it is. I were better to be eaten to death with a rust than to be scoured to nothing with 225 perpetual motion.]

CHIEF JUSTICE Well, be honest, be honest, and God bless your expedition.

FALSTAFF Will your Lordship lend me a thousand pound to furnish me forth? 230

CHIEF JUSTICE Not a penny, not a penny. You are too impatient to bear crosses. Fare you well. Commend me to my cousin Westmoreland.

Lord Chief Justice and his Servant exit.

FALSTAFF If I do, fillip me with a three-man beetle. A man can no more separate age and covetousness than he can part young limbs and lechery; but the gout galls the one, and the pox pinches the other, and so both the degrees prevent my curses.—Boy!

PAGE Sir.

FALSTAFF What money is in my purse? PAGE Seven groats and two pence.

240

249. hair of: i.e., hair on

250. A pox of: i.e., a plague on, curses on

253. halt: limp; for my color: i.e., as my pretext or excuse

254. wit: mind, intelligence

256. commodity: expediency, profit

1.3 At York, the Archbishop discusses with Mowbray, Hastings, and Lord Bardolph whether they can defeat the king's forces if their ally Northumberland, whose forces are strongest, does not appear. After comforting themselves by observing that the king's army is divided so as to fight on three fronts, they set out to win the common people to their cause.

0 SD. Earl Marshal: an important officer of the state charged with arranging ceremonies, also called Lord Marshal (line 5)

6. allow: accept, approve

7. **would . . . satisfied:** i.e., wish more assurance or better answers about

8. in our means: i.e., given our resources

9. forehead . . . enough: i.e., sufficient audacity

11. upon the file: i.e., according to our rolls

FALSTAFF I can get no remedy against this consumption of the purse. Borrowing only lingers and lingers it out, but the disease is incurable. Giving papers to the Page. Go bear this letter to my Lord of Lancaster, this to the Prince, this to the Earl of Westmoreland, and this to old Mistress Ursula, whom I have weekly sworn to marry since I perceived the first white hair of my chin. About it. You know where to find me. Page exits. A pox of this gout! Or a gout of this pox, for the one or the other plays the rogue with my great toe. Tis no matter if I do halt. I have the wars for my color, and my pension shall seem the more reasonable. A good wit will make use of anything. I will turn diseases to 255 commodity.

THe exits?

(Scene [3])

Enter th' Archbishop \(^{\text{ork}}\) of York, \(^{\text{Thomas Mowbray}}\) (Earl Marshal), the Lord Hastings, and (Lord) Bardolph.

ARCHBISHOP

Thus have you heard our cause and known our means,

And, my most noble friends, I pray you all Speak plainly your opinions of our hopes. And first, Lord Marshal, what say you to it?

MOWBRAY

I well allow the occasion of our arms, But gladly would be better satisfied How in our means we should advance ourselves To look with forehead bold and big enough Upon the power and puissance of the King.

HASTINGS

Our present musters grow upon the file

40

5

- 12. men of choice: i.e., choice men
- 13. supplies: reinforcements; largely: abundantly
- 18 hold up head: i.e., offer a successful resistance
- 26. aids incertain: i.e., uncertain support
- 28. cause: case (See longer note, page 250.)
- 29. lined: reinforced, strengthened
- 30. **Eating . . . supply:** i.e., feeding himself on insubstantial promises (See longer note, page 250.)
 - 31. project: i.e., anticipation; a power: an army
 - 35. winking: closing his eyes
- 36. by your leave: a polite phrase meaning, e.g., "if you'll allow me to speak"
 - 37. forms: images, representations
- 38-40. **Yes...hope:** perhaps, "yes, in the present situation, it does do harm to live **in hope**" (Lines 38-39 are confusing and often emended.) **quality:** occasion **on foot:** in active existence



King Henry IV.
From John Speed, The theatre of the empire of Great Britaine . . . (1627 [i.e., 1631]).

To five-and-twenty thousand men of choice, And our supplies live largely in the hope Of great Northumberland, whose bosom burns With an incensed fire of injuries. LORD BARDOLPH The question, then, Lord Hastings, standeth thus: Whether our present five-and-twenty thousand May hold up head without Northumberland. HASTINGS With him we may, LORD BARDOLPH Yea, marry, there's the point. 20 But if without him we be thought too feeble, My judgment is we should not step too far (Till we had his assistance by the hand. For in a theme so bloody-faced as this, Conjecture, expectation, and surmise 25 Of aids incertain should not be admitted.) ARCHBISHOP Tis very true, Lord Bardolph, for indeed It was young Hotspur's cause at Shrewsbury. LORD BARDOLPH It was, my lord; who lined himself with hope, Eating the air and promise of supply. 30 Flatt'ring himself in project of a power Much smaller than the smallest of his thoughts, And so, with great imagination Proper to madmen, led his powers to death And, winking, leapt into destruction. 35 HASTINGS But, by your leave, it never yet did hurt To lay down likelihoods and forms of hope. LORD BARDOLPH (Yes, if this present quality of war-Indeed the instant action, a cause on foot-Lives so in hope, as in an early spring 40 We see th' appearing buds, which to prove fruit

42. Hope . . . despair: perhaps, "we have less guarantee of hope than of despair"

44. plot: site for the building; model: architect's design (See longer note to 1.3.43-64, page 251.)

45. figure: design, drawing

46. rate: calculate

47. ability: i.e., the ability to pay

49. offices: rooms (especially for household work or service); at least: i.e., at worst

54. Consent upon: come to an agreement about (This line initiates wordplay on building terms that also apply to the current political plot. Foundation, e.g., means both "the base on which a house is structured" and "the principles on which an action is founded.")

55. surveyors: (1) architects (2) those with oversight or supervision; estate: means, ability (to pay)

57. weigh against: counterbalance; his opposite: i.e., its adversary ([1] the arguments against building; [2] the opposition of our enemies)

58. in paper: i.e., merely on paper

62. Gives o'er: i.e., gives up; part-created cost: unfinished costly thing

63. naked: defenseless, exposed

66-67. we ... expectation: i.e., we have every man that we could possibly expect

69. equal with: match

72. as...brawl: i.e., in view of the number of present disturbances

73. heads: bodies of men

74. Glendower: i.e., Owen Glendower, leader of the Welsh, who conspired with the rebels (See Henry IV, Part 1.) perforce: necessarily

Hope gives not so much warrant as despair That frosts will bite them. When we mean to build, We first survey the plot, then draw the model, And when we see the figure of the house, 45 Then must we rate the cost of the erection. Which if we find outweighs ability, What do we then but draw anew the model In fewer offices, or at least desist To build at all? Much more in this great work. 50 Which is almost to pluck a kingdom down And set another up, should we survey The plot of situation and the model, Consent upon a sure foundation, Ouestion surveyors, know our own estate, 55 How able such a work to undergo, To weigh against his opposite. Or else We fortify in paper and in figures, Using the names of men instead of men, Like one that draws the model of an house 60 Beyond his power to build it, who, half through, Gives o'er and leaves his part-created cost A naked subject to the weeping clouds And waste for churlish winter's tyranny. HASTINGS Grant that our hopes, yet likely of fair birth, 65 Should be stillborn and that we now possessed The utmost man of expectation, I think we are (a) body strong enough, Even as we are, to equal with the King. LORD BARDOLPH What, is the King but five-and-twenty thousand? 70 HASTINGS To us no more, nay, not so much, Lord Bardolph,

For his divisions, as the times do brawl,

(Are) in three heads: one power against the French, And one against Glendower; perforce a third

75. take up: encounter, oppose 76. sound: resound 78. several strengths: i.e., separate forces 84. like: i.e., likely 85. Duke of Lancaster: i.e., Prince John (Historially the title did not belong to him.) 87. substituted: deputed, delegated 90. occasion arms: i.e., reason for our taking ap arms 92. surfeited: i.e., fallen sick through overindulatence 94. vulgar heart: i.e., the heart of the common people (See longer note to 1.3.93–94, page 251.) 95. fond many: i.e., foolish multitude 98. being desires: i.e., now that you are dressed up in what you wished for 102. glutton bosom: i.e., gluttonous stomach 103. thou up: Proverb: "The dog is turned to is own vomit again" (quoted in 2 Peter 2.22).

Must take up us. So is the unfirm king In three divided, and his coffers sound With hollow poverty and emptiness.	75
ARCHBISHOP	
That he should draw his several strengths together	
And come against us in full puissance	
Need not to be dreaded.	80
HASTINGS If he should do so,	
(He leaves his back unarmed, the French and Welsh)	
Baying him at the heels. Never fear that.	
LORD BARDOLPH Who is it like should lead his forces hither?	
HASTINGS	
The Duke of Lancaster and Westmoreland;	
Against the Welsh, himself and Harry Monmouth;	85
But who is substituted against the French	
I have no certain notice.	
ARCHBISHOP Let us on,	
And publish the occasion of our arms.	90
The commonwealth is sick of their own choice.	90
Their over-greedy love hath surfeited.	
An habitation giddy and unsure	
Hath he that buildeth on the vulgar heart.	
O thou fond many, with what loud applause	95
Didst thou beat heaven with blessing Bolingbroke	
Before he was what thou wouldst have him be.	
And being now trimmed in thine own desires,	
Thou, beastly feeder, art so full of him	
That thou provok'st thyself to cast him up.	100
So, so, thou common dog, didst thou disgorge	
Thy glutton bosom of the royal Richard,	
And now thou wouldst eat thy dead vomit up	
And howl'st to find it. What trust is in these	
times?	105
They that, when Richard lived, would have him die	
Are now become enamored on his grave.	



"The power and puissance of the King." (1.3.10) From Raphael Holinshed, *The historie of England* (1577).

Thou, that threw'st dust upon his goodly head
When through proud London he came sighing on
After th' admired heels of Bolingbroke,
Criest now "O earth, yield us that king again,
And take thou this!" O thoughts of men accursed!
Past and to come seems best; things present,
worst.)
(MOWBRAY)
Shall we go draw our numbers and set on?
HASTINGS

We are time's subjects, and time bids begone.

They exit.

HENRY IV Part 2

ACT 2

- **2.1** Sir John is arrested for the debt he owes Mistress Quickly. He persuades her to drop the charges and to lend him an additional ten pounds.
- 1. **entered the action:** brought the suit before the court
 - 3. yeoman: assistant; lusty: valiant, courageous
 - 4. stand to 't: fight courageously
 - 9. entered him: i.e., started the suit against him
 - 11. **chance**: perhaps
- 16. **foin:** lunge, stab (one of many words in these speeches that may carry sexual meanings, among them **stabbed**, **weapon**, and **thrust**)
 - 18. close: grapple
 - 20. An . . . him: i.e., if I only hit him with my fist
- 21. **view:** Most editors print "vice," the Folio variant, which means "firm grip."
- 22. **undone:** ruined; **going:** i.e., leaving for the war (without paying me)



A buckler. (1.2.0 SD) From Louis de Gaya, A treatise of the arms . . . (1678).

(ACT 2)

(Scene 1)

Enter Hostess \(\text{Quickly} \) of the tavern (with two Officers, Fang and Snare,) \(\text{\chi} \) who lags behind. \(\text{\chi} \)

HOSTESS Master Fang, have you entered the action?

HOSTESS Where's your yeoman? Is 't a lusty yeoman? Will he stand to 't?

5

FANG, [calling] Sirrah! Where's Snare?

HOSTESS O Lord, ay, good Master Snare.

SNARE, catching up to them Here, here.

FANG Snare. we must arrest Sir John Falstaff.

HOSTESS Yea, good Master Snare, I have entered him and all.

SNARE It may chance cost some of us our lives, for he will stab.

HOSTESS Alas the day, take heed of him. He stabbed me in mine own house, (and that) most beastly, in good faith. He cares not what mischief he does. If his weapon be out, he will foin like any devil. He will spare neither man, woman, nor child.

FANG If I can close with him, I care not for his thrust. HOSTESS No. nor I neither. I'll be at your elbow.

FANG An I but fist him once, an he come but within my 20 view—

HOSTESS I am undone by his going. I warrant you, he's

- 23. **infinitive:** perhaps her error for "infinite"; **score:** account for goods obtained on credit
 - 24. sure: i.e., securely
- 25. **continuantly:** perhaps her mistake for "continuately" (meaning "without interruption") See longer note, page 251. **Pie Corner:** a corner in Smithfield where cooks' shops stood
- 26. **saving your manhoods:** a (probably comic) version of the phrase "saving your reverence," used to introduce a remark that might be offensive
 - 27. indited: perhaps her error for "invited"
- 27-28. **Lubber's . . . Street:** i.e., the Libbard's (i.e., Leopard's) Head Inn in Lombard Street
 - 29. exion: her error for "action"
 - 30-31. **to his answer:** i.e., to reply to my charges
- 31. mark: i.e., marks (coins worth about thirteen shillings); long one: perhaps, large reckoning
 - 33-34. fubbed off: i.e., fobbed off, cheated
- 38. **malmsey-nose:** i.e., red-nosed (his nose inflamed by excessive drinking)
 - 39. offices: duties
 - 40. **do me**: i.e., do
- 42. whose mare's dead: proverbial for "what's wrong?"
 - 46. Cut me: i.e., cut
 - 47. quean: a term of abuse for a woman
 - 48. channel: gutter
- 50. **bastardly:** perhaps a blending of "dastardly" and "bastard"
 - 51. honeysuckle: perhaps "homicidal"
 - 53. honeyseed: perhaps "homicide"
 - 54. man-queller: murderer

an infinitive thing upon my score. Good Master Fang, hold him sure. Good Master Snare, let him not 'scape. He comes (continuantly) to Pie Corner, 25 saving your manhoods, to buy a saddle, and he is indited to dinner to the Lubber's Head in Lumbert Street, to Master Smooth's the silkman. I pray you, since my exion is entered, and my case so openly known to the world, let him be brought in to his 30 answer. A hundred mark is a long one for a poor lone woman to bear, and I have borne, and borne. and borne, and have been fubbed off, and fubbed off, and fubbed off from this day to that day, that it is a shame to be thought on. There is no honesty in 35 such dealing, unless a woman should be made an ass and a beast to bear every knave's wrong. Yonder he comes, and that arrant malmsey-nose knave. Bardolph, with him. Do your offices, do your offices, Master Fang and Master Snare, do me, do me, do me your offices.

Enter Sir John (Falstaff) and Bardolph, and the Page.

FALSTAFF How now, whose mare's dead? What's the matter?

FANG (Sir John,) I arrest you at the suit of Mistress Quickly.

FALSTAFF Away, varlets!—Draw, Bardolph. Cut me off the villain's head. Throw the quean in the channel.

They draw.

HOSTESS Throw me in the channel? I'll throw thee in the channel. Wilt thou, wilt thou, thou bastardly rogue?—Murder, murder!—Ah, thou honeysuckle villain, wilt thou kill God's officers and the King's? Ah, thou honeyseed rogue, thou art a honeyseed, a man-queller, and a woman-queller.

FALSTAFF Keep them off, Bardolph.

55

70

- 56. **rescue:** perhaps the legal use of the word, meaning to remove a person forcibly from legal custody
 - 58. wot: wilt; ta: thou
- 59. **hempseed:** i.e., gallows-bird, someone worthy of hanging
- 60. **scullion:** menial servant (an abusive epithet); **rampallian:** scoundrel
- 60-61. **fustilarian:** perhaps a comic form of "fustilugs," a fat frowsy woman
 - 61. tickle your catastrophe: i.e., beat your behind
 - 64. stand to me: support me, take my side
- 65. What: an interjection introducing a question or exclamation
- 72. **Eastcheap:** a London street filled with markets and taverns (See pages xvi-xvii.)
- 79. **ride...mare:** i.e., haunt you at night like a nightmare
- 80. **like:** i.e., likely; **ride the mare:** Since **mare** was used contemptuously to mean "woman," the phrase is probably sexual.
- 81. vantage . . . up: i.e., position from which to mount
- 83. **temper:** mental constitution, habitual disposition
- 85-86. **come by her own:** obtain what is rightfully hers

OFFICERS A rescue, a rescue!

HOSTESS Good people, bring a rescue or two.—Thou wot, wot thou? Thou wot, wot ta? Do, do, thou rogue. Do, thou hempseed.

PAGE Away, you scullion, you rampallian, you fustil- 60 arian! I'll tickle your catastrophe.

Enter Lord Chief Justice and his Men.

CHIEF JUSTICE

What is the matter? Keep the peace here, ho!

HOSTESS Good my lord, be good to me. I beseech you stand to me.

CHIEF JUSTICE

How now, Sir John? What, are you brawling here? Doth this become your place, your time, and business?

You should have been well on your way to York.— Stand from him, fellow. Wherefore hang'st thou upon him?

HOSTESS O my most worshipful lord, an 't please your Grace, I am a poor widow of Eastcheap, and he is arrested at my suit.

CHIEF JUSTICE For what sum?

HOSTESS It is more than for some, my lord; it is for all I 75 have. He hath eaten me out of house and home. He hath put all my substance into that fat belly of his.

To Falstaff. But I will have some of it out again, or I will ride thee o' nights like the mare.

FALSTAFF I think I am as like to ride the mare if I have any vantage of ground to get up.

CHIEF JUSTICE How comes this, Sir John? (Fie.) what man of good temper would endure this tempest of exclamation? Are you not ashamed to enforce a poor widow to so rough a course to come by her 85 own?

90. parcel-gilt goblet: i.e., a goblet with a gilt inner surface; Dolphin chamber: the name of a room in her inn

91. sea-coal: i.e., coal (as distinguished from charcoal)

92. Wheeson: dialect for "Whitsun" (the seventh week after Easter); broke: cut open

93. liking: comparing; singing-man of Windsor: See longer note, page 251.

95. my lady thy wife: Since Falstaff is a knight, his wife would be called "my lady."

96. Goodwife: i.e., Mrs.

97. Gossip: i.e., friend (here used as a term of address)

98. mess: small amount 100. whereby: whereupon

101. ill: harmful; green: recent, raw

103. familiarity: her mistake for "familiar"

104. madam: one designation for the wife of a knight

106. book-oath: oath sworn on the Bible

110. in good case: well off, wealthy

111. distracted her: driven her insane

118. level: balanced

CALSTAFF What is the gross sum that I owe thee? Marry, if thou wert an honest man, thyself and the money too. Thou didst swear to me upon a narcel-gilt goblet, sitting in my Dolphin chamber at 90 the round table by a sea-coal fire, upon Wednesday in Wheeson week, when the Prince broke thy head for liking his father to a singing-man of Windsor, thou didst swear to me then, as I was washing thy wound, to marry me and make me my lady thy wife. 95 Canst thou deny it? Did not Goodwife Keech, the butcher's wife, come in then and call me Gossip Ouickly, coming in to borrow a mess of vinegar, telling us she had a good dish of prawns, whereby thou didst desire to eat some, whereby I told thee 100 they were ill for a green wound? And didst thou not, when she was gone downstairs, desire me to be no more so familiarity with such poor people, saying that ere long they should call me madam? And didst thou not kiss me and bid me fetch thee thirty 105 shillings? I put thee now to thy book-oath. Deny it if thou canst

FALSTAFF My lord, this is a poor mad soul, and she says up and down the town that her eldest son is like vou. She hath been in good case, and the truth is, 110 poverty hath distracted her. But, for these foolish officers, I beseech you I may have redress against them.

CHIEF JUSTICE Sir John, Sir John, I am well acquainted with your manner of wrenching the true cause the 115 false way. It is not a confident brow, nor the throng of words that come with such more than impudent sauciness from you, can thrust me from a level consideration. You have, as it appears to me, practiced upon the easy-vielding spirit of this woman, 120 [and made her serve your uses both in purse and in person.]

sterling money)

128. sneap: i.e., rebuke

130. make curtsy: i.e., bow

131-32. my . . . remembered: i.e., remembering the respect I owe you

132. suitor: suppliant

135. as having power: i.e., as if empowered or entitled

136. in . . . reputation: in a way (1) suitable to vour reputation, or (2) that will reflect well on you

147. fain: content (as my only option); plate: silver.

or gold utensils

149. Glasses: i.e., drinking vessels of glass; only drinking: i.e., only acceptable way to drink; for: i.e. as for

150. slight drollery: i.e., comic painting on thin fabric

150-51. the Prodigal: i.e. the Prodigal Son (Luke 15.11-32) See page 198.

151. German hunting: perhaps, a scene of boar hunting or of St. Hubert, converted while hunting the stag; waterwork: imitation tapestry

152. bed-hangers: i.e., bed-hangings, pieces of

tapestry used as bed-curtains

Wea, in truth, my lord.

CHIEF JUSTICE Pray thee, peace.—Pay her the debt you owe her, and unpay the villainy you have done with 125 her. The one you may do with sterling money, and the other with current repentance.

FALSTAFF My lord, I will not undergo this sneap without reply. You call honorable boldness "impudent cauciness." If a man will make curtsy and say 130 nothing, he is virtuous. No, my lord, my humble Anty remembered, I will not be your suitor. I say to vou. I do desire deliverance from these officers. being upon hasty employment in the King's affairs.

CHIEF JUSTICE You speak as having power to do wrong: 135 but answer in th' effect of your reputation, and satisfy the poor woman.

FALSTAFF Come hither, hostess.

THe speaks aside to the Hostess.

Enter a Messenger, (Master Gower.)

CHIEF JUSTICE Now, Master Gower, what news? COWER

The King, my lord, and Harry Prince of Wales Are near at hand. The rest the paper tells.

THe gives the Chief Justice a paper to read.

FALSTAFF, to the Hostess As I am a gentleman! HOSTESS Faith, you said so before.

FALSTAFF As I am a gentleman. Come. No more words of it.

HOSTESS By this heavenly ground I tread on, I must be fain to pawn both my plate and the tapestry of my dining chambers.

FALSTAFF Glasses, glasses, is the only drinking. And for thy walls, a pretty slight drollery, or the story of the 150 Prodigal or the German hunting in waterwork is worth a thousand of these bed-hangers and these

154. an 'twere: i.e., if it were; humors: moods

156. draw the action: i.e., withdraw the suit

160. **nobles:** i.e., coins worth about seven shillings

(Twenty nobles would be about seven pounds.)

162. make other shift: i.e., try somewhere else

163. still: always

164. though I: i.e., even if I have to

168. Hook on: i.e., don't get separated from her

176. tonight: i.e., last night

177. Basingstoke: a town southwest of London

181. foot: foot soldiers; horse: cavalry troops



A seventeenth-century view of Falstaff and the Hostess. From *The wits, or Sport upon sport* . . . (1662).

fly-bitten (tapestries.) Let it be ten pound, if thou canst. Come, an 'twere not for thy humors, there's not a better wench in England. Go wash thy face, 155 and draw the action. Come, thou must not be in this humor with me. Dost not know me? Come, come. I know thou wast set on to this.

HOSTESS Pray thee, Sir John, let it be but twenty nobles. I' faith, I am loath to pawn my plate, so God 160 save me, la.

FALSTAFF Let it alone. I'll make other shift. You'll be a fool still.

HOSTESS Well, you shall have it, though I pawn my gown. I hope you'll come to supper. You'll pay me all together?

FALSTAFF Will I live? \(^{\text{Aside to Bardolph.}}\) Go with her, with her. Hook on, hook on.

HOSTESS Will you have Doll Tearsheet meet you at supper?

FALSTAFF No more words. Let's have her.

Hostess, Fang, Snare, Bardolph, Page, and others exit.

CHIEF JUSTICE, \(\text{to Gower} \) I have heard better news.

FALSTAFF, [†]to Chief Justice [†] What's the news, my \(good \) lord?

CHIEF JUSTICE, \(\text{to Gower} \) Where lay the King 175 tonight?

GOWER At (Basingstoke,) my lord.

FALSTAFF, [†]to Chief Justice [†] I hope, my lord, all's well. What is the news, my lord?

CHIEF JUSTICE, \(\text{to Gower} \) Come all his forces back? 18 GOWER

No. Fifteen hundred foot, five hundred horse Are marched up to my Lord of Lancaster Against Northumberland and the Archbishop.

185. presently: immediately

191. wait upon: accompany

193. being: i.e., since

194. take . . . up: i.e., recruit soldiers

198. they ... not: i.e., my manners are not suitable

200. tap for tap: i.e., tit for tat; fair: i.e., on good terms

201. lighten thee: i.e., spiritually enlighten you (with wordplay on "take off some of your weight")

2.2 Learning that Falstaff will be dining that night in Eastcheap, Prince Hal and Poins decide to disguise themselves as waiters and observe him.

3. attached: seized; so high blood: i.e., such exalted lineage

4-5. discolors . . . greatness: perhaps, makes me blush

6. show: look; vilely: i.e., vile; small beer: weak. waterv beer

7. loosely studied: negligently educated

BALSTAFF, To Chief Justice Comes the King back from Wales, my noble lord?

CHIEF JUSTICE, To Gower

You shall have letters of me presently. Come. Go along with me, good Master Gower.

FALSTAFF My lord!

CHIEF JUSTICE What's the matter?

FALSTAFF Master Gower, shall I entreat you with me to dinner? 190

GOWER I must wait upon my good lord here. I thank you, good Sir John.

CHIEF JUSTICE Sir John, you loiter here too long, being you are to take soldiers up in counties as you go.

FALSTAFF Will you sup with me, Master Gower? CHIEF JUSTICE What foolish master taught you these

manners, Sir John?

FALSTAFF Master Gower, if they become me not, he was a fool that taught them me.—This is the right

fencing grace, my lord: tap for tap, and so part fair. 200 CHIEF JUSTICE Now the Lord lighten thee. Thou art a great fool.

(They \(\subseteq \text{separate and} \) exit.)

(Scene 2) Enter the Prince and Poins

PRINCE Before God, I am exceeding weary.

POINS Is 't come to that? I had thought weariness durst not have attached one of so high blood.

PRINCE Faith, it does me, though it discolors the complexion of my greatness to acknowledge it. Doth it not show vilely in me to desire small beer?

POINS Why, a prince should not be so loosely studied as to remember so weak a composition.

- 9. Belike: perhaps; got: begotten, conceived
- 11. creature: See longer note, page 252.
- 11–12. **these** . . . **considerations:** (1) i.e., my considering such **humble** things; (2) **these humble** things that I think about
- 15. with these: Most editors print F's "viz. these," which means "namely, these."
 - 17-18. for superfluity: i.e., as an extra
- 18. that: i.e., Poins's inventory of ... shirts; tennis-court: an enclosed oblong court or building for playing "real tennis" (i.e., "royal tennis") as opposed to lawn tennis
- 19-20. it ... there: i.e., when you don't play tennis it means you are low on clean shirts **keepest**: carry on, maintain **racket**: uproar, disturbance (with wordplay on **racket** as the light bat used in playing tennis)
- 21–24. **the rest . . . kingdom:** perhaps, your vices have led to your pawning your shirts or using them to swaddle your illegitimate children (See longer note, page 252.)
 - 25-26. in the fault: i.e., to blame
- 26. whereupon: on which account; kindreds: families
 - 29. **idly:** (1) lazily; (2) foolishly
 - 34. breeding: (1) parentage; (2) education
- 36. **Go to:** an expression of impatience; **stand:** i.e., encounter without flinching; **push:** blow; thrust
 - 38. meet: suitable, fitting
 - 40. for fault of: in default of, for want of
 - 42. Very hardly: i.e., with great difficulty

Belike then my appetite was not princely got. for, by my troth, I do now remember the poor 10 creature small beer. But indeed these humble coneiderations make me out of love with my greatness. What a disgrace is it to me to remember thy name. or to know thy face tomorrow, or to take note how many pair of silk stockings thou hast—with these. and those that were thy peach-colored (ones)—or to hear the inventory of thy shirts, as, one for superfluity and another for use. But that the tennis-court keeper knows better than I, for it is a low ebb of linen with thee when thou keepest not racket there. 20 as thou hast not done a great while, because the rest of the low countries have (made a shift to) eat up thy holland; [and God knows whether those that haw] out the ruins of thy linen shall inherit His kingdom: but the midwives say the children are not in the 25 fault. whereupon the world increases and kindreds are mightily strengthened.]

POINS How ill it follows, after you have labored so hard, you should talk so idly! Tell me, how many good young princes would do so, their fathers being 30 so sick as yours at this time is?

PRINCE Shall I tell thee one thing, Poins?

POINS Yes, faith, and let it be an excellent good thing.
PRINCE It shall serve among wits of no higher breeding than thine.

POINS Go to. I stand the push of your one thing that you will tell.

PRINCE Marry, I tell thee it is not meet that I should be sad, now my father is sick—albeit I could tell to thee, as to one it pleases me, for fault of a better, to call my friend, I could be sad, and sad indeed too.

POINS Very hardly, upon such a subject.

70

- 45. **Let the end try the man:** Proverbial: "The end tries all."
 - 48. **ostentation**: display
- 55. **keeps the roadway:** i.e., holds to the common way (of thinking)
 - 57. accites: arouses
 - 59. lewd: worthless, unprincipled
 - 60. engraffed: closely attached
 - 62. spoke on: i.e., spoken of
- 64. **second brother:** i.e., younger brother (and therefore without property)
 - 65. proper . . . hands: i.e., a good man in a fight
 - 69. Christian: i.e., a normal boy
- 69-70. **if . . . ape:** i.e., how Falstaff has turned him into a monkey (presumably by dressing him gaudily)
- 74. **blushing:** a mocking reference to Bardolph's drink-flushed face: **Wherefore:** why

PRINCE By this hand, thou thinkest me as far in the devil's book as thou and Falstaff for obduracy and persistency. Let the end try the man. But I tell thee, my heart bleeds inwardly that my father is so sick; and keeping such vile company as thou art hath in reason taken from me all ostentation of sorrow.

POINS The reason?

PRINCE What wouldst thou think of me if I should 50 weep?

POINS I would think thee a most princely hypocrite.

PRINCE It would be every man's thought, and thou art a blessed fellow to think as every man thinks. Never a man's thought in the world keeps the roadway better than thine. Every man would think me an hypocrite indeed. And what accites your most worshipful thought to think so?

POINS Why, because you have been so lewd and so much engraffed to Falstaff.

PRINCE And to thee.

POINS By this light, I am well spoke on. I can hear it with mine own ears. The worst that they can say of me is that I am a second brother, and that I am a proper fellow of my hands; and those two things, I confess, I cannot help. By the Mass, here comes Bardolph.

Enter Bardolph and \[Page. \]

PRINCE And the boy that I gave Falstaff. He had him from me Christian, and look if the fat villain have not transformed him ape.

BARDOLPH God save your Grace.

PRINCE And yours, most noble Bardolph.

POINS, to Bardolph Come, you virtuous ass, you bashful fool, must you be blushing? Wherefore blush you now? What a maidenly man-at-arms are you 75

95

100

76-77. get a pottle-pot's maidenhead: i.e., drain a two-quart tankard of ale

78. e'en now: i.e., just a moment ago

78-79. a red lattice: i.e., an alehouse window

88. Althea: The Page confuses two mythological stories, Althea's dream about keeping a firebrand (line 89) burning and Hecuba's dream of giving birth to a firebrand.

90. A crown's worth: i.e., five shillings' worth

93. cankers: cankerworms (larvae that destroy flower buds) See picture below.

99. good respect: i.e., proper ceremony

100. Martlemas: i.e., Martinmas, the feastday of St. Martin celebrated on November 11 (Because Martinmas was a traditional time to slaughter cattle for the winter, the day was associated with beef, as was Falstaff, who, in Henry IV, Part 1, is called "my sweet beef.")

104. this wen: this excrescence or tumor (i.e., Falstaff)

105. holds his place: i.e., maintains his (privileged) position

108. Every . . . that: i.e., he makes sure that everyone knows his title



A cankerworm. (2.2.93) From John Johnstone, [Opera aliquot] [1650-62].

become! Is 't such a matter to get a pottle-pot's maidenhead? PAGE He calls me [e'en now,] my lord, through a red lattice, and I could discern no part of his face from the window. At last I spied his eyes, and methought 80 he had made two holes in the ale-wife's (new) petticoat and so peeped through. DRINCE Has not the boy profited? PARDOLPH, To Page Away, you whoreson upright (rabbit), away! PAGE Away, you rascally Althea's dream, away! PRINCE Instruct us, boy. What dream, boy? PAGE Marry, my lord, Althea dreamt she was delivered of a firebrand, and therefore I call him her dream. PRINCE A crown's worth of good interpretation. There THe gives the Page money. 'tis, boy. POINS O, that this (good) blossom could be kept from cankers! Well, there is sixpence to preserve thee.

THe gives the Page money.

BARDOLPH An you do not make him (be) hanged among you, the gallows shall have wrong.

PRINCE And how doth thy master, Bardolph?

BARDOLPH Well, my (good) lord. He heard of your Grace's coming to town. There's a letter for you. THe gives the Prince a paper.

POINS Delivered with good respect. And how doth the Martlemas your master?

BARDOLPH In bodily health, sir.

POINS Marry, the immortal part needs a physician, but that moves not him. Though that be sick, it dies not.

PRINCE I do allow this wen to be as familiar with me as my dog, and he holds his place, for look you how he 105 THe shows the letter to Poins.

POINS reads the superscription John Falstaff, knight. Every man must know that as oft as he has occasion

135

140

- 109. name himself: announce his own name
- 112. takes upon him: pretends
- 113. conceive: understand
- 113-14. ready . . . cap: The image is of a borrower eagerly doffing his cap to a lender. The phrase may be proverbial.
 - 115. fetch it: i.e., derive their ancestry
- 116. Japheth: Genesis 10.1-5 traces the Europe. an peoples back to Japheth, one of Noah's three sons.
- 123. brevity in breath: wordplay on brevity as "shortness"
 - 124. commend me: i.e., offer my greetings
 - 127. at idle times: i.e., in times of idleness
- 129. by yea and no: a Puritan oath (See Matthew 5.34-37: "Swear not at all, . . . but let your communication be yea, yea; nay, nay.")
- 136. twenty of: a vague phrase for "a large number of"



A tavern.

From August Casimir Redel, Apophtegmata symbolica . . . [n.d.].

to name himself, even like those that are kin to the King, for they never prick their finger but they say 110 There's some of the King's blood spilt." "How comes that?" says he that takes upon him not to conceive. The answer is as ready as a borrower's cap: "I am the King's poor cousin, sir."

DRINCE Nay, they will be kin to us, or they will fetch it 115 from Japheth. But (to) the letter: \(Reads. \)\(Sir John \) Falstaff, knight, to the son of the King nearest his father, Harry Prince of Wales, greeting.

POINS Why, this is a certificate.

PRINCE Peace! 120 Reads. I will imitate the honorable Romans in

brevity. POINS He sure means brevity in breath, short-winded. forince reads I commend me to thee, I commend thee, and I leave thee. Be not too familiar with Poins, for he 125 misuses thy favors so much that he swears thou art to marry his sister Nell. Repent at idle times as thou mayst, and so farewell.

Thine by yea and no, which is as much as to say, as thou usest him.

Jack Falstaff with my (familiars,) John with my brothers and sisters, and Sir John with all Europe.

POINS My lord, I'll steep this letter in sack and make him eat it.

PRINCE That's to make him eat twenty of his words. But do you use me thus, Ned? Must I marry your sister?

POINS God send the wench no worse fortune! But I never said so.

PRINCE Well, thus we play the fools with the time, and the spirits of the wise sit in the clouds and mock us. 「To Bardolph. Ts your master here in London?

BARDOLPH Yea, my lord.

PRINCE Where sups he? Doth the old boar feed in the 145

146. frank: pigsty

147. **the old place:** Lines 145–47 have suggested to many that Falstaff's tavern is to be imagined as the Boar's Head, a sixteenth-century **Eastcheap** tavern.

149. **Ephesians:** i.e., drinking companions; **the old church:** St. Paul's Epistle to the Ephesians concludes its instructions about how members of the "new church" should live: "And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess, but be fulfilled with the Spirit" (5.18).

153. pagan: i.e., prostitute (See page 128.)

154. proper: respectable, honest

156–57. **the town bull:** a bull kept in turn by the cattle breeders of a village

166. **should be some road:** i.e., must be as commonly available as a highway

167–68. **the way . . . London:** i.e., the busy Great North Road

169. bestow himself: i.e., behave

172. jerkins: close-fitting jackets

173. drawers: waiters, tapsters

174. heavy descension: grave or significant descent

175. **Jove's case:** The king of the Roman gods transformed himself into a **bull** in order to abduct Europa. (See page 216.)

177. weigh: be of equal value or importance

old frank? BARDOLPH At the old place, my lord, in Eastcheap. PRINCE What company? PAGE Ephesians, my lord, of the old church. PRINCE Sup any women with him? 150 PAGE None, my lord, but old Mistress Quickly and Mistress Doll Tearsheet. PRINCE What pagan may that be? PAGE A proper gentlewoman, sir, and a kinswoman of my master's. PRINCE Even such kin as the parish heifers are to the town bull.-Shall we steal upon them, Ned, at supper? POINS I am your shadow, my lord. I'll follow you. PRINCE Sirrah—you, boy—and Bardolph, no word to 160 your master that I am yet come to town. There's for your silence. THe gives money. BARDOLPH I have no tongue, sir. PAGE And for mine, sir, I will govern it. PRINCE Fare you well. Go. \(\Gamma\) Bardolph and Page exit.\(\Gamma\) 165 This Doll Tearsheet should be some road. POINS I warrant you, as common as the way between Saint Albans and London. PRINCE How might we see Falstaff bestow himself tonight in his true colors, and not ourselves be 170 seen? POINS Put on two leathern jerkins and aprons, and wait upon him at his table as drawers. PRINCE From a god to a bull: a heavy descension. It

was Jove's case. From a (prince) to a 'prentice: a low 175 transformation that shall be mine, for in everything the purpose must weigh with the folly. Follow me,

They exit.

Ned.

Enter Northumberland, his wife, and the wife to Harry Percy.

2.3 Northumberland is persuaded by his daughter. in-law, Hotspur's widow, to abandon the other rebels.

1. daughter: i.e., daughter-in-law

2. Give even way unto: i.e., allow free scope to

4. them: i.e., the times (line 3); to Percy: i.e., to me (Northumberland's family name is "Percy.")

5. given over: i.e., given up (trying to persuade vou)

8. but my going, nothing: i.e., nothing except my going

11. more endeared: i.e., bound or obligated by greater affection

14. powers: forces

17. For yours, the: i.e., as for yours, may the

18-19. it... heaven: perhaps, his honor shone like the sun in a clear sky

20. chivalry: men-at-arms

21. glass: looking glass, mirror

23. He . . . gait: i.e., the only men who did not

imitate his walk were men without legs

24. thick: perhaps, rapidly and loudly (The contrast seems to be with the perfection [line 27] of speaking low and tardily [line 26], i.e., softly and slowly.)

27. abuse: bad or improper usage

NORTHUMBERLAND pray thee, loving wife and gentle daughter, Give even way unto my rough affairs. Put not you on the visage of the times And be, like them, to Percy troublesome. IADY NORTHUMBERLAND I have given over. I will speak no more. 5 no what you will; your wisdom be your guide. NORTHUMBERLAND Alas, sweet wife, my honor is at pawn, And, but my going, nothing can redeem it. TADY PERCY O yet, for God's sake, go not to these wars. The time was, father, that you broke your word 10 When you were more (endeared) to it than now, When your own Percy, when my heart's dear Harry, Threw many a northward look to see his father Bring up his powers; but he did long in vain. Who then persuaded you to stay at home? 15 There were two honors lost, yours and your son's. For yours, the God of heaven brighten it. For his, it stuck upon him as the sun In the gray vault of heaven, and by his light Did all the chivalry of England move 20 To do brave acts. He was indeed the glass Wherein the noble youth did dress themselves. (He had no legs that practiced not his gait; And speaking thick, which nature made his blemish, Became the accents of the valiant; 25 For those that could speak low and tardily

Would turn their own perfection to abuse

29. affections of delight: inclinations toward pleasure

30. humors of blood: i.e., caprices of passion

31. mark: object of attention; copy: pattern, example; book: i.e., book of instructions

36. **In disadvantage:** i.e., in an unfavorable situation; **abide a field:** i.e., face a battle

38. defensible: capable of making a defense

40. nice: strict

45. Monmouth's: i.e., Prince Hal's

46-47. Beshrew your heart: a mild oath

49. **new lamenting**: i.e., lamenting anew; **ancient**: former

55. of their . . . taste: i.e., tested their strength

56. get ... vantage of: i.e., obtain mastery over

60. **so suffered:** i.e., allowed to **try** his own strength; **came:** became



A gauntlet. (1.1.161)
From Louis de Gaya, Traité des armes, des machines de guerre . . . (1678).

To seem like him. So that in speech, in gait, In diet, in affections of delight. In military rules, humors of blood. 30 He was the mark and glass, copy and book, That fashioned others. And him-O wondrous him! o miracle of men!—him did you leave, second to none, unseconded by you, To look upon the hideous god of war 35 In disadvantage, to abide a field Where nothing but the sound of Hotspur's name Did seem defensible. So you left him. Never, O never, do his ghost the wrong To hold your honor more precise and nice 40 With others than with him. Let them alone. The Marshal and the Archbishop are strong. Had my sweet Harry had but half their numbers. Today might I, hanging on Hotspur's neck, Have talked of Monmouth's grave. 45 Beshrew your NORTHUMBERLAND heart. Fair daughter, you do draw my spirits from me With new lamenting ancient oversights. But I must go and meet with danger there, 50 Or it will seek me in another place And find me worse provided. O. fly to Scotland IADY NORTHUMBERLAND Till that the nobles and the armed commons Have of their puissance made a little taste. 55 LADY PERCY If they get ground and vantage of the King, Then join you with them like a rib of steel To make strength stronger; but, for all our loves, First let them try themselves. So did your son; He was so suffered. So came I a widow, 60 And never shall have length of life enough

70

67. still-stand: i.e., standstill

68. Fain: gladly

70. resolve for: i.e., decide to go to; am I: i.e., will I be

2.4 At Mistress Quickly's inn in Eastcheap, a fight erupts after Falstaff's ensign, Pistol, insults Doll Tearsheet. The disguised Prince Hal and Poins hear Falstaff's demeaning comments about them. Hal and Falstaff are summoned to the war.

2. applejohns: i.e., old apples with withered skins 6-7. putting . . . hat: i.e., standing bareheaded as a sign of respect

10. cover: i.e., lay the cloth for the meal (As lines

1-21 are spoken, the "drawers" may be bringing on tables and chairs.)

11. noise: band of musicians

12. Dispatch: make haste

14. straight: straightway, immediately

rain upon remembrance with mine eyes That it may grow and sprout as high as heaven For recordation to my noble husband.

MORTHUMBERLAND

81

Come, come, go in with me. Tis with my mind As with the tide swelled up unto his height. That makes a still-stand, running neither way. Fain would I go to meet the Archbishop, But many thousand reasons hold me back. I will resolve for Scotland. There am I Till time and vantage crave my company.

They exit.

(Scene 4) Enter Francis and another Drawer.

FRANCIS What the devil hast thou brought thereapplejohns? Thou knowest Sir John cannot endure an applejohn.

(SECOND) DRAWER Mass, thou sayst true. The Prince once set a dish of applejohns before him and told him there were five more Sir Johns and, putting off his hat, said "I will now take my leave of these six dry, round, old, withered knights." It angered him to the heart. But he hath forgot that.

FRANCIS Why then, cover and set them down, and see if 10 thou canst find out Sneak's noise. Mistress Tearsheet would fain hear some music. [Dispatch. The room where they supped is too hot. They'll come in straight.

Enter Will.]

WILL Sirrah, here will be the Prince and Master 15 Poins anon, and they will put on two of our jerkins

30

35

19. old utis: i.e., great fun

23. **temperality**, **pulsidge**: her mistakes for "temper" and "pulse"

27. **canaries:** i.e., canary (sweet wine); **searching:** penetrating, probing

30. Hem: perhaps a hiccup or a belch

33. When . . . court: A popular ballad, known as Sir Launcelot du Lake, began: "When Arthur first in court began, And was approved king."

34. jordan: chamber pot

37. calm: i.e., qualm (a fit of faintness or nausea)

38. **sect**: perhaps, sex; or, perhaps, occupation (as a prostitute)

38-39. An . . . sick: perhaps, if they are ever calm it is because they are sick

40. **muddy rascal:** i.e., dirty scoundrel (Falstaff replies, line 42, as if **rascal** had its meaning of "lean, inferior deer," and was thus not applicable to him.)



Tapping a hogshead. (2.4.64)
From Guillaume de La Perrière, *La morosophie* . . . (1553).

and aprons, and Sir John must not know of it. Bardolph hath brought word.

[SECOND] DRAWER By the Mass, here will be old utis. It will be an excellent stratagem.

FRANCIS I'll see if I can find out Sneak.

He exits \(\text{with the Second Drawer.} \)

Enter (Hostess) and Doll Tearsheet.

an excellent good temperality. Your pulsidge beats as extraordinarily as heart would desire, and your color, I warrant you, is as red as any rose, in good truth, la. But, i' faith, you have drunk too much canaries, and that's a marvellous searching wine, and it perfumes the blood ere one can say "What's this?" How do you now?

DOLL Better than I was. Hem.

HOSTESS Why, that's well said. A good heart's worth gold. Lo, here comes Sir John.

Enter Sir John (Falstaff.)

FALSTAFF, [singing]

When Arthur first in court—

To Will. Empty the jordan. Will exits.

And was a worthy king-

How now, Mistress Doll?

HOSTESS Sick of a calm, yea, good faith.

FALSTAFF So is all her sect. An they be once in a calm, they are sick.

DOLL A pox damn you, you muddy rascal. Is that all the 40 comfort you give me?

FALSTAFF You make fat rascals, Mistress Doll.

DOLL I make them? Gluttony and diseases make (them); I make them not.

46. catch of: i.e., are infected by

49. Yea . . . jewels: possible wordplay on catch as "seize, take hold of" (i.e., you do indeed catch our iewelry)

50. ouches: ornamental brooches or buckles

(with possible wordplay on "scabs, sores")

50-54. to serve...bravely: Falstaff plays with military language (serve, breach, pike, surgery, charged chambers) that also has reference to sex and to venereal disease and its treatment. chambers: small cannon

55. conger: big eel

58. rheumatic: her error, perhaps, for "splenetic" or "choleric" (i.e., irritable)

59. confirmities: her error for "infirmities"

60. What the good-year: i.e., "what the devil"

61. weaker vessel: proverbial, from 1 Peter 3.7. which refers to "the wife" as "the weaker vessel"

64. hogshead: cask of wine (See page 82.)

64-65. whole ... stuff: i.e., a shipload of Bordeaux wine (A venture referred to the goods put at risk.)

65. hulk: ship

70. Ancient: i.e., ensign (the lowest ranking commissioned officer in the infantry)

72. swaggering: i.e., blustering, bullving

75. I'll: i.e., I will have

FALSTAFF If the cook help to make the gluttony, you 45 help to make the diseases, Doll. We catch of you, Doll, we catch of you. Grant that, my poor virtue. grant that.

DOLL Yea, joy, our chains and our jewels.

FALSTAFF Your brooches, pearls, and ouches—for to serve bravely is to come halting off, you know; to come off the breach with his pike bent bravely, and to surgery bravely, to venture upon the charged chambers bravely—

IDOLL Hang yourself, you muddy conger, hang yourself! HOSTESS By my troth, this is the old fashion. You two never meet but you fall to some discord. You are both, i' good truth, as rheumatic as two dry toasts. You cannot one bear with another's confirmities. What the good-year! One must bear, and \[\text{to Doll} \] that must be you. You are the weaker vessel, as they say, the emptier vessel.

DOLL Can a weak empty vessel bear such a huge full hogshead? There's a whole merchant's venture of Bordeaux stuff in him. You have not seen a hulk better stuffed in the hold.—Come, I'll be friends with thee, Jack. Thou art going to the wars, and whether I shall ever see thee again or no, there is nobody cares.

Enter Drawer.

DRAWER Sir, Ancient Pistol's below and would speak 70 with you.

DOLL Hang him, swaggering rascal! Let him not come hither. It is the foul-mouthed'st rogue in England.

HOSTESS If he swagger, let him not come here. No, by my faith, I must live among my neighbors. I'll no 75 swaggerers. I am in good name and fame with the

110

83. mine ancient: i.e., my ensign (The Hostess responds, line 85, as if ancient here meant "old."

84. Tilly-vally: an exclamation of impatience

86. debuty: i.e., deputy (a petty official standing in for the alderman)

89. by: i.e., nearby

91. civil: well-bred, polite; are . . . name: i.e., have a bad reputation

92. whereupon: i.e., why

95. companions: fellows (a contemptuous term)

98. tame cheater: decoy in a con game (who did not swagger for fear of scaring off his prev)

100. swagger: quarrel; Barbary hen: i.e., guinea fowl (known for its mild manner)

103. Cheater: The Hostess may assume that the word carries its original meaning of "escheator." an officer of the king appointed by the Lord Treasurer.

very best. Shut the door. There comes no swaggerers here. I have not lived all this while to have swaggering now. Shut the door, I pray you.

FALSTAFF Dost thou hear, hostess?

unstess Pray you pacify yourself, Sir John. There comes no swaggerers here.

PAISTAFF Dost thou hear? It is mine ancient.

uostess Tilly-vally, Sir John, ne'er tell me. And your ancient swaggerer comes not in my doors. I was before Master Tisick the debuty t' other day, and, as he said to me—'twas no longer ago than Wednesday last, i' good faith-"Neighbor Quickly," says he-Master Dumb, our minister, was by then-"Neighbor Quickly," says he, "receive those that are civil, for," said he, "you are in an ill name." Now he said so, I can tell whereupon. "For," says he, "you are an honest woman, and well thought on. Therefore take heed what guests you receive. Receive," says he, "no swaggering companions." 95 There comes none here. You would bless you to hear what he said. No, I'll no swaggerers.

FALSTAFF He's no swaggerer, hostess, a tame cheater, i' faith. You may stroke him as gently as a puppy greyhound. He'll not swagger with a Barbary hen if 100 her feathers turn back in any show of resistance.— Call him up, drawer. □ Drawer exits.

HOSTESS "Cheater" call you him? I will bar no honest man my house, nor no cheater, but I do not love swaggering. By my troth, I am the worse when one 105 says "swagger." Feel, masters, how I shake; look you, I warrant you.

DOLL So you do, hostess.

HOSTESS Do I? Yea, in very truth, do I, an 'twere an aspen leaf. I cannot abide swaggerers.

- 112. **Pistol:** The ensign's name gives rise to wordplay on its meaning as a weapon that discharges and thus on its sexual connotations.
- 112-14. I charge...hostess: perhaps, I will pledge you if you will pay for the drink
- 117. **pistol-proof:** i.e., safe from sexual assault and from Pistol himself; **not hardly:** i.e., by no means
 - 118. offend: harm
 - 122. Mistress Dorothy: i.e., Doll
 - 124, 126. companion, mate: terms of contempt
 - 125. lack-linen: i.e., shirtless
- 126–27. **meat...master:** This way of describing a woman in a sexual relation became proverbial, but perhaps originated in this play.
- 129. **bung:** thieves' slang for **cutpurse** or pick-pocket
 - 131. chaps: i.e., jaws; cuttle: i.e., cutter, bully
- 132. basket-hilt ... juggler: i.e., worn-out imposter (A basket-hilt was a basket-shaped web for protecting the swordsman's hand.)
- 134. **points:** tagged laces or cords (perhaps for attaching armor); **Much:** a derisive exclamation indicating incredulity
- 135. **God . . . but:** i.e., if God lets me live; **murder:** i.e., destroy
- 141. Captain: Pistol is, of course, several ranks below captain.

Enter Ancient Pistol, (Bardolph, and) Page.

- PISTOL God save you, Sir John.
- FALSTAFF Welcome, Ancient Pistol. Here, Pistol, I charge you with a cup of sack. Do you discharge upon mine hostess.
- PISTOL I will discharge upon her, Sir John, with two 115 bullets.
- FALSTAFF She is pistol-proof. Sir, you shall not hardly offend her.
- HOSTESS Come, I'll drink no proofs nor no bullets. I'll drink no more than will do me good, for no man's 120 pleasure, I.
- PISTOL Then, to you, Mistress Dorothy! I will charge you.
- poll Charge me? I scorn you, scurvy companion.

 What, you poor, base, rascally, cheating lack-linen 125 mate! Away, you mouldy rogue, away! I am meat for your master.
- PISTOL I know you, Mistress Dorothy.
- DOLL Away, you cutpurse rascal, you filthy bung, away!
 By this wine, I'll thrust my knife in your mouldy 130 chaps an you play the saucy cuttle with me. Away, you bottle-ale rascal, you basket-hilt stale juggler, you. Since when, I pray you, sir? God's light, with two points on your shoulder? Much!
- PISTOL God let me not live but I will murder your ruff 135 for this.
- [FALSTAFF No more, Pistol. I would not have you go off here. Discharge yourself of our company, Pistol.]
- HOSTESS No, good Captain Pistol, not here, sweet captain!
- DOLL Captain? Thou abominable damned cheater, art thou not ashamed to be called captain? An captains

143. truncheon: i.e., beat (with a truncheon)

148. stewed prunes: a dish associated with brothels

151. **before** . . . **ill sorted:** i.e., before it got into bad company (**Occupy** had come to mean "copulate.")

156. of her: i.e., on her

158–59. **Pluto's damnèd lake:** perhaps, the River Styx in the mythological underworld, of which **Pluto** was king (Pistol's speech is characterized by mangled lines of poetry, archaic language, and scraps of verse from other plays.)

159. Erebus: usually, in classical mythology, the place of darkness through which the dead must pass;

here, perhaps, the son of Chaos

162. **Hiren:** the name of the sword of the romance hero Amadis du Gaul

163. Peesell: i.e., pizzle (an animal's penis)

164. **beseek:** i.e., beseech; **aggravate:** her mistake perhaps for "moderate"

165. humors: See longer note, page 253.

166-67. **hollow...day:** These lines parody Marlowe's *Tamburlaine*, *Part II* (c. 1587): "Holla, ye pampered jades of Asia! What, can ye draw but twenty miles a day...?"

168. Caesars, cannibals: See longer note, page 253. Troyant: i.e., Trojan (Trojans and Greeks were bitter enemies in the so-called Trojan War.)

169. **Cerberus:** in Greek mythology, the monstrous three-headed dog guarding the gateway to the underworld (See page 100.)

170. welkin: sky; fall foul for toys: i.e., quarrel

over trifles

174, anon: i.e., soon

were of my mind, they would truncheon you out for taking their names upon you before you have earned them. You a captain? You slave, for what? 145 For tearing a poor whore's ruff in a bawdy house? He a captain! Hang him, rogue. He lives upon mouldy stewed prunes and dried cakes. A captain? God's light, these villains will make the word as odious [as the word "occupy," which was an excellent good word before it was ill sorted.] Therefore captains had need look to 't.

BARDOLPH, To Pistol Pray thee go down, good ancient. FALSTAFF Hark thee hither, Mistress Doll.

PISTOL, To Bardolph Not I. I tell thee what, Corporal 155
Bardolph, I could tear her. I'll be revenged of her.
PAGE Pray thee go down.

PISTOL I'll see her damned first to Pluto's damnèd lake, by this hand, to th' infernal deep with Erebus and tortures vile also. Hold hook and line, say I. 160 Down, down, dogs! Down, (Fates!) Have we not Hiren here?

| Fig. 1/2 | F

HOSTESS Good Captain Peesell, be quiet. 'Tis very late, i' faith. I beseek you now, aggravate your choler.

PISTOL These be good humors indeed. Shall packhorses and hollow pampered jades of Asia, which
cannot go but thirty mile a day, compare with
Caesars and with cannibals and Troyant Greeks?
Nay, rather damn them with King Cerberus, and let
the welkin roar. Shall we fall foul for toys?

170

HOSTESS By my troth, captain, these are very bitter words.

BARDOLPH Begone, good ancient. This will grow to a brawl anon.

PISTOL (Die) men like dogs! Give crowns like pins! Have 175 we not Hiren here?

195

177. there's . . . here: The word Hiren, a corruption of the name "Irene," is understood by the Hostess as referring to a woman.

180. feed . . . Calipolis: a parody of a line from the play The Battle of Alcazar (c. 1594)

181. give 's: i.e., give us

181-82. Si . . . contento: i.e., if fortune torments me, hope contents me (in a mixture of Italian and Spanish)

182. broadsides: i.e., discharges of artillery from a ship of war

183. give fire: shoot

185. full points: complete stops; etceteras nothings: Both words were sometimes used to refer to the vagina.

187, neaf; fist

188. seven stars: the Pleiades

190. fustian: worthless, pretentious

191-92. Galloway nags: i.e., common prostitutes (literally, small horses from Scotland, but nags were also prostitutes)

193. Quoit: i.e., throw (as if he were a quoit)

193-94. shove-groat shilling: the coin used in playing shove-groat (a table game like shuffleboard)

198. imbrue: drench with blood

200. untwind: i.e., untwine

200-01. Sisters Three: i.e., Fates (one of whom. Atropos, cuts the thread of one's life) See page 102.

202. toward: about to happen

206-7. keeping house: i.e., running the tavern

207. tirrits: i.e., terrors, fits of fear

What the good-year, do you think I would deny her? For God's sake, be quiet. PISTOL Then feed and be fat, my fair Calipolis. Come, 180 give 's some sack. Si fortune me tormente, sperato

me contento. Fear we broadsides? No. let the fiend give fire. Give me some sack, and, sweetheart, lie thou there. \(\Gamma\) Laying down his sword.\(\Gamma\) Come we to full points here? And are etceteras nothings?

FALSTAFF Pistol, I would be quiet.

PISTOL Sweet knight, I kiss thy neaf. What, we have seen the seven stars.

DOLL For God's sake, thrust him downstairs, I cannot endure such a fustian rascal. 190

PISTOL "Thrust him downstairs"? Know we not Galloway nags?

FALSTAFF Quoit him down, Bardolph, like a shovegroat shilling. Nay, an he do nothing but speak nothing, he shall be nothing here.

BARDOLPH Come, get you downstairs.

PISTOL, shall we have incision? Shall we imbrue? Then death rock me asleep, abridge my doleful days. Why then, let grievous, ghastly, gaping wounds untwind the Sis- 200 ters Three. Come, Atropos, I say.

HOSTESS Here's goodly stuff toward! FALSTAFF Give me my rapier, boy.

DOLL I pray thee, Jack, I pray thee do not draw.

FALSTAFF, to Pistol Get you downstairs. They fight. 205 HOSTESS Here's a goodly tumult. I'll forswear keeping house afore I'll be in these tirrits and frights. So, murder, I warrant now. Alas, alas, put up your

naked weapons, put up your naked weapons.

Bardolph and Pistol exit.

DOLL I pray thee, Jack, be quiet. The rascal's gone. Ah. 210 you whoreson little valiant villain, you.

213. shrewd: sharp, severe

220. chops: fat cheeks

221, 222. **Hector**, **Agamemnon**: military heroes and leaders in the Trojan War (See page 208.)

223. **Nine Worthies:** nine famous men from history and mythology

224–25. toss . . . blanket: a rough form of punishment

227. canvass: i.e., toss

228. music is: i.e., musicians are

232. **like a church:** probably referring to Falstaff's size or his immobility

233. **tidy:** plump; **Bartholomew boar-pig:** i.e., roast pig sold at Bartholomew Fair

234. **foining:** copulating (literally, thrusting with a sharp weapon)

237-38. **death's-head:** i.e., a memento mori, a reminder of one's mortality (literally, a skull) See below.

239. **what...of:** i.e., how would you describe the prince (See longer note to **humors**, 2.4.165, page 253.)



A death's-head ring. (2.4.237–38)
From James Orchard Halliwell-Phillipps, Some account of the antiquities . . . in the possession of James Orchard Halliwell . . . (1852).

HOSTESS, \[\text{to Falstaff} \] Are you not hurt i' th' groin? Methought he made a shrewd thrust at your belly.

「Enter Bardolph. ¬

FALSTAFF Have you turned him out o' doors?

BARDOLPH Yea, sir. The rascal's drunk. You have hurt 215 him, sir, i' th' shoulder.

EALSTAFF A rascal to brave me!

how thou sweat'st! Come, let me wipe thy face.
Come on, you whoreson chops. Ah, rogue, i' faith, I 220 love thee. Thou art as valorous as Hector of Troy, worth five of Agamemnon, and ten times better than the Nine Worthies. Ah, villain!

FALSTAFF Ah, rascally slave! I will toss the rogue in a blanket.

poll. Do, an thou darest for thy heart. An thou dost, I'll canvass thee between a pair of sheets.

Enter Musicians and Francis.

PAGE The music is come, sir.

FALSTAFF Let them play.—Play, sirs.—Sit on my knee, Doll. A rascal bragging slave! The rogue fled from 230 me like quicksilver.

DOLL I' faith, and thou followed'st him like a church.

Thou whoreson little tidy Bartholomew boar-pig, when wilt thou leave fighting a-days and foining anights and begin to patch up thine old body for 235 heaven?

Enter [behind them] Prince and Poins (disguised.)

FALSTAFF Peace, good Doll. Do not speak like a death's head; do not bid me remember mine end.

DOLL Sirrah, what humor's the Prince of?

FALSTAFF A good shallow young fellow, he would have 240

241. **pantler:** household officer responsible for the bread; **chipped:** i.e., cut the crust off

245. **Tewkesbury**: a market town in Gloucestershire, famous for its **mustard** balls

246. conceit: i.e., imagination, wit

250. drinks ... flap-dragons: perhaps, drinks brandy on which flaming candles' ends float

251. wild mare: i.e., seesaw

252. **joint stools:** stools made of parts fitted together

253–54. **sign of the Leg:** perhaps, sign over a bootmaker's shop

254. bate: i.e., discord

255. gambol: playful

257. admits him: i.e., includes him among his friends

260. nave: wordplay on Falstaff's knavery and his roundness

261. have . . . off: punishment for defaming the royal family

262. before: in front of

263-64. **Look... parrot:** perhaps, see how the old man is having his head scratched **elder:** (1) old man; (2) elder tree **poll:** head (with perhaps a reference to the familiar name for the **parrot**)

268-69. **Saturn...conjunction:** wordplay on **Saturn** as the Roman god (and the planet) connected with old age and melancholy and **Venus** as the goddess (and planet) connected with youth and love

270. **fiery...man:** i.e., Bardolph, whose drink-flushed face is like the **fiery trigon**, the conjunction of the "fiery" constellations Aries, Leo, and Sagittarius

(continued)

96

made a good pantler; he would 'a chipped bread well.

DOLL They say Poins has a good wit.

FALSTAFF He a good wit? Hang him, baboon. His wit's as thick as Tewkesbury mustard. There's no more 245 conceit in him than is in a mallet.

DOLL Why does the Prince love him so then?

FALSTAFF Because their legs are both of a bigness, and he plays at quoits well, and eats conger and fennel, and drinks off candles' ends for flap-dragons, and 250 rides the wild mare with the boys, and jumps upon joint stools, and swears with a good grace, and wears his boots very smooth like unto the sign of the Leg, and breeds no bate with telling of discreet stories, and such other gambol faculties he has that 255 show a weak mind and an able body, for the which the Prince admits him; for the Prince himself is such another. The weight of a hair will turn (the) scales between their avoirdupois.

PRINCE, [aside to Poins] Would not this nave of a wheel 260

POINS Let's beat him before his whore.

PRINCE Look whe'er the withered elder hath not his poll clawed like a parrot.

POINS Is it not strange that desire should so many years 265 outlive performance?

FALSTAFF Kiss me, Doll.

PRINCE, 「aside to Poins Saturn and Venus this year in conjunction! What says th' almanac to that?

POINS And look whether the fiery trigon, his man, be 270 not lisping to his (master's) old tables, his notebook, his counsel keeper.

FALSTAFF, to Doll Thou dost give me flattering busses.

DOLL By my troth, I kiss thee with a most constant

heart.

FALSTAFF I am old, I am old.

310

271–72. **lisping...keeper:** i.e., courting Mistress Quickly (**Tables** [i.e., writing tablet], **notebook**, and **counsel keeper** refer to her role as his confidante.)

273. busses: kisses

279. stuff: material; kirtle: gown

285. harken . . . end: i.e., wait and see (proverbial)

288-89. **A... brother:** Falstaff pretends that he is seeing men who simply look like the Prince and Poins. **Poins his:** i.e., Poins's

290. **globe...continents:** wordplay on **continents** as "land masses," as "containers," and as "contents"

301. by . . . blood: Falstaff swears by Doll's wanton flesh and corrupt blood.

305. take...heat: Proverbial: "Strike while the iron is hot."

306. **candle-mine**: i.e., mine of tallow for making candles

308. honest: chaste

311. hear me: i.e., hear what I said about you earlier

DOLL	1	love	thee	better	than	1	love	e'e	er a	SCU	irvy	young
b	OV	of th	ıem	all.								J8
		~	e a	· · ·			_		_			

FALSTAFF What stuff wilt (thou) have a kirtle of? I shall receive money o' Thursday; (thou) shalt have a cap 280 tomorrow. A merry song! Come, it grows late. We'll to bed. Thou 'It forget me when I am gone.

poll. By my troth, thou 'lt set me a-weeping an thou sayst so. Prove that ever I dress myself handsome till thy return. Well, harken a' th' end.

FALSTAFF Some sack, Francis.

PRINCE, POINS, coming forward Anon, anon, sir.

FALSTAFF Ha? A bastard son of the King's?—And art not thou Poins his brother?

PRINCE Why, thou globe of sinful continents, what a 290 life dost thou lead?

FALSTAFF A better than thou. I am a gentleman. Thou art a drawer.

PRINCE Very true, sir, and I come to draw you out by the ears.

HOSTESS O, the Lord preserve thy (good) Grace! By my troth, welcome to London. Now the Lord bless that sweet face of thine. O Jesu, are you come from Wales?

FALSTAFF, \(\text{To Prince}\) Thou whoreson mad compound 300 of majesty, by this light flesh and corrupt blood, thou art welcome.

DOLL How? You fat fool, I scorn you.

POINS My lord, he will drive you out of your revenge and turn all to a merriment if you take not the heat. 305

PRINCE, \(\text{fo Falstaff} \) You whoreson candle-mine, you, how vilely did you speak of me \(\text{even} \) now before this honest, virtuous, civil gentlewoman!

HOSTESS God's blessing of your good heart, and so she is, by my troth.

FALSTAFF, to Prince Didst thou hear me?

312-13. **you knew...Hill:** In *Henry IV, Part 1* Falstaff excuses his failure to fight the disguised prince by claiming he knew the prince even in disguise.

328. is to: i.e., should

333. to close: i.e., in order to come to terms

338. pricked down: i.e., picked out, marked

339. privy kitchen: i.e., own personal kitchen

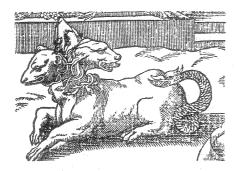
340. malt-worms: i.e., drunkards; For: i.e., as for

341, 342. **good angel, devil:** two guiding forces (as in morality plays)

343. For: as regards (as also in lines 344 and 345)

345. burns: infects (with venereal disease)

346. **for that:** i.e., for lending money (See longer note, page 253.)



Cerberus. (2.4.169)
From Vincenzo Cartari, *Imagines deorum* . . . (1581).

PRINCE Yea, and you knew me as you did when you ran away by Gad's Hill. You knew I was at your back, and spoke it on purpose to try my patience.

FALSTAFF No, no, no, not so. I did not think thou wast 315

within hearing.

PRINCE I shall drive you, then, to confess the wilfull abuse, and then I know how to handle you.

FALSTAFF No abuse, Hal, o' mine honor, no abuse.

PRINCE Not to dispraise me and call me pantler and 320 bread-chipper and I know not what?

FALSTAFF No abuse, Hal.

POINS No abuse?

FALSTAFF No abuse, Ned, i' th' world, honest Ned, none. I dispraised him before the wicked, ([to 325 Prince]) that the wicked might not fall in love with thee; in which doing, I have done the part of a careful friend and a true subject, and thy father is to give me thanks for it. No abuse, Hal.—None, Ned, none. No, faith, boys, none.

prince See now whether pure fear and entire cowardice doth not make thee wrong this virtuous gentle-woman to close with us. Is she of the wicked, is thine hostess here of the wicked, or is thy boy of the wicked, or honest Bardolph, whose zeal burns in 335 his nose. of the wicked?

POINS Answer, thou dead elm, answer.

FALSTAFF The fiend hath pricked down Bardolph irrecoverable, and his face is Lucifer's privy kitchen, where he doth nothing but roast malt-worms. For 340 the boy, there is a good angel about him, but the devil blinds him too.

PRINCE For the women?

FALSTAFF For one of them, she's in hell already and burns poor souls. For th' other, I owe her money, and whether she be damned for that I know not.

348–49. **quit for:** i.e., (1) absolved of; (2) deprived of; (3) repaid for

350-51. **suffering . . . law:** i.e., (1) allowing meat to be served during Lent; (2) allowing prostitution in your inn

352. howl: i.e., in hell

353. vitlars: i.e., victuallers, keepers of eating houses

363. **posts:** i.e., messengers (arriving on post-horses)

366. Bareheaded: a sign of their disarray (A hat was a standard item of male dress.)

368. feel . . . blame: i.e., feel guilty, blameworthy

370. **commotion**: sedition, insurrection; **south**: i.e., south wind (which brings storms)

371. Borne: laden



The Fates. (2.4.200–01) From Vincenzo Cartari, *Imagines deorum* . . . (1581).

102

HOSTESS No, I warrant you. FALSTAFF No, I think thou art not. I think thou art quit for that. Marry, there is another indictment upon thee for suffering flesh to be eaten in thy house 350 contrary to the law, for the which I think thou wilt howl. uostess All vitlars do so. What's a joint of mutton or two in a whole Lent? PINCE, to Doll You, gentlewoman. 355 notL What says your Grace? FALSTAFF His grace says that which his flesh rebels against. Peto knocks at door HOSTESS Who knocks so loud at door? Look to th' door there. Francis. Francis exits 7 360 (Enter Peto.) PRINCE Peto, how now, what news? PETO The King your father is at Westminster, And there are twenty weak and wearied posts Come from the north, and as I came along I met and overtook a dozen captains. 365 Bareheaded, sweating, knocking at the tayerns And asking everyone for Sir John Falstaff. PRINCE By heaven, Poins, I feel me much to blame So idly to profane the precious time When tempest of commotion, like the south 370 Borne with black vapor, doth begin to melt And drop upon our bare unarmèd heads.— Give me my sword and cloak.—Falstaff, good Prince. Peto, and Poins exit. night.

FALSTAFF Now comes in the sweetest morsel of the 375

night, and we must hence and leave it unpicked.

390

395

381. stay: wait

385. undeserver: i.e., unworthy man

387. post: hastily

392. peasecod time: i.e., the season for peas

400. blubbered: i.e., her eyes flooded with tears



A tavern or a brothel. From *Le centre de l'amour* . . . [1650?].

(「Knocking. Bardolph exits.¬) More knocking at the door? (「Bardolph returns.¬) How now, what's the matter?

BARDOLPH

You must away to court, sir, presently.

A dozen captains stay at door for you.

FALSTAFF, 「to Page Pay the musicians, sirrah.— Farewell, hostess.—Farewell, Doll. You see, my good wenches, how men of merit are sought after. The undeserver may sleep when the man of action 385 is called on. Farewell, good wenches. If I be not sent away post, I will see you again ere I go.

poll I cannot speak. If my heart be not ready to burst—well, sweet Jack, have a care of thyself.

FALSTAFF Farewell, farewell.

He exits \(\text{with Bardolph, Page, and Musicians.} \)

HOSTESS Well, fare thee well. I have known thee these twenty-nine years, come peasecod time, but an honester and truer-hearted man—well, fare thee well

BARDOLPH, \(\square\) Mistress Tearsheet!

HOSTESS What's the matter?

BARDOLPH, \(\text{Within} \) Bid Mistress Tearsheet come to my master.

HOSTESS O, run, Doll, run, run, good Doll. [Come.— She comes blubbered.—Yea! Will you come, Doll?] 400 They exit.

HENRY IV Part 2

ACT 3

3.1 An ill and anxious King Henry IV consults with Warwick.

0 SD. **nightgown:** i.e., dressing gown (In the Quarto the stage direction reads "Enter the King in his night-gowne alone." Since the king immediately sends someone to deliver a message, the word "alone" in the direction probably signals that the king is attended only by his page. For an analogous use of alone in a Quarto stage direction, see the textual note to 1.2.0 SD, page 257.)

2. o'erread: read through

6. soft: mild, gentle

9. cribs: hovels

10. uneasy: uncomfortable; thee: i.e., yourself

13. state: splendor, magnificence

15. dull: (1) drowsy; (2) foolish

17. watch-case: perhaps, a place where one stands watch; 'larum: i.e., alarm

20. rude: turbulent

21. visitation: violent assault

 $\langle ACT 3 \rangle$

(Scene 1)
Enter the King in his nightgown (with a Page.)

KING

Go call the Earls of Surrey and of Warwick;
But, ere they come, bid them o'erread these letters
And well consider of them. Make good speed.

 $\lceil_{Page\ (exits,)}\rceil$

10

15

20

How many thousand of my poorest subjects Are at this hour asleep! O sleep, O gentle sleep, Nature's soft nurse, how have I frighted thee. That thou no more wilt weigh my eyelids down And steep my senses in forgetfulness? Why rather, sleep, liest thou in smoky cribs. Upon uneasy pallets stretching thee. And hushed with buzzing night-flies to thy slumber. Than in the perfumed chambers of the great, Under the canopies of costly state. And lulled with sound of sweetest melody? O thou dull god, why liest thou with the vile In loathsome beds and leavest the kingly couch A watch-case or a common 'larum hell? Wilt thou upon the high and giddy (mast) Seal up the shipboy's eyes and rock his brains In cradle of the rude imperious surge And in the visitation of the winds.

40

45

22. Who: i.e., which

24. deafing: deafening

25. That: i.e., so that; hurly: uproar, tumult

26. partial: biased, unfair

29. **With...boot:** i.e., with, in addition, everything helpful to bring about sleep **appliances:** things applied as a means to an end **to boot:** in addition

30. low: i.e., humble persons, commoners

31. **Uneasy...crown:** Proverbial: "Crowns have cares."

32. **good morrows:** a salutation used in the morning

33. Is it good morrow: i.e., is it morning

39. rank: festering

41. distempered: ill

42. **his:** i.e., its

43. little: i.e., a little

46. **revolution...times:** i.e., changes brought about through time (but with wordplay on **revolution** as a violent overthrow of a ruler or government)

47. continent: land, earth

Who take the ruffian (billows) by the top,
Curling their monstrous heads and hanging them
With deafing clamor in the slippery clouds
That with the hurly death itself awakes?

Canst thou, O partial sleep, give (thy) repose
To the wet (sea-boy) in an hour so rude,
And, in the calmest and most stillest night,
With all appliances and means to boot,
Deny it to a king? Then, happy low, lie down.

Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown.

Enter Warwick, Surrey and Sir John Blunt.

WARWICK

Many good morrows to your Majesty.
KING Is it good morrow, lords?
WARWICK 'Tis one o'clock, and past.
KING

Why then, good morrow to you all, my lords. Have you read o'er the letter that I sent you? WARWICK We have, my liege.

KING

KING

Then you perceive the body of our kingdom
How foul it is, what rank diseases grow,
And with what danger near the heart of it.
WARWICK

It is but as a body yet distempered,
Which to his former strength may be restored
With good advice and little medicine.
My Lord Northumberland will soon be cooled.

O God, that one might read the book of fate And see the revolution of the times Make mountains level, and the continent, Weary of solid firmness, melt itself Into the sea, and other times to see

the backy girdle of the accor

50-51. **beachy...hips:** The image here is of the shoreline worn like a **girdle** around the **hips** of the sea-god Neptune; when the ocean recedes, the beach expands.

55. crosses: troubles, misfortunes

56. the book: i.e., the book of fate (line 45).

57. **gone:** i.e., past (The story that he tells in lines 57–80 was dramatized by Shakespeare in *Richard II.*)

61. This Percy: i.e., Northumberland

63. under my foot: at my disposal

64 to ... Richard: i.e., to Richard's face

65. by: i.e., nearby, standing by

66. **Nevil:** Historically, the earldom of Warwick at this time was held by the Beauchamp (not the Nevil) family.

69. checked: rebuked; rated: chided

74. **bowed the state:** i.e., forced **the state** into submission

77-78. **foul...corruption**: The image is of an abscess reaching maturation and breaking.

79. this same time's: i.e., today's

82. Figuring: portraying; deceased: past

The beachy girdle of the ocean	50
Too wide for Neptune's hips; how chance's mocks	
And changes fill the cup of alteration	
With divers liquors! [O, if this were seen,	
The happiest youth, viewing his progress through,	
What perils past, what crosses to ensue,	55
Would shut the book and sit him down and die.]	
Tis not ten years gone	
Since Richard and Northumberland, great friends,	
Did feast together, and in two (years) after	
Were they at wars. It is but eight years since	60
This Percy was the man nearest my soul,	
Who like a brother toiled in my affairs	
And laid his love and life under my foot,	
Yea, for my sake, even to the eyes of Richard	
Gave him defiance. But which of you was by-	65
To Warwick. You, cousin Nevil, as I may	
remember—	
When Richard, with his eye brimful of tears,	
Then checked and rated by Northumberland,	
Did speak these words, now proved a prophecy?	70
"Northumberland, thou ladder by the which	
My cousin Bolingbroke ascends my throne"—	
Though then, God knows, I had no such intent,	
But that necessity so bowed the state	
That I and greatness were compelled to kiss—	75
"The time shall come," thus did he follow it,	ン
"The time will come that foul sin, gathering head,	
Shall break into corruption"—so went on,	
Foretelling this same time's condition	
And the division of our amity.	80
RWICK	
There is a history in all men's lives	

Figuring the natures of the times deceased,

The which observed, a man may prophesy, With a near aim, of the main chance of things

85.	who:	i.e	which
000	AA 33 F 63.4	2.4	********

86. intreasurèd: i.e., stored up as if a treasure

88. **necessary...this:** i.e., inevitable pattern of cause and effect

94. necessities: things unavoidable

96. cries out on: exclaims against

101. Please . . . Grace: a courteous phrase of request

103. powers: forces

106. A certain instance: i.e., indisputable evidence

108. unseasoned: late, unseasonable

111. inward: civil; out of hand: finished with

112. **unto the Holy Land:** i.e., go on a crusade to Jerusalem (From 1095 to c. 1450 a series of wars—the Crusades—were fought by Christians to recover the **Holy Land** from the Muslims. At the end of *Richard II*, King Henry promised to fight such a war in order to gain God's forgiveness for having played a part in Richard's death. *Henry IV*, *Part 1* opened with Henry's interrupted attempt to mount a crusade.) See illustration, page 200.

	As yet not come to life, who in their seeds And weak beginning lie intreasured. Such things become the hatch and brood of time, And by the necessary form of this,	85
	King Richard might create a perfect guess That great Northumberland, then false to him, Would of that seed grow to a greater falseness, Which should not find a ground to root upon	90
	Unless on you.	
K	ING Are these things then necessities?	
	Then let us meet them like necessities.	95
	And that same word even now cries out on us.	
	They say the Bishop and Northumberland	
	Are fifty thousand strong.	
N	ARWICK It cannot be, my lord.	
	Rumor doth double, like the voice and echo,	100
	The numbers of the feared. Please it your Grace	
	To go to bed. Upon my soul, my lord,	
	The powers that you already have sent forth	
	Shall bring this prize in very easily.	
	To comfort you the more, I have received	105
	A certain instance that Glendower is dead.	
	Your Majesty hath been this fortnight ill,	
	And these unseasoned hours perforce must add	
	Unto your sickness.	
()	NG I will take your counsel.	110
	And were these inward wars once out of hand,	
	We would dear lards upto the Holy Land	

They exit.

30

- 3.2 On his journey through Gloucestershire, Falstaff selects recruits for the army and decides that, on his return, he will fleece his old friend, Justice Shallow.
- 2-3. by the rood: a mild oath on the rood, the cross as a symbol of Christian faith
 - 3. cousin: kinsman
 - 5. bedfellow: i.e., wife
- 8. a black ousel: i.e., she is not fairest, but has dark hair or skin (and, according to the standards of the time, is therefore less "fair," or beautiful) ousel: blackbird
- 9. By yea and no: a Puritan oath (See note to 2.2.129.)
- 13. **Inns o' Court:** the **inns** of the legal profession in London, which admitted, trained, and examined men to practice at the bar (See page 130.)
- 14. **Clement's Inn:** one of the lesser inns (The four major inns were Inner Temple, Middle Temple, Grey's Inn, and Lincoln's Inn.)
 - 16. Lusty: (1) lively, cheerful; (2) lustful
 - 23. swinge-bucklers: swashbucklers, rowdies
- 25. bona robas: i.e., wenches (See longer note, page 253.)
 - 25-26. at commandment: at our bidding
- 27. page ... Mowbray: This bit of fictional history has attached itself to both the historical Sir John Fastolfe and to Sir John Oldcastle. (For Oldcastle and Falstaff, see "Historical Background," page 295.)
 - 29. anon: soon
- 31. see: i.e., saw (Using see for the past tense, once acceptable, was old-fashioned in Shakespeare's day.)
 - 33. crack: lad, young rogue

(Scene 2)

Enter Justice Shallow and Justice Silence

SHALLOW Come on, come on, come on. Give me your hand, sir, give me your hand, sir. An early stirrer, by the rood. And how doth my good cousin Silence?

SILENCE Good morrow, good cousin Shallow.

SHALLOW And how doth my cousin your bedfellow?

And your fairest daughter and mine, my goddaughter Ellen?

SILENCE Alas, a black ousel, cousin Shallow.

SHALLOW By yea and no, sir. I dare say my cousin William is become a good scholar. He is at Oxford 10 still, is he not?

SILENCE Indeed, sir, to my cost.

SHALLOW He must then to the Inns o' Court shortly. I was once of Clement's Inn, where I think they will talk of mad Shallow yet.

silence You were called "Lusty Shallow" then, cousin.

shallow By the Mass, I was called anything, and I would have done anything indeed too, and roundly too. There was I, and little John Doit of Staffordshire, and black George Barnes, and Francis Pickbone, and Will Squele, a Cotswold man. You had not four such swinge-bucklers in all the Inns o' Court again. And I may say to you, we knew where the bona robas were and had the best of them all at commandment. Then was Jack Falstaff, now Sir John, a boy, and page to Thomas Mowbray, Duke of Norfolk.

SILENCE This Sir John, cousin, that comes hither anon about soldiers?

SHALLOW The same Sir John, the very same. I see him break Scoggin's head at the court gate, when he was a crack not thus high; and the very same day did

55

40. **Death...all:** See Psalm 89.48: "What man liveth and shall not see death?" (Geneva Bible)

41. **How:** i.e., what was the price of; **Stamford:** a market town north of London where three great fairs were held each year (The Quarto prints "Samforth," an apparently fictional place name.)

48. He . . . shoot: i.e., he shot well; John o'

Gaunt: father of King Henry IV

50. **clapped i' th' clout:** i.e., hit the center of the target; **at twelve score:** i.e., from 240 yards

51. **carried . . . shaft:** i.e., shot a heavy arrow in a direct line

51-52. a...half: i.e., over a distance of fourteen to fourteen and a half score yards (280 to 290 yards)

54. Thereafter...be: i.e., depending on their quality

61. esquire: landowner

64. commends him: offers his greetings

65. tall: valiant



"He . . . shot a fine shoot." (3.2.47-48) From Gilles Corrozet, *Hecatongraphie* . . . (1543).

I fight with one Sampson Stockfish, a fruiterer, behind Grey's Inn. Jesu, Jesu, the mad days that I 35 have spent! And to see how many of my old acquaintance are dead.

SILENCE We shall all follow, cousin.

SHALLOW Certain, 'tis certain, very sure, very sure.

Death, as the Psalmist saith, is certain to all. All 40 shall die. How a good yoke of bullocks at (Stamford) Fair?

SILENCE By my troth, (cousin,) I was not there.

SHALLOW Death is certain. Is old Dooble of your town living yet?

SILENCE Dead, sir.

SHALLOW Jesu, Jesu, dead! He drew a good bow, and dead? He shot a fine shoot. John o' Gaunt loved him well, and betted much money on his head. Dead! He would have clapped i' th' clout at twelve score, and carried you a forehand shaft a fourteen and fourteen and a half, that it would have done a man's heart good to see. How a score of ewes now?

SILENCE Thereafter as they be, a score of good ewes may be worth ten pounds.

SHALLOW And is old Dooble dead?

SILENCE Here come two of Sir John Falstaff's men, as I think.

Enter Bardolph and one with him.

(SHALLOW) Good morrow, honest gentlemen.

BARDOLPH I beseech you, which is Justice Shallow?

SHALLOW I am Robert Shallow, sir, a poor esquire of this county and one of the King's justices of the peace. What is your good pleasure with me?

BARDOLPH My captain, sir, commends him to you, my captain, Sir John Falstaff, a tall gentleman, by 65 heaven, and a most gallant leader.

67. knew him: i.e., knew him to be

68. backsword man: fencer with a backsword (a sword with a single cutting edge)

70-71. accommodated: furnished, supplied

75–76. It . . . accommodo: Like a schoolboy, Shallow derives the English word from its Latin root. Also, in the manner schoolboys were taught, he cites the first-person singular form of the Latin verb.

87. like: are getting on, are doing

91–92. **in commission:** i.e., serving as a justice of the peace

94. of the peace: i.e., a magistrate (but playing on peace as "silence")

97. sufficient: competent, capable



A mandrake. (1.2.15; 3.2.326) From *The grete herball* . . . [1529].

SHALLOW He greets me well, sir. I knew him a good backsword man. How doth the good knight? May I ask how my lady his wife doth?

BARDOLPH Sir, pardon. A soldier is better (accommodated) than with a wife.

SHALLOW It is well said, in faith, sir, and it is well said indeed too. "Better accommodated." It is good, yea, indeed is it. Good phrases are surely, and ever were, very commendable. "Accommodated." It 75 comes of accommodo. Very good, a good phrase.

BARDOLPH Pardon, sir, I have heard the word—
"phrase" call you it? By this day, I know not the
phrase, but I will maintain the word with my sword
to be a soldierlike word, and a word of exceeding
good command, by heaven. "Accommodated," that
is when a man is, as they say, accommodated, or
when a man is being whereby he may be thought to
be accommodated, which is an excellent thing.

Enter Falstaff.

SHALLOW It is very just. Look, here comes good Sir 85
John.—Give me your good hand, give me your
Worship's good hand. By my troth, you like well and
bear your years very well. Welcome, good Sir John.

FALSTAFF I am glad to see you well, good Master Robert Shallow.—Master (Sure-card,) as I think?

SHALLOW No, Sir John. It is my cousin Silence, in commission with me.

FALSTAFF Good Master Silence, it well befits you should be of the peace.

SILENCE Your good Worship is welcome.

FALSTAFF Fie, this is hot weather, gentlemen. Have you provided me here half a dozen sufficient men?

SHALLOW Marry, have we, sir. Will you sit?

They sit at a table.

95

110

115

120

100. roll: scroll of names

106. an it please you: a deferential phrase of address

108. of good friends: i.e., from a good family

113. **singular:** i.e., singularly, uncommonly

115. Prick him: choose him (by marking his name)

116. pricked: (1) provoked, nagged; (2) soured or mouldy (said of wine or beer); (3) endowed with genitals

117. old dame: perhaps wife, perhaps mother

118. undone ... one: i.e., now ruined through the lack of someone; husbandry: farming (but with possible wordplay on "husband")

122. spent: consumed; used up; exhausted

125. other: i.e., others

128. like: i.e., likely; cold: indifferent, apathetic

FALSTAFF Let me see them, I beseech you.

CHALLOW Where's the roll? Where's the roll? Where's 100 the roll? Let me see, let me see, let me see. So, so, so, so, so. So, so. Yea, marry, sir.—Rafe Mouldy!— Let them appear as I call, let them do so, let them do so.

TEnter Mouldy, followed by Shadow, Wart, Feeble, and Bullcalf.

Let me see, where is Mouldy? MOULDY, coming forward Here, an it please you.

SHALLOW What think you, Sir John? A good-limbed fellow, young, strong, and of good friends.

FALSTAFF Is thy name Mouldy?

MOULDY Yea, an 't please you.

FALSTAFF 'Tis the more time thou wert used.

SHALLOW Ha, ha, ha, most excellent, i' faith! Things that are mouldy lack use. Very singular good, in faith. Well said, Sir John, very well said.

FALSTAFF Prick him.

Shallow marks the scroll?

MOULDY I was pricked well enough before, an you could have let me alone. My old dame will be undone now for one to do her husbandry and her drudgery. You need not to have pricked me. There are other men fitter to go out than I.

FALSTAFF Go to. Peace, Mouldy, You shall go. Mouldy, it is time you were spent.

MOULDY Spent?

SHALLOW Peace, fellow, peace. Stand aside. Know you where you are?—For th' other, Sir John, Let me 125 see. - Simon Shadow!

FALSTAFF Yea, marry, let me have him to sit under. He's like to be a cold soldier.

SHALLOW Where's Shadow?

CHADOW, coming forward Here, sir.

130

131. **Shadow . . . thou:** the first of a series of puns on son/sun

134. **shadow**: Lines 133–36 contain multiple wordplay on **shadow** as, e.g., "portrait, image," "a delusive semblance" (contrasted with **substance**), "a remnant" or "a form from which the substance has departed," "a small insignificant portion," and "protection from the sun."

135-36. **much of:** perhaps used ironically to mean "little of"

138, serve: (1) suffice; (2) do military service

139. **shadows:** i.e., mere names of men (for which the captain could pocket the pay)

146. ragged: rough (with wordplay on his ragged clothes)

148-50. It...more: i.e., he is so ragged and pinned together that he looks like a house constructed with wooden pegs (wordplay on prick as "fasten together with pins," on frame as [1] construction and [2] body, and on stands upon pins as [1] depends on pins, [2] stands on pegs, and [3] is supported by skinny legs)

158. **pricked**: (1) attired, dressed; (2) impaled (with sexual innuendo)

159. battle: battalion, army

ALSTAFF Shadow, whose son art thou?	
SHADOW My mother's son, sir.	
PALSTAFF Thy mother's son! Like enough, and thy	
father's shadow. So the son of the female is the	
shadow of the male. It is often so, indeed, but much	135
of the father's substance.	
HALLOW Do you like him, Sir John?	
ALSTAFF Shadow will serve for summer. Prick him,	
for we have a number of shadows (to) fill up the	
muster book.	140
HALLOW Thomas Wart!	
ALSTAFF Where's he?	
WART, \(\sigma coming forward \) Here, sir.	
ALSTAFF Is thy name Wart?	
VART Yea, sir.	145
ALSTAFF Thou art a very ragged wart.	
HALLOW Shall I prick him (down,) Sir John?	
ALSTAFF It were superfluous, for his apparel is built	
upon his back, and the whole frame stands upon	
pins. Prick him no more.	150
HALLOW Ha, ha, ha. You can do it, sir, you can do it. I	
commend you well.—Francis Feeble!	
EEBLE, \(\screen coming forward \) Here, sir.	
HALLOW What trade art thou, Feeble?	
EEBLE A woman's tailor, sir.	155
HALLOW Shall I prick him, sir?	
ALSTAFF You may, but if he had been a man's tailor,	
he'd ha' pricked you.—Wilt thou make as many	
holes in an enemy's battle as thou hast done in a	
woman's petticoat?	160
EEBLE I will do my good will, sir. You can have no	
more.	

FALSTAFF Well said, good woman's tailor, well said.

courageous Feeble. Thou wilt be as valiant as the

165. magnanimous: courageous

171. put him to: i.e., enlist him as

172. thousands: perhaps, thousands of vermin

180. prick me: i.e., stick, wound

181. again: i.e., in response

187. whoreson: vile

188. ringing in: i.e., ringing the church bells

188–89. **his coronation day:** i.e., the anniversary of the day the King was crowned

190. gown: dressing gown

191-92. take ... order: i.e., make ... arrangements

192. **ring for thee:** i.e., ring the bells in your place (but also, ring the bells for your funeral)

194. **two more called:** There is some confusion in this scene about how many men are **called** and how many Falstaff is to recruit.

198. tarry: i.e., wait for

wrathful dove or most magnanimous mouse.— 165 Prick the woman's tailor well, Master Shallow, deep, Master Shallow.

FEEBLE I would Wart might have gone, sir.

FALSTAFF I would thou wert a man's tailor, that thou mightst mend him and make him fit to go. I cannot 170 put him to a private soldier that is the leader of so many thousands. Let that suffice, most forcible Feeble.

FFEBLE It shall suffice, sir.

FALSTAFF I am bound to thee, reverend Feeble.—Who 175 is (the) next?

SHALLOW Peter Bullcalf o' th' green.

FALSTAFF Yea, marry, let's see Bullcalf.

BULLCALF, coming forward Here, sir.

FALSTAFF Fore God, a likely fellow. Come, prick (me) 180 Bullcalf till he roar again.

RULLCALF O Lord, good my lord captain-

FALSTAFF What, dost thou roar before thou art pricked?

BULLCALF O Lord, sir, I am a diseased man.

FALSTAFF What disease hast thou?

BULLCALF A whoreson cold, sir, a cough, sir, which I caught with ringing in the King's affairs upon his coronation day, sir.

FALSTAFF Come, thou shalt go to the wars in a gown. 190 We will have away thy cold, and I will take such order that thy friends shall ring for thee.—Is here all?

SHALLOW Here is two more called than your number.

You must have but four here, sir, and so I pray you 195
go in with me to dinner.

FALSTAFF Come, I will go drink with you, but I cannot tarry dinner. I am glad to see you, by my troth, Master Shallow.

207. away with: i.e., tolerate, endure

227. Corporate: his mistake for "corporal". stand: i.e., act as

228. four Harry ten-shillings: i.e., one pound (In Elizabethan England, money issued under Henry VII was worth one-half its original value. One Harry tenshilling was worth five shillings.)

230. had as lief: i.e., would just as soon

233. Else: otherwise



A prostitute. (2.2.153) From Roxburghe ballads . . . (printed 1895). CHALLOW O, Sir John, do you remember since we lav 200 all night in the windmill in Saint George's Field? STAFF No more of that, (good) Master Shallow, (no more of that.

CHALLOW Ha, 'twas a merry night. And is Jane Nightwork alive?

TALSTAFF She lives, Master Shallow.

SHALLOW She never could away with me.

FALSTAFF Never, never. She would always say she could not abide Master Shallow.

CHAILOW By the Mass, I could anger her to th' heart, 210 She was then a bona roba. Doth she hold her own well?

FALSTAFF Old, old, Master Shallow.

SHALLOW Nay, she must be old. She cannot choose but be old. Certain, she's old, and had Robin Nightwork 215 by old Nightwork before I came to Clement's Inn.

SILENCE That's fifty-five year ago.

SHALLOW Ha, cousin Silence, that thou hadst seen that that this knight and I have seen!-Ha, Sir John, said I well?

FALSTAFF We have heard the chimes at midnight. Master Shallow.

SHALLOW That we have, that we have, that we have. In faith. Sir John, we have. Our watchword was "Hem, boys." Come, let's to dinner, come, let's to dinner. 225 Jesus, the days that we have seen! Come. come.

Shallow, Silence, and Falstaff rise and exit.

BULLCALF Good Master Corporate Bardolph, stand my friend, and here's four Harry ten-shillings in French crowns for you. The gives Bardolph money. In very truth, sir, I had as lief be hanged, sir, as go. 230 And yet, for mine own part, sir, I do not care, but rather because I am unwilling, and, for mine own part, have a desire to stay with my friends. Else, sir, I did not care, for mine own part, so much.

128

205

239. forty: i.e., forty shillings (two pounds)

242-47. A man . . . next: This speech is a series of proverbs and popular phrases. quit: free, clear (Proverbial: Death pays all debts.)

260. past service: i.e., too mouldy to put on the table (with wordplay on military service)

261-62. will none of: i.e., don't want

(Sergeants Inne in Fleetstreet 7 for Iudges & Sergeants Inne in Chancery lane (Sergeants only The Inner Temple | ? in Fleetstreete, houses of The Middle Temple Court,

Within the ! liberties.

Cliffords Inne in Fleetstreet Thauies Inne in Oldborne Furniuals Inne in Oldbotne Barnards Inne, in Oldborne Staple Inne in Oldborne

Graves Inne in Oldborne

houses of Chauncerie

7 houses of

>Court

Lincolnes Inne, in Chancerie, lane by Without the liberties:

the old Temple in Oldborne, Clements Inne Shouses of Chauncerie, without New Inne (Lyons Inne

Temple barre,

A list of the Inns of Court. (3.2.13-14) From John Stow, A survay of London . . . (1598).

130

Om

BARDOLPH Go to. Stand aside.

MOULDY And, good Master Corporal Captain, for my old dame's sake, stand my friend. She has nobody to do anything about her when I am gone, and she is old and cannot help herself. You shall have forty, THe gives money. 240 sir.

BARDOLPH Go to. Stand aside.

FREBLE By my troth, I care not. A man can die but once. We owe God a death. I'll ne'er bear a base mind. An 't be my destiny, so; an 't be not, so. No man's too good to serve 's prince, and let it go 245 which way it will, he that dies this year is guit for the next.

BARDOLPH Well said. Th' art a good fellow. FEEBLE Faith, I'll bear no base mind.

Enter Falstaff and the Justices.

FALSTAFF Come, sir, which men shall I have?

SHALLOW Four of which you please.

BARDOLPH, aside to Falstaff Sir. a word with you. I have three pound to free Mouldy and Bullcalf.

FALSTAFF Go to, well.

SHALLOW Come, Sir John, which four will you have?

FALSTAFF Do you choose for me.

SHALLOW Marry, then, Mouldy, Bullcalf, Feeble, and Shadow.

FALSTAFF Mouldy and Bullcalf! For you, Mouldy, stay at home till you are past service.—And for your 260 part, Bullcalf, grow till you come unto it. I will none of you. Mouldy and Bullcalf exit.

SHALLOW Sir John, Sir John, do not yourself wrong. They are your likeliest men, and I would have you served with the best.

FALSTAFF Will you tell me, Master Shallow, how to choose a man? Care I for the limb, the thews, the

250

268. assemblance: appearance

270-71. charge you and discharge you: i.e., load and fire his weapon

271-72. with the motion...hammer: i.e., as rapidly and as precisely as a pewter-maker uses his small hammer

272-73. come . . . bucket: The meaning is unclear. "To gibbet" is to hang as on the gallows. A brewer's bucket is a beam on which something can be hung or carried. The emphasis is on swiftness of motion.

273-74. half-faced fellow: i.e., man so thin he shows up only in profile (like a face on a coin)

279. Put me a caliver: i.e., put a light musket

281. Hold: Here! Take it!

282. Thas, thas, thas: Perhaps Bardolph, like a drill sergeant, is shouting out the rhythm of Wart's marching. (The Folio prints "Thus, thus, thus.")

283. manage me: i.e., manage, wield

285. chopped: i.e., chapped; shot: marksman

286. scab: scoundrel (but alluding to its meaning as a skin disease and thus related to Wart)

287. tester: slang term for a sixpence

289. Mile End Green: used as a drilling ground for the London militia; lay: lived, lodged

290-91. Sir . . . show: i.e., in the annual archery exhibition (called Arthur's show), Shallow took the name of Arthur's fool

291. quiver: nimble, active

292. manage you his piece: i.e., wield his weapon

293-97. about . . . come: Shallow describes the marksman's movements as he shoots, moves back to reload, then forward again to shoot. Bounce: boom, bang

stature, bulk and big assemblance of a man? Give me the spirit, Master Shallow. Here's Wart, You see what a ragged appearance it is. He shall charge you 270 and discharge you with the motion of a pewterer's hammer, come off and on swifter than he that gibbets on the brewer's bucket. And this same halffaced fellow, Shadow, give me this man. He presents no mark to the enemy. The foeman may with 275 as great aim level at the edge of a penknife. And for a retreat, how swiftly will this Feeble, the woman's tailor, run off! O, give me the spare men, and spare me the great ones.-Put me a caliver into Wart's hand, Bardolph.

BARDOLPH, ^{「giving Wart a musket]} Hold, Wart. Traverse. Thas, thas, thas,

FALSTAFF, to Wart Come, manage me your caliver; so. very well, go to, very good, exceeding good. O, give me always a little, lean, old, chopped, bald shot. 285 Well said, i' faith, Wart. Th' art a good scab. Hold, there's a tester for thee. THe gives Wart money.

SHALLOW He is not his craft's master. He doth not do it right. I remember at Mile End Green, when I lay at Clement's Inn—I was then Sir Dagonet in Arthur's 290 show—there was a little quiver fellow, and he would manage you his piece thus. Shallow performs with the musket. And he would about and about, and come you in, and come you in. "Rah. tah, tah," would he say. "Bounce," would he say. 295 and away again would he go, and again would he come. I shall ne'er see such a fellow.

FALSTAFF These fellows will do well. Master Shallow.—God keep you, Master Silence, I will not use many words with you. Fare you well, gentlemen 300 both. I thank you. I must a dozen mile tonight,-Bardolph, give the soldiers coats.

132

309. **I have spoke at a word:** perhaps, "I mean what I say"; or, perhaps, "I spoke too hastily"

312. As: when; fetch off: get the better of, cheat

317. Turnbull Street: a disreputable London street

318. duer: more duly, more fully; than... tribute: i.e., than is tribute paid to the Sultan of Turkey

323. forlorn: meager, thin

324. thick sight: i.e., dull vision; invincible: i.e., invisible (See longer note, page 253.)

325. genius: embodiment

326. **mandrake:** a root thought to be a sexual stimulant (See also the note to 1.2.15, and picture, page 120.)

328. **overscutched huswives**: i.e., worn-out prostitutes (**Huswives** here means "hussies" rather than "housewives.")

330. **fancies or . . . good-nights:** perhaps, improvised tunes or serenades

330-31. **Vice's dagger:** i.e., thin stick (literally, a wooden **dagger** carried by a comic stage character called the **Vice**)

332. **sworn brother:** i.e., best friend (as if they had **sworn** an oath to defend each other)

334. tilt-yard: See pages xxxvi-xxxvii. he burst his head: i.e., John of Gaunt cut Shallow's head

336. beat . . . name: i.e., beat a gaunt man

SHALLOW Sir John, the Lord bless you. God prosper your affairs. God send us peace. At your return, visit our house. Let our old acquaintance be renewed. 305 Peradventure I will with you to the court.

FALSTAFF Fore God, would you would, (Master Shallow,)

shallow Go to. I have spoke at a word. God keep you. Falstaff Fare you well, gentle gentlemen.

「Shallow and Silence exit.

On, Bardolph. Lead the men away.

「All but Falstaff exit.

As I return, I will fetch off these justices. I do see the bottom of Justice Shallow. Lord, Lord, how subject we old men are to this vice of lying. This same starved justice hath done nothing but prate to 315 me of the wildness of his youth and the feats he hath done about Turnbull Street, and every third word a lie, duer paid to the hearer than the Turk's tribute. I do remember him at Clement's Inn, like a man made after supper of a cheese paring. When he was 320 naked, he was, for all the world, like a forked radish with a head fantastically carved upon it with a knife. He was so forlorn that his dimensions to any thick sight were invincible. He was the very genius of famine, [yet lecherous as a monkey, 325 and the whores called him "mandrake."] He came (ever) in the rearward of the fashion, [and sung those tunes to the overscutched huswives that he heard the carmen whistle, and swore they were his fancies or his good-nights.] And now is this Vice's 330 dagger become a squire, and talks as familiarly of John o' Gaunt as if he had been sworn brother to him, and I'll be sworn he ne'er saw him but once in the tilt-yard, and then he burst his head for crowding among the Marshal's men. I saw it 335 and told John o' Gaunt he beat his own name, for

337. thrust him: i.e., put Shallow

338. **treble hautboy:** the slenderest of the double-reed instruments known as "hautboys," precursors of modern-day oboes (Its **case** would be long and thin.) See below.

340. **beefs:** fat oxen; **be acquainted:** a reference to Shallow's "Let our old acquaintance be renewed" (line 305)

341–42. **a philosopher's two stones:** i.e., a source of inexhaustible wealth (There were two kinds of **philosopher's stones:** one that purportedly changed lead to gold and another, an elixir, that gave perfect health. Some editors think **stones** also means "testicles.")

342–43. **the young...pike:** i.e., little fish are eaten by big fish (proverbial)



Hautboy. (3.2.338) From Balthasar Küchler, Repraesentatio der . . . Ritterspil (1611).

you might have thrust him and all his apparel into an eel-skin; the case of a treble hautboy was a mansion for him, a court. And now has he land and beefs. Well, I'll be acquainted with him if I return, and 't shall go hard but I'll make him a philosopher's two stones to me. If the young dace be a bait for the old pike, I see no reason in the law of nature but I may snap at him. Let time shape, and there an end.

THe exits.

HENRY IV Part 2

ACT 4

4.1 The leaders of the rebellion reach Gaultree Forest, where they present their grievances to Westmoreland. After Prince John promises redress for the grievances, the army of the rebellion is dismissed. John then arrests the Archbishop, Mowbray, and Hastings.

3. discoverers: scouts, spies

11-12. **Here...quality:** i.e., he would like to be **here** accompanied by suitably powerful forces **powers:** forces **sortance:** agreement, correspondence **quality:** position in society

14. **ripe:** i.e., bring to ripeness

16. **overlive**: survive

17. opposite: opponent

18. **touch ground:** hit bottom (like a ship running aground)

(ACT 4)

(Scene 1)
Enter the Archbishop of York, Mowbray, Lord
Bardolph, Hastings, and their officers within the Forest
of Gaultree.

ARCHBISHOP What is this forest called?

'Tis Gaultree Forest, an 't shall please your Grace.

Here stand, my lords, and send discoverers forth To know the numbers of our enemies.

5

10

15

HASTINGS

We have sent forth already.

My friends and brethren in these great affairs, I must acquaint you that I have received New-dated letters from Northumberland.

Their cold intent, tenor, and substance, thus: Here doth he wish his person, with such powers

As might hold sortance with his quality, The which he could not levy; whereupon He is retired, to ripe his growing fortunes,

To Scotland, and concludes in hearty prayers That your attempts may overlive the hazard And fearful meeting of their opposite.

MOWBRAY

Thus do the hopes we have in him touch ground And dash themselves to pieces.

	a mile: i.e.				
	n: military				
	t proportio	n: exact	number		
	y: move	2 11			
	l-appointe	d: well-e	quipped;	tronts	: con-
ronts	_				
	Lanc	aster: i.e.	, Prince Jo	ohn (Se	e note
o 1.3.85.)				,	
	at com	iing: i.e.,	why you	have co	me
	hat: i.e., if				
	ts: mobs		Esusa (1. Sus) ■		
	rded with	rage: pe	rhaps, esc	corted	by the
gure of I		4	1 C	4	
	intenance	-			
	amotion: s	,			
	i.e., its; mo		r shape: i	.e., the	shape
ightly be	longing to	it	_		shape
ightly be		it	_		shape
ightly be	longing to	it	_		shape
ightly be	longing to	it	_		shape
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ightly be	longing to	it	_		shape
ightly be	longing to	it	_		shape

Enter Messenger.

Enter wess	senger.	
HASTINGS MESSENGER	Now, what news?	20
West of this forest, scarcely In goodly form comes on the And, by the ground they hid Upon or near the rate of the	he enemy, de, I judge their number	
MOWBRAY The just proportion that we Let us sway on and face the		25
Enter Westm	oreland.	
ARCHBISHOP What well-appointed leader	fronts us here?	
MOWBRAY I think it is my Lord of Wes	tm avaland	
WESTMORELAND	unoreianu,	
Health and fair greeting fro	m our general.	
The Prince Lord John and I	Ouke of Lancaster.	30
ARCHBISHOP		
Say on, my Lord of Westmo What doth concern your co		
WESTMORELAND	Then, my lord,	
Unto your Grace do I in chi The substance of my speech Came like itself, in base and	a. If that rebellion	35
And countenanced by boys	and beggary—	
I say, if damned commotion In his true, native, and mos You, reverend father, and th	t proper shape, lese noble lords	40
Had not been here to dress Of base and bloody insurred		
man order and and the contract		

With your fair honors. You, Lord Archbishop,

50

- 45. see: diocese; civil: well-governed
- 47. good letters: scholarship
- 48. investments: vestments, robes; figure: represent
- 50. Wherefore: why; so . . . yourself: i.e., transform yourself so injuriously (with an allusion to "badly translating" one language into another)
 - 55. point: trumpet signal (See page 146.)
- 60. bleed: wordplay on bleeding from the wounds of war and bloodletting as a cure for fever
- 63. take . . . as: i.e., do not here assume the role of
 - 66. show: look, appear
 - 67. rank: bloated and overfed
- 70. in . . . weighed: The image here is of weighing two objects against each other in a balance scale. (See below.) justly: exactly
 - 73. griefs: grievances
- 75. enforced: forced; most quiet there: perhaps. complete peace therein (in the stream of time)
 - 76. occasion: the course of events
 - 78. articles: i.e., an indictment



A balance scale, (4,1,70) From Silvestro Pietrasanta, . . . Symbola heroica (1682).

Whose see is by a civil peace maintained. Whose beard the silver hand of peace hath touched. Whose learning and good letters peace hath tutored, Whose white investments figure innocence. The dove and very blessed spirit of peace. Wherefore do you so ill translate yourself Out of the speech of peace, that bears such grace, Into the harsh and boist'rous tongue of war, Turning your books to graves, your ink to blood, Your pens to lances, and your tongue divine To a loud trumpet and a point of war? 55 ARCHBISHOP Wherefore do I this? So the question stands. Briefly, to this end: we are all diseased (And with our surfeiting and wanton hours Have brought ourselves into a burning fever, And we must bleed for it; of which disease 60 Our late King Richard, being infected, died. But, my most noble Lord of Westmoreland. I take not on me here as a physician, Nor do I as an enemy to peace Troop in the throngs of military men. 65 But rather show awhile like fearful war To diet rank minds sick of happiness And purge th' obstructions which begin to stop Our very veins of life. Hear me more plainly. I have in equal balance justly weighed 70 What wrongs our arms may do, what wrongs we suffer. And find our griefs heavier than our offenses. We see which way the stream of time doth run And are enforced from our most quiet there 75 By the rough torrent of occasion, And have the summary of all our griefs. When time shall serve, to show in articles;

80. **our audience:** i.e., the formal interview with the King that we sought

81. unfold: disclose, reveal

87. instance: i.e., urging

88. ill-beseeming: unsuitable, unbefitting

93. gallèd: i.e., injured

94. suborned to grate on: bribed to harass

97. **And . . . edge:** i.e., and sanctify the sword of insurrection

98–100. **My...particular:** Lines may be missing from this difficult passage. The Archbishop seems to be contrasting **general** and **particular** quarrels, brothers in **general** and natural brothers. (His own brother had been killed by the King.)

106. unequal: inequitable, unjust

109. to their necessities: i.e., according to what the times make necessary



"A loud trumpet and a point of war." (4.1.55) From Hartmann Schopper, *Panoplia omnium*... (1568).

Which long ere this we offered to the King And might by no suit gain our audience. 80 When we are wronged and would unfold our griefs, We are denied access unto his person Even by those men that most have done us wrong.) The dangers of the days but newly gone, Whose memory is written on the earth 85 With yet-appearing blood, and the examples Of every minute's instance, present now, Hath put us in these ill-beseeming arms, Not to break peace or any branch of it, But to establish here a peace indeed, 90 Concurring both in name and quality. WESTMORELAND Whenever yet was your appeal denied? Wherein have you been galled by the King? What peer hath been suborned to grate on you, That you should seal this lawless bloody book 95 Of forged rebellion with a seal divine [And consecrate commotion's bitter edge?] ARCHBISHOP My brother general, the commonwealth, [To brother born an household cruelty.] I make my quarrel in particular. 100 WESTMORFLAND There is no need of any such redress. Or if there were, it not belongs to you. MOWBRAY Why not to him in part, and to us all That feel the bruises of the days before And suffer the condition of these times 105 To lay a heavy and unequal hand Upon our honors?

(O, my good Lord Mowbray,

Construe the times to their necessities.

146

WESTMORELAND

119. breathed: let breathe

120. **The King:** i.e., Richard II; **the state:** i.e., circumstances (For the story rehearsed here, see *Richard II* 1.3. See also the illustration on page 162.)

121. force perforce: i.e., against his will

123. rousèd: raised; seats: i.e., saddles

125. armèd...charge: i.e., steel-tipped lances in position for action; beavers: visors (See page 150.)

126. sights: slits in the visors

131. did . . . down: i.e., stopped the combat by throwing down the official staff

134. dint of sword: i.e., force of combat

135. miscarried: perished

137. Earl of Hereford: i.e., Henry Bolingbroke (now King Henry IV)

142. **ne'er...Coventry:** i.e., never would have carried the victory away from the field of combat

And you shall say indeed it is the time. 110 And not the King, that doth you injuries. yet for your part, it not appears to me Fither from the King or in the present time That you should have an inch of any ground To build a grief on. Were you not restored 115 To all the Duke of Norfolk's seigniories. Your noble and right well remembered father's? MOWBRAY What thing, in honor, had my father lost That need to be revived and breathed in me? The King that loved him, as the state stood then, 120 Was force perforce compelled to banish him, And then that Henry Bolingbroke and he, Being mounted and both roused in their seats, Their neighing coursers daring of the spur, Their armed staves in charge, their beavers down, 125 Their eyes of fire sparkling through sights of steel, And the loud trumpet blowing them together, Then, then, when there was nothing could have stayed My father from the breast of Bolingbroke, 130 O, when the King did throw his warder down-His own life hung upon the staff he threw— Then threw he down himself and all their lives That by indictment and by dint of sword Have since miscarried under Bolingbroke. 135 WESTMORELAND You speak, Lord Mowbray, now you know not what. The Earl of Hereford was reputed then In England the most valiant gentleman.

Who knows on whom fortune would then have

But if your father had been victor there, He ne'er had borne it out of Coventry;

148

smiled?

147-48. the King: i.e., Richard II

152. wherein: where

154. set off: excluded

157. policy: cunning, craftiness

158. overween: i.e., are arrogant, presumptuous

160. a ken: i.e., sight

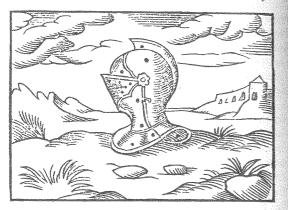
163. battle: army; names: i.e., distinguished soldiers

166. reason will: i.e., it stands to reason that

168. by my will: i.e., my will is that

170. A... handling: This proverb, which means "it's a weak container that can't be handled," is here used to mean "it's an unsound argument that can't tolerate discussion" (playing on alternate meanings of case and handling).

172. In . . . virtue: i.e., with the full authority



Helmet with beaver down. (4.1.125) From Henry Peacham, *Minerua Britanna* (1612).

For all the country in a general voice cried hate upon him; and all their prayers and 145 Were set on Hereford, whom they doted on And blessed and graced, Findeed more than the King. But this is mere digression from my purpose. Here come I from our princely general 150 To know your griefs, to tell you from his Grace That he will give you audience; and wherein It shall appear that your demands are just. You shall enjoy them, everything set off That might so much as think you enemies. 155 MOWBRAY But he hath forced us to compel this offer. And it proceeds from policy, not love. WESTMORELAND Mowbray, you overween to take it so. This offer comes from mercy, not from fear. For, lo, within a ken our army lies, 160 Upon mine honor, all too confident To give admittance to a thought of fear. Our battle is more full of names than yours. Our men more perfect in the use of arms. Our armor all as strong, our cause the best. 165 Then reason will our hearts should be as good. Say you not then our offer is compelled. MOWBRAY Well, by my will, we shall admit no parley. WESTMORELAND That argues but the shame of your offense. A rotten case abides no handling. 170 HASTINGS

Hath the Prince John a full commission,

In very ample virtue of his father,

173-74. to upon: i.e., to decide about the conditions we shall insist on
175. intended name: i.e., signified in the
General's title
176. muse question: i.e., wonder you raise
doubts about something so obvious
179. Each redressed: i.e., if each separate ar-
ticle included is redressed
180. All: i.e., if all
181. insinewed: i.e., joined as if by sinews
182. Acquitted: i.e., are acquitted; true substan-
tial form: i.e., proper legal document
183. wills: demands
184. To us confined: See longer note, page
254.
185. awful: respectful
188. battles: armies

190. place of difference: i.e., battlefield 199. our valuation: i.e., the way we are valued

189. frame: bring about

To near and absolutely to determine	
Of what conditions we shall stand upon?	
ESTMORELAND	
That is intended in the General's name.	175
I muse you make so slight a question.	
CHBISHOP, ^{「giving} Westmoreland a paper [¬]	
Then take, my Lord of Westmoreland, this schedule,	
For this contains our general grievances.	
Each several article herein redressed,	
All members of our cause, both here and hence	180
That are insinewed to this action,	
Acquitted by a true substantial form	
And present execution of our wills	
To us and (to) our purposes confined,	
We come within our awful banks again	185
And knit our powers to the arm of peace.	
ESTMORELAND	
This will I show the General. Please you, lords,	
In sight of both our battles we may meet,	
「And either end in peace, which God so frame,	
Or to the place of difference call the swords	190
Which must decide it.	
CHBISHOP My lord, we will do so.	
Westmoreland exits.	
WBRAY	
There is a thing within my bosom tells me	
That no conditions of our peace can stand.	
STINGS	
Fear you not that. If we can make our peace	195
Upon such large terms and so absolute	
As our conditions shall consist upon,	
Our peace shall stand as firm as rocky mountains.	
WBRAY	
Yea, but our valuation shall be such	
That every slight and false-derived cause,	200

201. nice: petty; wanton: capricious 203. That love: i.e., that, even if to the King were as strong as martyrs' 205. corn: i.e., wheat, grain 206. partition: separation 208. dainty picking: i.e., such to 209. doubt: danger, risk 210. heirs of life: i.e., survivors 211. tables: writing tablet 213. history: recount, narrate 215. precisely: completely, absolute 216. misdoubts: suspicions 217. enrooted: entangled root willonger note, page 254.) 220. an offensive wife: a wife whoffense 221. him: i.e., the wife's husband King [line 207]) 223-24. hangs execution: i.e., s in midair resolved: determined-upon 225. wasted rods: i.e., used up ping rods 226. late: recent 229. offer: i.e., threaten 231. Lord Marshal: i.e., Mowbray 1.3.0 SD.) 232. atonement: reconciliation	our allegiance love of God rifling ly th root (See no has given (but also the tops the blow all his whip-
:	17.

	5860
Yea, every idle, nice, and wanton reason,	
Shall to the King taste of this action,	
That, were our royal faiths martyrs in love,	
We shall be winnowed with so rough a wind	
That even our corn shall seem as light as chaff,	205
and good from bad find no partition.	
RCHBISHOP	
No, no, my lord. Note this: the King is weary	
Of dainty and such picking grievances,	
For he hath found to end one doubt by death	
Revives two greater in the heirs of life;	210
And therefore will he wipe his tables clean	
And keep no telltale to his memory	
That may repeat and history his loss	
To new remembrance. For full well he knows	
He cannot so precisely weed this land	215
As his misdoubts present occasion;	
His foes are so enrooted with his friends	
That, plucking to unfix an enemy,	
He doth unfasten so and shake a friend:	
So that this land, like an offensive wife	220
That hath enraged him on to offer strokes.	
As he is striking holds his infant up	
And hangs resolved correction in the arm	
That was upreared to execution.	
astings	
Besides, the King hath wasted all his rods	225
On late offenders, that he now doth lack	
The very instruments of chastisement,	
So that his power, like to a fangless lion,	
May offer but not hold.	
RCHBISHOP 'Tis very true,	230
And therefore be assured, my good Lord Marshal,	
If we do now make our atonement well,	
Our peace will, like a broken limb united,	
Grow stronger for the breaking.	

238. **just distance**: halfway

238 SD. Enter: Many editions mark a change of scene at this point.

241. Before: i.e., go before

242. **well encountered:** i.e., well met (a conventional greeting); **cousin:** a title given by princes to other princes and noblemen

244. gentle: noble

246. it . . . you: i.e., you looked better

247. When that: i.e., when

250. iron man: i.e., warrior in armor

255. Would he: i.e., if he should; countenance: favor

257. In shadow of: under the protection of

259. even: just

260. **How...God:** (1) how much you were in God's favor; (2) how theologically learned you were



Full armor for a warrior.
From Wilhelm Dilich, Krieges-Schule . . . (1689).

HOWBRAY Be it so. 235 Here is returned my Lord of Westmoreland. Enter Westmoreland STMORELAND, To the Archbishop The Prince is here at hand. Pleaseth your Lordship To meet his Grace just distance 'tween our armies. Enter Prince John and his army. MOWBRAY, To the Archbishop Your Grace of York, in God's name then set forward. 240 ARCHBISHOP Before, and greet his Grace.—My lord, we come. 「All move forward.

¬ OHN OF LANCASTER You are well encountered here, my cousin Mowbray.— Good day to you, gentle Lord Archbishop,— And so to you, Lord Hastings, and to all.— 245 My Lord of York, it better showed with you When that your flock, assembled by the bell. Encircled you to hear with reverence Your exposition on the holy text Than now to see you here, an iron man talking. 250 Cheering a rout of rebels with your drum. Turning the word to sword, and life to death. That man that sits within a monarch's heart And ripens in the sunshine of his favor, Would he abuse the countenance of the King. 255 Alack, what mischiefs might he set abroach In shadow of such greatness! With you, Lord Bishop, It is even so. Who hath not heard it spoken

How deep you were within the books of God.

court.

265

270

275

280

290

261. the speaker parliament	: i.e.,	the one
who addressed God on behalf of hui	manki	nd iust a.
the speaker in parliament addresse	es the	monarch
on behalf of the Commons		
763 opener and intelligencer	ie in	ntarme

263. opener and intelligencer: i.e., interpreter and messenger

265. workings: functions

268. false: treacherous

269. ta'en up: recruited, enlisted

273. **up-swarmed them:** perhaps, gathered them in swarms

278. in common sense: i.e., as is obvious

281. parcels: details; grief: formal grievance

284. Hydra: the mythological monster who grew two heads for each one cut off (See page 160.)

285. eyes...asleep: Hydra now seems to become Argus, the mythological giant with a hundred eyes, who was charmed asleep by the music of Mercury.

291. though: even if

292. **supplies:** reinforcements of troops; **second:** take the place of, succeed (as also in line 293)

294. success of mischief: i.e., a succession of trouble

n us the speaker in His parliament, to us th' [imagined] voice of God Himself. The very opener and intelligencer netween the grace, the sanctities, of heaven. and our dull workings? O, who shall believe But you misuse the reverence of your place, Employ) the countenance and grace of heaven as a false favorite doth his prince's name, in deeds dishonorable? You have ta'en up. under the counterfeited zeal of God. the subjects of His substitute, my father, and both against the peace of heaven and him Have here up-swarmed them. WCHBISHOP Good my Lord of Lancaster.

I am not here against your father's peace,
But, as I told my Lord of Westmoreland,
The time misordered doth, in common sense,
Crowd us and crush us to this monstrous form
To hold our safety up. I sent your Grace
The parcels and particulars of our grief,
The which hath been with scorn shoved from the

Whereon this Hydra son of war is born,
Whose dangerous eyes may well be charmed asleep
With grant of our most just and right desires,
And true obedience, of this madness cured,
Stoop tamely to the foot of majesty.

If not, we ready are to try our fortunes
To the last man.

We have supplies to second our attempt;
If they miscarry, theirs shall second them,
And so success of mischief shall be born,

295. hold ... up: i.e., maintain this state of hos tility

296. **generation:** offspring, progeny

301. allow them: approve of them

304. lavishly: loosely

318. part: depart



Hercules fighting the Hydra. (4.1.284) From Guillaume de La Perrière, Le théâtre des bon engins . . . [1539?].

and heir from heir shall hold his quarrel up	295
andes England shall have generation.	
A DELIANCASTER	
are too shallow, Hastings, much too shallow	
to sound the bottom of the after-times.	
Pleaseth your Grace to answer them directly	
How far forth you do like their articles.	300
OHN OF LANCASTER	
like them all, and do allow them well,	
And swear here by the honor of my blood	
My father's purposes have been mistook,	
And some about him have too lavishly	
Wrested his meaning and authority.	305
To the Archbishop. My lord, these griefs shall be	303
with speed redressed;	
Upon my soul, they shall. If this may please you,	
Discharge your powers unto their several counties,	
As we will ours, and here, between the armies,	210
tet's drink together friendly and embrace,	310
That all their eyes may bear those tokens home	
Of our restored love and amity.	
RCHBISHOP	
I take your princely word for these redresses.	
OHN OF LANCASTER	
I give it you, and will maintain my word,	315
And thereupon I drink unto your Grace.	
The Leaders of both armies begin to drink together.	
HASTINGS, To an Officer	
Go, captain, and deliver to the army	
This news of peace. Let them have pay, and part.	
I know it will well please them. Hie thee, captain.	
Cofficer (exits.)	
ARCHBISHOP, Toasting Westmoreland	
To you, my noble Lord of Westmoreland.	320
WESTMORELAND, Freturning the toast	

328. in . . . season: i.e., at an opportune moment

329. on the sudden: i.e., suddenly; something. i.e., somewhat

330. Against ill chances: i.e., just before disas. trous events

331. heaviness: sadness, grief

335. passing: extremely

337. rendered: proclaimed

339. had been: i.e., would have been



Richard II. From William Martyn, The historie and lives of the kings of England . . . (1638).

Inledge your Grace, and if you knew what pains have bestowed to breed this present peace, You would drink freely. But my love to you shall show itself more openly hereafter. RCHBISHOP t do not doubt you. 325 STMORELAND I am glad of it.— Health to my lord and gentle cousin, Mowbray. MOWBRAY you wish me health in very happy season, For I am on the sudden something ill. **IRCHBISHOP** Against ill chances men are ever merry, 330 But heaviness foreruns the good event. WESTMORELAND Therefore be merry, coz, since sudden sorrow Serves to say thus: "Some good thing comes tomorrow." ARCHBISHOP Believe me, I am passing light in spirit. 335 **MOWBRAY** So much the worse if your own rule be true. Shout within 7 IOHN OF LANCASTER The word of peace is rendered. Hark how they shout. HOWBRAY This had been cheerful after victory. **IRCHBISHOP** A peace is of the nature of a conquest, 340 For then both parties nobly are subdued, And neither party loser. 10HN OF LANCASTER, to Westmoreland Go, my lord. And let our army be discharged too. [Westmoreland (exits.)]

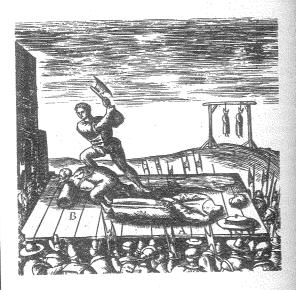
346. trains: i.e., troops

348. coped withal: i.e., fought with

353. wherefore: why

361. **sporting-place:** i.e., place of amusement or recreation

365. **capital treason:** treason punishable by death; attach: arrest



"The block of death." (4.1.379)
From [Richard Verstegen,] Theatre des cruautez des hereticques . . . (1607).

To the Archbishop. And, good my lord, so please 345 vou, let our trains March by us, that we may peruse the men We should have coped withal. ARCHBISHOP Go, good Lord Hastings. 350 And ere they be dismissed, let them march by. [Hastings (exits.)] JOHN OF LANCASTER I trust, lords, we shall lie tonight together. Enter Westmoreland. Now, cousin, wherefore stands our army still? WESTMORELAND The leaders, having charge from you to stand, Will not go off until they hear you speak. 355 IOHN OF LANCASTER They know their duties. Enter Hastings. HASTINGS, To the Archbishop My lord, our army is dispersed already. Like youthful steers unyoked, they take their courses East, west, north, south, or, like a school broke up, 360 Each hurries toward his home and sporting-place. WESTMORELAND Good tidings, my Lord Hastings, for the which I do arrest thee, traitor, of high treason.— And you, Lord Archbishop, and you, Lord Mowbray, Of capital treason I attach you both. 365 MOWBRAY Is this proceeding just and honorable? WESTMORELAND Is your assembly so? ARCHBISHOP Will you thus break your faith?

15

369. pawned: pledged

373. But for: i.e., But as for

374. Meet: proper, fit

375. arms: active hostilities

376. Fondly: foolishly

377. **stray:** body of stragglers

379. block of death: i.e., wooden block for beheadings (See page 164.)

4.2 Falstaff meets a rebel knight, who surrenders to him. When Prince John reproaches Falstaff for his late arrival, Falstaff turns over his captive and requests permission to return to London by way of Gloucestershire.

0 SD. **Alarum:** a trumpet call to arms; **Excursions:** soldiers moving across the stage as if against the enemy

1. condition: social position, rank

6. degree: rank

9. Dale: wordplay on "dale" as a deep valley

13. drops of thy lovers: i.e., tears of your friends

15. do observance: i.e., pay your respects

MOHN OF LANCASTER I pawned thee none. 1 promised you redress of these same grievances 370 whereof you did complain, which, by mine honor, will perform with a most Christian care. But for you rebels, look to taste the due Meet for rebellion (and such acts as yours.) Most shallowly did you these arms commence. 375 Fondly brought here, and foolishly sent hence.— Strike up our drums; pursue the scattered stray. God, and not we, hath safely fought today.— Some guard (these traitors) to the block of death. Treason's true bed and yielder-up of breath. 380 (They exit.)

「Scene 2⁷

Alarum. Excursions. Enter Falstaff (and Colevile.)

FALSTAFF What's your name, sir? Of what condition are you, and of what place, (I pray)?

COLEVILE I am a knight, sir, and my name is Colevile of the Dale.

FALSTAFF Well then, Colevile is your name, a knight is your degree, and your place the Dale. Colevile shall be still your name, a traitor your degree, and the dungeon your place, a place deep enough so shall you be still Colevile of the Dale.

colevile Are not you Sir John Falstaff?

FALSTAFF As good a man as he, sir, whoe'er I am. Do you yield, sir, or shall I sweat for you? If I do sweat, they are the drops of thy lovers and they weep for thy death. Therefore rouse up fear and trembling, and do observance to my mercy.

colevile I think you are Sir John Falstaff, and in that thought yield me.

18-20. I have . . . name: i.e., my belly loudly proclaims who I am school: i.e., multitude

20-21. a belly ... indifferency: i.e., a belly of ordinary size

22. womb: belly; undoes: destroys

24. heat: i.e., urgency

25. powers: troops

30-31. but ... thus: i.e., if it should be otherwise

31. check: reproach, reprimand

34. expedition: promptness

36. foundered ... posts: i.e., made more than 180 post-horses lame

41. hook-nosed . . . Rome: i.e., Julius Caesar, whose boast "I came, I saw, I overcame" had become proverbial (See below.)

47-49. I will ... on 't: Falstaff here describes a "broadside ballad," a narrative in doggerel printed on one side of a large sheet of paper and decorated with a woodcut. a particular ballad: i.e., a ballad of my own else: otherwise on 't: i.e., of it



Julius Caesar (1.1.28; 4.2.41) From Plutarch. The liues of the noble Grecians and Romans . . . (1579).

FALSTAFF I have a whole school of tongues in this belly of mine, and not a tongue of them all speaks any other word but my name. An I had but a belly of any 20 indifferency, I were simply the most active fellow in Europe. My womb, my womb, my womb undoes me. Here comes our general.

Enter John, Westmoreland, and the rest.

10HN OF LANCASTER

The heat is past. Follow no further now.

Call in the powers, good cousin Westmoreland. Westmoreland exits. Retreat is sounded

Now, Falstaff, where have you been all this while? When everything is ended, then you come.

These tardy tricks of yours will, on my life. One time or other break some gallows' back.

FALSTAFF I would be sorry, my lord, but it should be thus. I never knew yet but rebuke and check was the reward of valor. Do you think me a swallow, an arrow, or a bullet? Have I in my poor and old motion the expedition of thought? I have speeded hither with the very extremest inch of possibility. I have foundered ninescore and odd posts, and here. travel-tainted as I am, have in my pure and immaculate valor taken Sir John Colevile of the Dale, a most furious knight and valorous enemy. But what of that? He saw me and yielded, that I may justly say. with the hook-nosed fellow of Rome, "There, cousin, I came, saw, and overcame."

JOHN OF LANCASTER It was more of his courtesy than your deserving.

FALSTAFF I know not. Here he is, and here I yield him. And I beseech your Grace let it be booked with the rest of this day's deeds, or, by the Lord, I will have it in a particular ballad else, with mine own picture on the top on 't, Colevile kissing my foot; to the

50-51. **show...to me:** i.e., look like counterfeits in comparison **to me gilt twopences:** twopenny pieces painted in gilt to pass as half-crowns

53. cinders of the element: i.e., stars (See below.) cinders: embers, pieces of glowing coal

68. dearer: i.e., at more cost

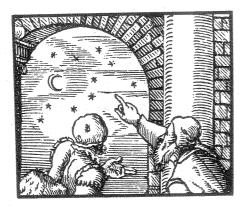
73. **Retreat...stayed:** i.e., the pursuing forces have been recalled and the killing stopped

75. present: immediate

76. sure: securely

77. dispatch: hasten

78. sore: i.e., sorely, extremely



"The cinders of the element." (4.2.53)
From Jakob Rüff, De conceptu et generatione hominis . . . (1580).

which course if I be enforced, if you do not all show like gilt twopences to me, and I in the clear sky of fame o'ershine you as much as the full moon doth the cinders of the element (which show like pins' heads to her), believe not the word of the noble. Therefore let me have right, and let desert mount. JOHN OF LANCASTER Thine's too heavy to mount. FALSTAFF Let it shine, then. JOHN OF LANCASTER Thine's too thick to shine. FALSTAFF Let it do something, my good lord, that may do me good, and call it what you will. 60 JOHN OF LANCASTER Is thy name Colevile? colevile It is, my lord, JOHN OF LANCASTER A famous rebel art thou, Colevile. FALSTAFF And a famous true subject took him. 65 COLEVILE I am, my lord, but as my betters are That led me hither. Had they been ruled by me. You should have won them dearer than you have. FALSTAFF I know not how they sold themselves, but thou, like a kind fellow, gavest thyself away gratis, 70 and I thank thee for thee

Enter Westmoreland

JOHN OF LANCASTER Now, have you left pursuit? WESTMORELAND

Retreat is made and execution stayed.

JOHN OF LANCASTER

Send Colevile with his confederates
To York, to present execution.—

Blunt, lead him hence, and see you guard him sure.

*\Gamma Blunt \(\text{exits with Colevile.} \) \]

75

And now dispatch we toward the court, my lords. I hear the King my father is sore sick.

85. stand: i.e., act as

87. in my condition: i.e., as Duke of Lancaster

93. never none: i.e., never any

93-94. demure: sober, serious

94. come . . . proof: i.e., amount to anything; thin drink: i.e., beer

96. green-sickness: a form of anemia thought to affect girls at puberty

97. get wenches: beget girls

99. inflammation: i.e., inflaming the passions (with drink)

99-100. sherris sack: sherry (Falstaff uses the words sherris and sack to refer to this dry Spanish wine.)

100, 101. ascends me, dries me: i.e., ascends, dries

102. crudy: i.e., curdy, coagulated; vapors: unhealthy fumes

103. apprehensive: intelligent, discerning; forgetive: i.e., creative (a Shakespearean adjective, presumably created from the verb "to forge")

111. inwards: inner parts of the body; extremes: extremities

Our news shall go before us to his Majesty, To Westmoreland. Which, cousin, you shall bear to comfort him.

And we with sober speed will follow you.

FALSTAFF My lord, I beseech you give me leave to go through Gloucestershire, and, when you come to court, stand my good lord, (pray,) in your good 85 report.

JOHN OF LANCASTER

Fare you well, Falstaff. I, in my condition, Shall better speak of you than you deserve.

「All but Falstaff ⟨exit.⟩ ¬

FALSTAFF I would you had (but) the wit; 'twere better than your dukedom. Good faith, this same young sober-blooded boy doth not love me, nor a man cannot make him laugh. But that's no marvel; he drinks no wine. There's never none of these demure boys come to any proof, for thin drink doth so overcool their blood, and making many fish meals, that they fall into a kind of male green-sickness, and then, when they marry, they get wenches. They are generally fools and cowards, which some of us should be too, but for inflammation. A good sherris sack hath a two-fold operation in it. It ascends me 100 into the brain, dries me there all the foolish and dull and crudy vapors which environ it, makes it apprehensive, quick, forgetive, full of nimble, fiery, and delectable shapes, which, delivered o'er to the voice, the tongue, which is the birth, becomes 105 excellent wit. The second property of your excellent sherris is the warming of the blood, which. before cold and settled, left the liver white and pale, which is the badge of pusillanimity and cowardice. But the sherris warms it and makes it course from 110 the inwards to the parts' extremes. It illumineth the

114. vital...spirits: i.e., the spirits carried by the blood inland: interior

114-15. muster me all to: i.e., all gather around

119. learning: i.e., learning is

119-20. kept by a devil: i.e., guarded by an evil

spirit

120-21. **commences... use:** i.e., empowers the use of the **hoard** of **learning** (wordplay on university "commencement," when the student is given authority to use his **learning**)

123. lean: poor

124. husbanded: cultivated

125. good store: great quantities

127. human: secular

134. **temp'ring:** softening (like the sealing wax alluded to in lines 135–36)

135. **seal:** reach a (profitable) agreement (with wordplay on **seal with him** as "use him to clinch the agreement by affixing him to the document")

face, which as a beacon gives warning to all the rest of this little kingdom, man, to arm; and then the vital commoners and inland petty spirits muster me all to their captain, the heart, who, great and puffed 115 up with this retinue, doth any deed of courage, and this valor comes of sherris. So that skill in the weapon is nothing without sack, for that sets it a-work; and learning a mere hoard of gold kept by a devil till sack commences it and sets it in 120 act and use. Hereof comes it that Prince Harry is valiant, for the cold blood he did naturally inherit of his father he hath, like lean, sterile, and bare land, manured, husbanded, and tilled with excellent endeavor of drinking good and good store 125 of fertile sherris, that he is become very hot and valiant. If I had a thousand sons, the first human principle I would teach them should be to forswear thin potations and to addict themselves to sack.

Enter Bardolph.

How now, Bardolph?

130

BARDOLPH The army is discharged all and gone.

FALSTAFF Let them go. I'll through Gloucestershire, and there will I visit Master Robert Shallow, Esquire. I have him already temp'ring between my finger and my thumb, and shortly will I seal with 135 him. Come away.

⟨They exit.⟩

15

20

- 4.3 Just after receiving the good news about the defeat of all the rebel forces, Henry IV falls into a swoon. Prince Hal, sitting at the king's bedside. thinks him dead and takes the crown. The king berates him, Hal explains and apologizes, and peace is made between them. The king is taken into the Jerusalem Chamber to die.
 - 2. debate: strife

3-4. our . . . sanctified: i.e., lead the armies only on a crusade (See note to 3.1.112 and picture, page 200.)

5 addressed: ready

6. substitutes in absence: i.e., deputies; invested: furnished with my power and authority

7. lies level to: is readily accessible to

8. Only we want: i.e., I only lack

13-14. the Prince: i.e., Prince Hal

19. in presence: in attendance (at the court)

20. would: i.e., wishes

(Scene [37) Enter the King in a chair, Warwick, Thomas Duke of

Clarence, Humphrey Duke of Gloucester, and Attendants 7

KING

Now, lords, if God doth give successful end To this debate that bleedeth at our doors. We will our youth lead on to higher fields And draw no swords but what are sanctified. Our navy is addressed, our power collected.

Our substitutes in absence well invested.

And everything lies level to our wish. Only we want a little personal strength;

And pause us till these rebels now afoot

Come underneath the yoke of government.

WARWICK

Both which we doubt not but your Majesty Shall soon enjoy.

KING

Humphrey, my son of Gloucester, where is the Prince your brother?

HUMPHREY OF GLOUCESTER

I think he's gone to hunt, my lord, at Windsor. KING

And how accompanied?

HUMPHREY OF GLOUCESTER I do not know, my lord. KING

Is not his brother Thomas of Clarence with him? HUMPHREY OF GLOUCESTER

No, my good lord, he is in presence here. THOMAS OF CLARENCE, [coming forward] What would

my lord and father?

KING

Nothing but well to thee, Thomas of Clarence.

- 28. offices: functions
- 31. omit: neglect
- 34. gracious: willing to be kind; observed: humored, treated with respect
 - 36. Open: generous; day: daylight; melting: tender
 - 38. humorous: capricious
- 39. flaws . . . day: i.e., flakes of snow turned to ice at daybreak (but with probable wordplay on flaws as outbursts of passion).
- 45. Confound: destroy, consume; working: exertion
 - 47. friends: relatives
- 48-53. A hoop...gunpowder: In these lines Thomas is compared to a gold ring that encircles and secures the integrity of a chalice containing the blood of the royal family. suggestion: promptings to evil; or, perhaps, false charges aconitum: i.e., aconite, an extremely potent poison rash: quickacting
 - 54. observe: honor, court
 - 55. Windsor: See longer note to 2.1.93, page 251.

brother?	
He loves thee, and thou dost neglect him, Thomas.	2
Thou hast a better place in his affection	2
Than all thy brothers. Cherish it, my boy,	
And noble offices thou mayst effect	
Of mediation, after I am dead,	
Between his greatness and thy other brethren.	3
Therefore omit him not, blunt not his love,	٠.
Nor lose the good advantage of his grace	
By seeming cold or careless of his will.	
For he is gracious if he be observed;	
He hath a tear for pity, and a hand	35
Open as day for (melting) charity;	٥.
Yet notwithstanding, being incensed he is flint,	
As humorous as winter, and as sudden	
As flaws congealed in the spring of day.	
His temper therefore must be well observed.	40
Chide him for faults, and do it reverently,	-10
When you perceive his blood inclined to mirth;	
But, being moody, give him time and scope	
Till that his passions, like a whale on ground,	
Confound themselves with working. Learn this,	45
Thomas,	,,,
And thou shalt prove a shelter to thy friends,	
A hoop of gold to bind thy brothers in,	
That the united vessel of their blood,	
Mingled with venom of suggestion	50
(As, force perforce, the age will pour it in),	
Shall never leak, though it do work as strong	
As aconitum or rash gunpowder.	
THOMAS OF CLARENCE	
I shall observe him with all care and love.	
KING	
Why art thou not at Windsor with him, Thomas?	55

59. **Most...weeds:** proverbial **fattest:** most fertile

69. lavish: impetuous, wild

70. affections: inclinations

71. fronting peril: dangers that face him; opposed decay: ruin opposing him

72. look beyond: i.e., misconstrue

74. strange tongue: foreign language

79. gross terms: i.e., immodest words (line 76)

83. mete: appraise, judge



An "angel." (1.2.168)
From Henry William Henfrey, A guide to . . . English coins (1885).

180

THOMAS OF CLARENCE He is not there today; he dines in London, KING And how accompanied? (Canst thou tell that?) THOMAS OF CLARENCE With Poins and other his continual followers. KING Most subject is the fattest soil to weeds. And he, the noble image of my youth. Is overspread with them; therefore my grief Stretches itself beyond the hour of death. The blood weeps from my heart when I do shape, In forms imaginary, th' unguided days And rotten times that you shall look upon 65 When I am sleeping with my ancestors. For when his headstrong riot hath no curb. When rage and hot blood are his counsellors. When means and lavish manners meet together, O. with what wings shall his affections fly 70 Towards fronting peril and opposed decay! WARWICK My gracious lord, you look beyond him quite. The Prince but studies his companions Like a strange tongue, wherein, to gain the language. 75 Tis needful that the most immodest word Be looked upon and learned; which, once attained, Your Highness knows, comes to no further use But to be known and hated. So, like gross terms, The Prince will, in the perfectness of time. 80 Cast off his followers, and their memory Shall as a pattern or a measure live. By which his Grace must mete the lives of others.

Turning past evils to advantages.

85. comb: honeycomb (perhaps an allusion to the story of Samson finding the swarm of bees in their comb in the dead lion [Judges 14.8])

90. doth ... hand: i.e., sends his respects to you

94. olive: olive branch, a symbol of peace and goodwill

97. course: phase or stage; or, perhaps, attack (Course was a technical term in both bearbaiting and hunting.); in his particular: i.e., in detail

99. haunch: i.e., latter end

100. lifting up of day: i.e., daybreak

107. shrieve: sheriff

109, at large: in full

Paix.



Peace. (4.3.94) From Gilles Corrozet, Hecatongraphie . . . (1543). KING

Tis seldom when the bee doth leave her comb In the dead carrion.

Enter Westmoreland.

Who's here? Westmoreland?

WESTMORELAND

Health to my sovereign, and new happiness Added to that that I am to deliver. Prince John your son doth kiss your Grace's hand. Mowbray, the Bishop Scroop, Hastings, and all Are brought to the correction of your law. There is not now a rebel's sword unsheathed, But peace puts forth her olive everywhere. The manner how this action hath been borne Here at more leisure may your Highness read With every course in his particular.

THe gives the King a paper.

KING

O Westmoreland, thou art a summer bird. Which ever in the haunch of winter sings The lifting up of day.

100

105

95

Enter Harcourt.

Look, here's more news.

HARCOURT

From enemies heavens keep your Majesty, And when they stand against you, may they fall As those that I am come to tell you of. The Earl Northumberland and the Lord Bardolph, With a great power of English and of Scots, Are by the shrieve of Yorkshire overthrown. The manner and true order of the fight This packet, please it you, contains at large. THe gives the King papers,

1 1	2 Fo	rtune:	the	goddess	Fo	rtune	, wh	o per	soni-
fiac	the or	eratio	n of	chance	in	one's	life	(See	page
230.	-	,0,00000							

113. still: always

114. a stomach: i.e., an appetite

126. straight: i.e., straightway, immediately

128. hold out: i.e., endure

130. wrought: made, rendered; mure: wall

132. fear me: i.e., frighten me

133. loathly: hideous, disgusting

134. as: i.e., as if

134. as: i.e., as ii 138. doting: weakminded, senile

KING	
And wherefore should these good news make me	110
sick?	11(
Will Fortune never come with both hands full,	
But (write) her fair words still in foulest (letters)?	
She either gives a stomach and no food—	
Such are the poor, in health—or else a feast	115
And takes away the stomach—such are the rich	113
That have abundance and enjoy it not.	
I should rejoice now at this happy news	
And now my sight fails, and my brain is giddy	
0, me! Come near me, now I am much ill.	120
HUMPHREY OF GLOUCESTER	120
Comfort, your Majesty.	
THOMAS OF CLARENCE O, my royal father!	
WESTMORELAND	
My sovereign lord, cheer up yourself, look up.	
WARWICK	
Be patient, princes. You do know these fits	
Are with his Highness very ordinary.	125
Stand from him, give him air. He'll straight be	_
well.	
THOMAS OF CLARENCE	
No, no, he cannot long hold out these pangs.	
Th' incessant care and labor of his mind	
Hath wrought the mure that should confine it in	130
So thin that life looks through (and will break out.)	
HUMPHREY OF GLOUCESTER	
The people fear me, for they do observe	
Unfathered heirs and loathly births of nature.	
The seasons change their manners, as the year	
Had found some months asleep and leapt them over.	135
MOMAS OF CLARENCE	
The river hath thrice flowed, no ebb between,	
And the old folk, time's doting chronicles,	

140. **Edward:** i.e., Edward III, grandfather of Henry IV (See below.) **sicked:** fell ill

142. apoplexy: paralysis

144. Softly: gently; pray: i.e., I beg you

144 SD. **The King...stage:** Many editions begin a new scene at this point.

146. dull: slow; favorable: well-disposed, kind

149. Set me: i.e., set, place

151. **Less noise:** perhaps in response to the **noise** of Prince Hal's approach

153. heaviness: sadness

154. abroad: out of doors



Edward III. (4.3.140)
From John Taylor, All the workes of ... (1630).

Say it did so a little time before

That our great-grandsire, Edward, sicked and died.

Speak lower, princes, for the King recovers.

This apoplexy will certain be his end.

this apoptexy will certain be his end.

I pray you take me up and bear me hence Into some other chamber. (Softly, pray.)

The King is carried to a bed on another part of the stage.

Let there be no noise made, my gentle friends, Unless some dull and favorable hand

Will whisper music to my weary spirit.

WARWICK, to an Attendant

Call for the music in the other room.

Set me the crown upon my pillow here.

The crown is placed on the bed,

THOMAS OF CLARENCE, \(\sigma_{\text{aside}} \) to the others \(\text{His eye is hollow, and he changes much.} \) WARWICK

145

150

155

Less noise, less noise.

Enter (Prince) Harry.

PRINCE Who saw the Duke of Clarence? THOMAS OF CLARENCE, [weeping]

I am here, brother, full of heaviness.

PRINCE

How now, rain within doors, and none abroad? How doth the King?

HUMPHREY OF GLOUCESTER Exceeding ill. PRINCE

Heard he the good news yet? Tell it him. HUMPHREY OF GLOUCESTER

He altered much upon the hearing it.

160. physic: medicine

169. perturbation: cause of disturbance

170. ports: gates

171. watchful: sleepless; Sleep . . . now: i.e., may you sleep despite its presence

172. Yet not: i.e., yet you will not sleep

173. biggen: nightcap

174. watch of night: i.e., all the watches of the night (The night was at one time divided into several intervals called "watches.")

175. pinch: torment

177. with safety: i.e., while providing safety

179. suspire: breathe

182. rigol: ring, circle

188. as immediate from: i.e., as next in succession to

189. Derives itself: i.e., passes by descent

PRINCE If he be sick with joy, he'll recover without physic. WARWICK	t 16
Not so much noise, my lords.—Sweet prince, speak	
IOW.	
The King your father is disposed to sleep.	
THOMAS OF CLARENCE	
Let us withdraw into the other room.	
WARWICK	
Will 't please your Grace to go along with us?	1
RINCE	165
No, I will sit and watch here by the King.	
All but Prince and King exit.	
Why doth the crown lie there upon his pillow,	
Being so troublesome a bedfellow?	
O polished perturbation, golden care	
That keep'st the ports of slumber open wide	1570
10 many a watchful night! Sleen with it now.	170
ret not so sound and half so deeply sweet	
As ne whose brow with homely higgen bound	
officies out the watch of night. O majesty	
when thou dost pinch thy bearer, thou dost sit	175
Like a rich armor worn in heat of day	1/5
That scald'st with safety. By his gates of breath	
There lies a downy teather which stire not.	
Did ne suspire, that light and weightless down	
remorce must move. My gracious lord, my father	180
This sleep is sound indeed. This is a sleep	100
I hat from this golden rigol hath divorced	
So many English kings. Thy due from me	
is tears and heavy sorrows of the blood	
which nature, love, and filial tenderness .	185
Shall, O dear father, pay thee plenteously	103
My due from thee is this imperial crown	
Which, as immediate from the place and Li-	
perives itself to me. He puts on the crown \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \	
WHELE II SHS	90



"Why doth the crown lie there . . . ?" (4.3.167) From Juan de Solorzano Pereira. . . . Emblemata regio politica . . . (1653).

Which God shall guard. And, put the world's whole strength Into one giant arm, it shall not force This lineal honor from me. This from thee Will I to mine leave, as 'tis left to me. He exits with the crown? KING, rising up in his bed Warwick! Gloucester! Clarence! Enter Warwick, Gloucester, Clarence, and others. THOMAS OF CLARENCE Doth the King call? WARWICK What would your Majesty? (How fares your Grace?) Why did you leave me here alone, my lords? 200 THOMAS OF CLARENCE We left the Prince my brother here, my liege, Who undertook to sit and watch by you. KING The Prince of Wales? Where is he? Let me see him. [He is not here.] WARWICK This door is open. He is gone this way. 205 HUMPHREY OF GLOUCESTER He came not through the chamber where we stayed. KING Where is the crown? Who took it from my pillow? WARWICK When we withdrew, my liege, we left it here. KING The Prince hath ta'en it hence. Go seek him out. 210 Is he so hasty that he doth suppose my sleep my death?

Find him, my Lord of Warwick. Chide him hither.

This part of his conjoins with my disease

[™]Warwick exits. [¬]

And helps to end me. See, sons, what things you

How quickly nature falls into revolt

are,

220. thoughts: i.e., worries, cares221. industry: exertion, effort222. engrossèd: collected, amassed
222. Chartossa. Controlled a managed
liliassea in Wieigir ianas; or anoagn omiaeranag;
efforts
224. thoughtful: careful; invest: provide
226. tolling: i.e., taking as a toll
231-32. Thisfather: i.e., his acquisitions yield his bitter taste to the dying father
234. determined: terminated
236. kindly: natural, filial
237. deep: profoundly felt
240. eyedrops: tears
241. wherefore: why
192

The second secon	77
for this the roomsh overcareful fathers	- Thu
Have broke their sleep with thoughts,	220
Their brains with care, their bones with industry.	
For this they have engrossed and (piled) up	
The cankered heaps of strange-achieved gold.	
For this they have been thoughtful to invest	
Their sons with arts and martial exercises— When, like the bee, tolling from every flower	225
(The virtuous sweets,)	
Our (thighs) packed with wax, our mouths with	
honey,	
We bring it to the hive and, like the bees,	220
Are murdered for our pains. This bitter taste	230
Yields his engrossments to the ending father.	
Enter Warwick.	
Now where is he that will not stay so long	
Till his friend sickness (hath) determined me?	
My lord, I found the Prince in the next room,	
Washing with kindly tears his gentle cheeks,	235
With such a deep demeanor in great sorrow	
That tyranny, which never quaffed but blood,	
Would, by beholding him, have washed his knife	
With gentle eyedrops. He is coming hither.	240
CING	240
But wherefore did he take away the crown?	
Enter (Prince) Harry \(\text{with the crown.} \) \(\text{7} \)	
Lo where he comes.—Come hither to me, Harry.—	
Depart the chamber. Leave us here alone.	
Gloucester, Clarence, Warwick, and others exit.	

I never thought to hear you speak again.

PRINCE

248. wilt needs: must

252-54. **cloud...drop:** The image is of a cloud about to fall as rain because it is kept aloft only by a very weak wind (with wordplay on **wind** as respiration).

257. **sealed up my expectation:** ratified or confirmed my prediction

261. Whom: which

263. **forbear:** (1) put up with, tolerate; or, (2) spare

265-66. **bells...dead: Bells** would be tolled to announce the death of the king and later to celebrate the coronation of the new king.

267. hearse: a wooden structure used in royal funerals, covered and adorned with banners and lighted candles

268. **balm:** fragrant oil used for anointing a monarch in the coronation ceremony

272. form: proper behavior

273. vanity: This could mean, for example, "worthlessness," "futility," "triviality," and "folly," as well as "conceit and desire for admiration." All of these may be intended here.

277. idleness: foolishness

KING	
Thy wish was father, Harry, to that thought.	245
I stay too long by thee; I weary thee.	
Dost thou so hunger for mine empty chair	
That thou wilt needs invest thee with my honors	
Before thy nour be ripe? O foolish youth	
Thou seek'st the greatness that will overwhelm	250
thee.	
Stay but a little, for my cloud of dignity	
Is held from falling with so weak a wind	
That it will quickly drop. My day is dim.	
Thou hast stol'n that which after some few hours	255
Were thine without offense, and at my death	
Inou hast sealed up my expectation	
Thy life did manifest thou loved'st me not,	
And thou wilt have me die assured of it	
Thou hid'st a thousand daggers in thy thoughts,	260
Whom thou hast whetted on thy stony heart	
To stab at half an hour of my life.	
What, canst thou not forbear me half an hour?	
Then get thee gone, and dig my grave thyself,	
And bid the merry bells ring to thine ear	265
That thou art crowned, not that I am dead.	
Let all the tears that should bedew my hearse	
Be drops of balm to sanctify thy head;	
Only compound me with forgotten dust.	
Give that which gave thee life unto the worms.	270
Pluck down my officers, break my decrees,	
For now a time is come to mock at form.	
Harry the Fifth is crowned. Up, vanity,	
Down, royal state, all you sage councillors, hence.	
,	275
And to the English court assemble now,	
From every region, apes of idleness.	

278. confines: regions
285. curbed: controlled as a dog is by a muzzle;
license: excess
287. flesh his tooth on: i.e., plunge his teeth into
288. civil blows: i.e., the blows of civil war
289. care: anxiety, attention, pains
290. riot: moral disorder, debauchery
295. dear: severe, dire
299. affect: want, desire
302. obedience: bow of submission
306. course: i.e., flowing

1 1	01020
Now, neighbor confines, purge you of your scum.	
Have you a ruffian that will swear, drink, dance,	
Revel the night, rob, murder, and commit	280
The oldest sins the newest kind of ways?	
Be happy, he will trouble you no more.	
England shall double gild his treble guilt.	
England shall give him office, honor, might,	
For the fifth Harry from curbed license plucks	285
The muzzle of restraint, and the wild dog	
Shall flesh his tooth on every innocent	
0 my poor kingdom, sick with civil blows!	
When that my care could not withhold thy riots	
What will thou do when riot is thy care?	290
0, thou wilt be a wilderness again	290
Peopled with wolves, the old inhabitants	
PRINCE, placing the crown on the nillow	
O pardon me, my liege! But for my tears,	
The moist impediments unto my speech,	
I had forestalled this dear and deep rebuke	
Ere you with grief had spoke and I had heard	295
The course of it so far. There is your crown,	
And He that wears the crown immortally	
Long guard it yours. The kneels. If I affect it	
more	
Than as your honor and as your renown,	300
Let me no more from this obedience rise,	
Which my most inward to 1.1	
Which my most inward true and duteous spirit	
Teacheth this prostrate and exterior bending.	
God witness with me, when I here came in	305
And found no course of breath within your Majesty,	
How cold it struck my heart! If I do feign,	
0, let me in my present wildness die	
And never live to show th' incredulous world	
The noble change that I have purposed.	310
Coming to look on you, thinking you dead,	
And dead almost, my liege, to think you were	

depending

315

325

330

335

340

345

313. as having sense: i.e., as if it had the sense of hearing

319. med'cine potable: i.e., aurum potabile, "drinkable gold," used as a medicine

Hath fed upon the body of my father;

I spake unto this crown as having sense. And thus upbraided it: "The care on thee

321. eat: i.e., eaten (pronounced "et")

Therefore thou best of gold art (worst of) gold. Other, less fine in carat, (is) more precious,

323. try: i.e., contest

Preserving life in med'cine potable;

327. strain: degree 329. affection of: tendency to

But thou, most fine, most honored, most renowned, 320 Hast eat thy bearer up." Thus, my most royal liege,

330. the might of it: i.e., the crown's power

Accusing it, I put it on my head

339. latest: last, final

To try with it, as with an enemy

346. opinion: standing, reputation

That had before my face murdered my father, The quarrel of a true inheritor.

But if it did infect my blood with joy Or swell my thoughts to any strain of pride,

If any rebel or vain spirit of mine Did with the least affection of a welcome

Give entertainment to the might of it. Let God forever keep it from my head

And make me as the poorest vassal is That doth with awe and terror kneel to it.

KING (O my son.)

God put (it) in thy mind to take it hence That thou mightst win the more thy father's love,

Pleading so wisely in excuse of it.

Come hither, Harry, sit thou by my bed And hear, I think, the very latest counsel

That ever I shall breathe. The Prince rises from his knees and sits

near the bed.

God knows, my son, By what bypaths and indirect crook'd ways I met this crown, and I myself know well How troublesome it sat upon my head. To thee it shall descend with better quiet, Better opinion, better confirmation,

The story of the Prodigal Son. (2.1.150-51) From Guillaume Guéroult, Figures de la Bible . . . (1565-70).

347. soil of the achievement: i.e., stain associated with how I got it

349. boist'rous: savage, violent

353. fears: i.e., things to be feared

354. answerèd: encountered, met in battle

356. argument: theme

358, more fairer: i.e., fairer

359. garland: crown; successively: by inheritance

361. griefs are green: i.e., grievances are fresh, or

368. cut them off: i.e., stopped them

370-71. look . . . state: i.e., examine my kingship too closely

373-74. that action ... out: i.e., so that military action carried out elsewhere

375. waste: undermine the strength of, obliterate

376. More would I: i.e., I would say more



A map of the Holy Land. (3.1.112; 4.3.3-4, 399) From the Geneva Bible (1562).

200

For all the soil of the achievement goes with me into the earth. It seemed in me But as an honor snatched with boist'rous hand. And I had many living to upbraid My gain of it by their assistances. 350 Which daily grew to quarrel and to bloodshed, Wounding supposed peace. All these bold fears Thou seest with peril I have answered. For all my reign hath been but as a scene 355 Acting that argument. And now my death Changes the mood, for what in me was purchased Falls upon thee in a more fairer sort. So thou the garland wear'st successively. Yet though thou stand'st more sure than I could do, 360 Thou art not firm enough, since griefs are green, And all my friends, which thou must make thy friends. Have but their stings and teeth newly ta'en out, By whose fell working I was first advanced And by whose power I well might lodge a fear 365 To be again displaced; which to avoid, I cut them off and had a purpose now To lead out many to the Holy Land, Lest rest and lying still might make them look Too near unto my state. Therefore, my Harry, 370 Be it thy course to busy giddy minds With foreign quarrels, that action, hence borne out. May waste the memory of the former days. More would I, but my lungs are wasted so 375 That strength of speech is utterly denied me. How I came by the crown, O God forgive, And grant it may with thee in true peace live. NNCE (My gracious liege,) You won it, wore it, kept it, gave it me. 380

390

395

400

383. pain: effort

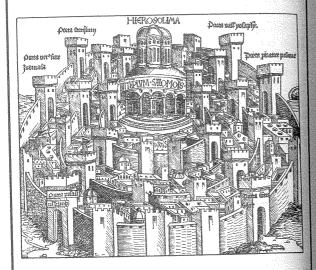
389. Upon thy sight: i.e., upon seeing you

390. My ... period: i.e., my life reaches its end

394. lodging: bedroom

398. but: except

399. vainly: foolishly



Jerusalem. From Hartmann Schedel, Liber chronicorum (1493).

Then plain and right must my possession be. Which I with more than with a common pain 'Gainst all the world will rightfully maintain.

Enter (John of) Lancaster [and others.]

KING

Look, look, here comes my John of Lancaster. JOHN OF LANCASTER

Health, peace, and happiness to my royal father.

Thou bring'st me happiness and peace, son John, But health, alack, with youthful wings is flown From this bare withered trunk. Upon thy sight My worldly business makes a period.

Where is my Lord of Warwick? My Lord of Warwick.

PRINCE

[Enter (Warwick.)]

KING

Doth any name particular belong Unto the lodging where I first did swoon? WARWICK

Tis called Jerusalem, my noble lord.

KING

Laud be to God! Even there my life must end. It hath been prophesied to me many years, I should not die but in Jerusalem, Which vainly I supposed the Holy Land. But bear me to that chamber; there I'll lie. In that Jerusalem shall Harry die.

(They exit.)

HENRY IV Part 2

ACT 5

- **5.1** Falstaff observes Shallow and his servants in order to be ready to entertain Prince Hal with amusing stories.
- 1. By ... pie: a mild oath (i.e., "by God and the church ordinal")
- 2. What: an interjection introducing an exclamation
- 10. marry: a mild oath (originally an oath on the name of the Virgin Mary); cook: i.e., the cook
 - 13. precepts: writs, summonses
- 14. **again:** further, moreover; **hade land:** strip of unplowed land
 - 16. red wheat: a variety of common wheat
 - 18. note: bill, account
 - 20. cast: calculated
 - 22. link: chain; bucket: yoke (or perhaps pail)

$\langle ACT | 5 \rangle$

(Scene 1) Enter Shallow, Falstaff, (Page,) and Bardolph.

shallow By cock and pie, sir, you shall not away tonight.—What, Davy, I say!

FALSTAFF You must excuse me, Master Robert Shallow.

SHALLOW I will not excuse you. You shall not be excused. Excuses shall not be admitted. There is no excuse shall serve. You shall not be excused.—

Why, Davy!

$\lceil Enter \langle Davy. \rangle \rceil$

DAVY Here, sir.

shallow Davy, Davy, Davy, Davy, let me see, Davy, let me see, Davy, let me see. Yea, marry, William cook, bid him come hither.—Sir John, you shall not be excused.

Marry, sir, thus: those precepts cannot be served. And again, sir: shall we sow the hade land with wheat?

15

SHALLOW With red wheat, Davy. But for William cook, are there no young pigeons?

MVY Yes, sir. Here is now the smith's note for shoeing and plow irons.

The gives Shallow a paper.

MALLOW Let it be cast and paid.—Sir John, you shall 20 not be excused.

MVY Now, sir, a new link to the bucket must needs be

- 25. Hinckley: a market town near Coventry
- 28. kickshaws: i.e., fancy dishes (French quelques choses)
 - 34. back-bitten: i.e., bitten by vermin
 - 35. marvelous: i.e., marvelously
- 36. Well-conceited: i.e., very clever; About: i.e., go about
 - 38. countenance: favor
 - 48-49. bear out: support
 - 53-54. Look about: i.e., be alert



Agamemnon. (2.4.222) From Geoffrey Whitney, A choice of emblemes . . . (1586).

had. And, sir, do you mean to stop any of William's wages about the sack he lost (the other day) at Hinckley Fair?

CHALLOW He shall answer it. Some pigeons, Davy, a couple of short-legged hens, a joint of mutton, and any pretty little tiny kickshaws, tell William cook. 「Shallow and Davy walk aside.]

navy Doth the man of war stay all night, sir?

CHALLOW Yea, Davy, I will use him well. A friend i' th' court is better than a penny in purse. Use his men well, Davy, for they are arrant knaves and will backbite.

May No worse than they are back-bitten, sir, for they have marvelous foul linen.

SHALLOW Well-conceited, Davy. About thy business, Davy.

MAYY I beseech you, sir, to countenance William Visor of Woncot against Clement Perkes o' th' hill.

CHALLOW There is many complaints, Davy, against that 40 Visor. That Visor is an arrant knave, on my knowledge.

DAVY I grant your Worship that he is a knave, sir, but yet, God forbid, sir, but a knave should have some countenance at his friend's request. An honest man, sir, is able to speak for himself when a knave is not. I have served your Worship truly, sir, this eight years; an I cannot once or twice in a quarter bear out a knave against an honest man, I have (but a very) little credit with your Worship. The knave is 50 mine honest friend, sir; therefore I beseech you let him be countenanced.

SHALLOW Go to, I say, he shall have no wrong. Look about, Davy. \(\subseteq Davy exits. \) Where are you, Sir John? Come, come, off with your boots.—Give me your hand, Master Bardolph.

25

35

59. tall: brave (with wordplay on the page's small stature)

63. quantities: small pieces

66. **semblable coherence:** i.e., complete similarity

66-67. **his men's . . . his:** i.e., the dispositions of his men and himself

68. conversing: associating

70. married in conjunction: i.e., closely joined

70-71. with ... society: i.e., through their close association

72. consent: consensus, agreement

73-74. with...near: i.e., by implying I was a close friend of

75. curry with: i.e., flatter

76–78. It . . . another: Proverbial: "He that walketh with the wise shall be wise; but a companion of fools shall be afflicted." carriage: behavior take: catch

81-83. **the wearing...intervallums**: i.e., a whole year without intermission **terms**: i.e., the **four terms** that make up the legal year **actions**: legal processes, suits **intervallums**: intervals (i.e., between the **terms**)

85. sad: serious

87. **like . . . up:** i.e., all wrinkled **ill laid up:** improperly put away

BARDOLPH I am glad to see your Worship.

SHALLOW I thank thee with (all) my heart, kind Master Bardolph, ([to Page]) and welcome, my tall fellow.—Come. Sir John.

BALSTAFF I'll follow you, good Master Robert Shallow. Shallow exits. Bardolph, look to our horses. Bardolph and Page exit. If I were sawed into quantities, I should make four dozen of such bearded hermits' staves as Master Shallow. It is a wonderful thing to see the semblable coherence of his men's spirits and his. They, by observing (of) him, do bear themselves like foolish justices; he, by conversing with them, is turned into a justice-like servingman. Their spirits are so married in conjunction with the participation of society that they flock together in consent like so many wild geese. If I had a suit to Master Shallow, I would humor his men with the imputation of being near their master; if to his men, I would curry with Master Shallow that no man could better command his servants. It is certain that either wise bearing or ignorant carriage is caught, as men take diseases, one of another. Therefore let men take heed of their company. I will devise matter enough out of this Shallow to keep Prince Harry in continual laughter the wearing out of six fashions, which is four terms, or two actions, and he shall laugh without intervallums. O, it is much that a lie with a slight oath and a jest with a sad brow will do with a fellow that never had the 85 ache in his shoulders. O, you shall see him laugh till his face be like a wet cloak ill laid up.

SHALLOW, within Sir John.

MISTAFF I come, Master Shallow, I come, Master Shallow.

THe exits.

15

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5.2 Prince Hal reassures an anxious Lord Chief Justice.

- 3. well: Proverbial: "He is well, since he is in Heaven."
 - 7. would: wish
 - 8. truly: loyally
 - 15. heavy issue: i.e., sorrowful sons
 - 17. he the worst: i.e., whichever is least worthy
- 19. **strike sail:** i.e., submit (literally, to lower the topsail as a salute or sign of surrender)

 \langle Scene 2 \rangle Enter Warwick \lceil and \rceil Lord Chief Justice.

WARWICK

How now, my Lord Chief Justice, whither away? CHIEF JUSTICE How doth the King?

Exceeding well. His cares are now all ended. CHIEF JUSTICE

I hope, not dead.

WARWICK He's walked the way of nature,
And to our purposes he lives no more.

CHIEF JUSTICE

I would his Majesty had called me with him.

The service that I truly did his life Hath left me open to all injuries.

WARWICK

Indeed, I think the young king loves you not. CHIEF JUSTICE

I know he doth not, and do arm myself To welcome the condition of the time, Which cannot look more hideously upon me Than I have drawn it in my fantasy.

Enter John, Thomas, and Humphrey.

WARWICK

Here come the heavy issue of dead Harry.
O, that the living Harry had the temper
Of he the worst of these three gentlemen!
How many nobles then should hold their places
That must strike sail to spirits of vile sort!
CHIEF JUSTICE

O God, I fear all will be overturned.
JOHN OF LANCASTER

Good morrow, cousin Warwick, good morrow.

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24. argument: theme, subject

31. grace: fortune, destiny

32. **coldest:** least friendly, gloomiest; most discouraging

34. speak . . . fair: address . . . kindly

35. swims . . . quality: i.e., goes against your nature

39. **A ragged . . . remission:** i.e., a worthless pardon that has already been withdrawn before it is given

HUMPHREY OF GLOUCESTER, THOMAS OF CLARENCE Good morrow, cousin.

CLARENCE GOOD MOTTOW, COUSIN.

JOHN OF LANCASTER

We meet like men that had forgot to speak.

We do remember, but our argument

Is all too heavy to admit much talk.

IOHN OF LANCASTER

Well, peace be with him that hath made us heavy. CHIEF JUSTICE

Peace be with us, lest we be heavier.

HUMPHREY OF GLOUCESTER

O, good my lord, you have lost a friend indeed, And I dare swear you borrow not that face

Of seeming sorrow; it is sure your own.

JOHN OF LANCASTER, To the Chief Justice

Though no man be assured what grace to find, You stand in coldest expectation.

I am the sorrier; would 'twere otherwise.
THOMAS OF CLARENCE

Well, you must now speak Sir John Falstaff fair, Which swims against your stream of quality.

CHIEF JUSTICE
Sweet princes, what I did I did in honor,
Led by th' impartial conduct of my soul:

And never shall you see that I will beg A ragged and forestalled remission.

If truth and upright innocency fail me,
I'll to the king my master that is dead
And tell him who hath sent me after him.

Enter the Prince, $\lceil as Henry V, \rceil$ and Blunt.

WARWICK Here comes the Prince.

CHIEF JUSTICE

Good morrow, and God save your Majesty.

49. Amurath: the name of a Turkish sultan who secured the throne by having his brothers killed

53. deeply: solemnly

55. entertain: i.e., take upon yourselves

57. For: as for

59. Let me but: i.e., if you will only let me

71. rate: reprove, scold

72. easy: insignificant

73. **Lethe:** in Greek mythology, the river of forget-fulness

74. **use the person of:** i.e., act on behalf of, represent



Jove as a bull, abducting Europa. (2.2.174–75) From Gabriele Simeoni, *La vita* . . . *d'Ouidio* . . . (1559).

PRINCE This new and gorgeous garment majesty 45 Sits not so easy on me as you think.— Brothers, you (mix) your sadness with some fear. This is the English, not the Turkish court: Not Amurath an Amurath succeeds. But Harry Harry. Yet be sad, good brothers. 50 For, by my faith, it very well becomes you. Sorrow so royally in you appears That I will deeply put the fashion on And wear it in my heart. Why then, be sad. But entertain no more of it, good brothers. 55 Than a joint burden laid upon us all. For me, by heaven, I bid you be assured, I'll be your father and your brother too. Let me but bear your love, I'll bear your cares. Yet weep that Harry's dead, and so will I, 60 But Harry lives that shall convert those tears By number into hours of happiness. BROTHERS We hope no otherwise from your Majesty. PRINCE You all look strangely on me. To the Chief Justice. And you most. 65 You are, I think, assured I love you not. CHIEF JUSTICE I am assured, if I be measured rightly, Your Majesty hath no just cause to hate me. PRINCE No? How might a prince of my great hopes forget So great indignities you laid upon me? 70 What, rate, rebuke, and roughly send to prison Th' immediate heir of England? Was this easy? May this be washed in Lethe and forgotten? CHIEF JUSTICE

I then did use the person of your father;

80. presented: represented

82. as an offender: i.e., as you were an offender

84. **commit you:** i.e., sentence you to prison (See longer note to 1.2.56–58, **committed**, page 249.) ill: blameworthy

85. Be you: i.e., would you be

87. awful: awe-inspiring

88. **trip . . . law:** i.e., pervert justice (The image is of tripping a runner.)

90. spurn at: trample

91. second body: i.e., deputy

93. propose: imagine

98. soft: gently

99. cold: deliberate; considerance: reflection

104. **balance:** i.e., the balance scales, which, together with the **sword**, emblematize justice (See below, and page 144.)



Justice with her scales and sword. (5.2.103-4) From Thomas Peyton, *The glasse of time* . . . (1620).

The image of his power lay then in me. 75 And in th' administration of his law. whiles I was busy for the commonwealth. Your Highness pleased to forget my place. The majesty and power of law and justice. The image of the King whom I presented, 80 And struck me in my very seat of judgment, Whereon, as an offender to your father. I gave bold way to my authority And did commit you. If the deed were ill. Be you contented, wearing now the garland. 85 To have a son set your decrees at nought? To pluck down justice from your awful bench? To trip the course of law and blunt the sword That guards the peace and safety of your person? Nay more, to spurn at your most royal image 90 And mock your workings in a second body? Question your royal thoughts, make the case yours; Be now the father and propose a son, Hear your own dignity so much profaned, See your most dreadful laws so loosely slighted, 95 Behold yourself so by a son disdained, And then imagine me taking your part And in your power soft silencing your son. After this cold considerance, sentence me. And, as you are a king, speak in your state 100 What I have done that misbecame my place, My person, or my liege's sovereignty. PRINCE You are right, justice, and you weigh this well.

Therefore still bear the balance and the sword.

And I do wish your honors may increase
Till you do live to see a son of mine
Offend you and obey you as I did.

So shall I live to speak my father's words:

110. do justice on: punish; proper: own

115. have used to bear: i.e., are accustomed to carrying

116. remembrance: reminder

117. like: same

124. **is gone wild:** i.e., has carried my wildness with him

125. affections: passions

126. sadly: i.e., as a serious person

129. who: i.e., which

130. **After my seeming:** i.e., according to the way I've appeared; **blood:** passion

133. state: majestic dignity; floods: i.e., the ocean

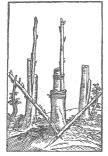
136. **limbs:** i.e., members (but treated literally in line 137 where the **state** is a **great body** and where **go** means "walk")

"Happy am I that have a man so bold That dares do justice on my proper son; 110 And not less happy, having such a son That would deliver up his greatness so Into the hands of justice." You did commit me, For which I do commit into your hand Th' unstained sword that you have used to bear, With this remembrance: that you use the same With the like bold, just, and impartial spirit As you have done 'gainst me. There is my hand. They clasp hands. You shall be as a father to my youth, My voice shall sound as you do prompt mine ear, And I will stoop and humble my intents 120 To your well-practiced wise directions.— And, princes all, believe me, I beseech you: My father is gone wild into his grave, For in his tomb lie my affections. 125 And with his spirits sadly I survive To mock the expectation of the world, To frustrate prophecies, and to raze out Rotten opinion, who hath writ me down After my seeming. The tide of blood in me Hath proudly flowed in vanity till now. 130 Now doth it turn and ebb back to the sea. Where it shall mingle with the state of floods And flow henceforth in formal majesty. Now call we our high court of parliament, And let us choose such limbs of noble counsel 135 That the great body of our state may go In equal rank with the best-governed nation; That war, or peace, or both at once, may be As things acquainted and familiar to us, To the Chief Justice. In which you, father, shall 140 have foremost hand.

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- 143. accite: summon
- 144. remembered: mentioned; state: i.e., nobles
- 145. consigning: subscribing
- 5.3 On the news of Henry IV's death, Falstaff and Shallow set off joyfully for London.
 - 1. orchard: garden (See page 10.)
 - 2. pippin: apple
- 3. graffing: i.e., grafting; caraways: i.e., caraway seeds; or, sweets made with caraway seeds
 - 8. Spread: i.e., lay the table
 - 9. Well said: i.e., well done
 - 11. husband: household manager, steward
 - 12. varlet: servant
 - 22. ever among: all the while
- 24. give you a health: i.e., drink a toast to you; anon: right away



Grafting "last year's pippin." (5.3.2-3) From Marco Bussato, Giardino de agricoltura . . . (1599).

Our coronation done, we will accite. As I before remembered, all our state. And, God consigning to my good intents, No prince nor peer shall have just cause to say God shorten Harry's happy life one day. (They exit.)

(Scene 3)

Enter Sir John (Falstaff,) Shallow, Silence, Davy, Bardolph, \(\text{and} \) Page.

SHALLOW Nay, you shall see my orchard, where, in an arbor, we will eat a last year's pippin of mine own graffing, with a dish of caraways, and so forth.-Come, cousin Silence.—And then to bed.

FALSTAFF Fore God, you have here (a) goodly dwelling, and (a) rich.

SHALLOW Barren, barren, barren, beggars all, beggars all, Sir John. Marry, good air.—Spread, Davy, spread, Davy. Well said, Davy.

FALSTAFF This Davy serves you for good uses. He is 10 your servingman and your husband.

SHALLOW A good varlet, a good varlet, a very good varlet, Sir John. By the Mass, I have drunk too much sack at supper. A good varlet. Now sit down, now sit down.—Come, cousin.

SILENCE Ah, sirrah, quoth he, we shall Sings. Do nothing but eat and make good cheer, And praise God for the merry year, When flesh is cheap and females dear, And lusty lads roam here and there So merrily,

And ever among so merrily.

FALSTAFF There's a merry heart!—Good Master Silence, I'll give you a health for that anon.

40

28. Proface: a welcome given at a meal; want: lack; meat: food

29. bear: put up with

34. beards wags all: i.e., all the men's beards wag (in talking and laughing)

35. Shrovetide: the days before Lent and a time of feasting and drinking

39. merry: This word could mean "tipsy, happily drunk."

41. leather-coats: russet apples

44. straight: straightway, immediately

47. leman: mistress

54. I'll ... bottom: i.e., I'll drink to the bottom of the cup in toasting you, even if it is a mile deep



A bearherd. (1.2.172-73) From Jacobus a. Bruck, Emblemata moralia & bellica . . . (1615).

CHALLOW Give Master Bardolph some wine, Davy. mayy, to the guests Sweet sir, sit. I'll be with you anon. Most sweet sir, sit. Master page, good master nage, sit. Proface. What you want in meat, we'll have in drink, but you must bear. The heart's all. He exits SHALLOW Be merry, Master Bardolph.—And, my little 30

soldier there, be merry.

SILENCE [sings]

Be merry, be merry, my wife has all, For women are shrews, both short and tall. 'Tis merry in hall when beards wags all, And welcome merry Shrovetide. Be merry, be merry.

FALSTAFF I did not think Master Silence had been a man of this mettle

SILENCE Who, I? I have been merry twice and once ere now.

Enter Davy.

DAVY, to the guests There's a dish of leather-coats for vou.

SHALLOW Davy!

DAVY Your Worship, I'll be with you straight.—A cup of wine sir

SILENCE Sings

A cup of wine that's brisk and fine, And drink unto thee, leman mine, And a merry heart lives long-a.

FALSTAFF Well said, Master Silence.

SILENCE And we shall be merry; now comes in the sweet o' th' night,

FALSTAFF Health and long life to you, Master Silence. SILENCE \(\Gamma\) sings

> Fill the cup, and let it come. I'll pledge you a mile to th' bottom.

75

- 56. beshrew: i.e., a plague on
- 59. cabileros: soldiers, gallants
- 60. once: one day
- 62. crack: i.e., empty
- 64. pottle-pot: two-quart tankard
- 65. liggens: a word not recorded elsewhere and as vet undefined
- 67. out: i.e., pass out; or, perhaps, drop out, leave you
- 72. done me right: i.e., kept up with me in drinking
- 73-75. Do . . . Samingo: part of a popular drinking song "Monsieur Mingo" (The Latin verb mingo means "I urinate.")
 - 79. somewhat: something



The Muses. (5.3.104) From Natale Conti, Natalis Comitis Mythologiae . . . (1616).

CHALLOW Honest Bardolph, welcome. If thou want'st 55 anything and wilt not call, beshrew thy heart .-Welcome, my little tiny thief, and welcome indeed too. I'll drink to Master Bardolph, and to all the cabileros about London

DAVY I hope to see London once ere I die. RARDOLPH An I might see you there, Davy!

SHALLOW By the Mass, you'll crack a quart together. ha, will you not, Master Bardolph?

BARDOLPH Yea, sir, in a pottle-pot.

SHALLOW By God's liggens, I thank thee. The knave 65 will stick by thee, I can assure thee that. He will not out, he. 'Tis true bred!

BARDOLPH And I'll stick by him, sir.

SHALLOW Why, there spoke a king. Lack nothing, be merry. (One knocks at door.) Look who's at door 70 there, ho. Who knocks? Davy exits.

FALSTAFF Why, now you have done me right. SILENCE Sings

> Do me right, And dub me knight,

Samingo. Is 't not so?

SILENCE Is 't so? Why then, say an old man can do somewhat.

「Enter Davy. ¬

DAVY An 't please your Worship, there's one Pistol 80 come from the court with news FALSTAFF From the court? Let him come in.

Enter Pistol

How now, Pistol? PISTOL Sir John, God save you.

FALSTAFF 'Tis so.

89. but Goodman Puff: i.e., except for yeoman Puff (Silence takes greatest to mean "biggest.")

91. Puff: swagger, speak insolently

96. price: value, excellence

97. them: i.e., the news (regarded as plural)

97–98. man . . . world: i.e., ordinary mortal

99. **foutre:** a French word (meaning "fornicate") used in English phrases of contempt

100. **Africa:** associated with gold (especially in Marlowe's *Tamburlaine*) For Pistol's quoting of old plays, see note to 2.4.158–59.

101–2. **O...thereof:** Falstaff imitates Pistol's style. Assyrians were associated with brigands. **King Cophetua** was the hero of a ballad referred to more than once in Shakespeare's plays.

104. **Helicons:** Mount Helicon was sacred to the Muses of Greek mythology. (See page 226.)

105. baffled: subjected to public disgrace

106. **Furies' lap:** i.e., the **lap** of the Erinyes, mythological beings who punished those who broke natural or moral laws (See page 236 and note to 5.5.35–36.)

109. therefor: for that

114. **besonian:** knave, beggar (from the Italian bisogno, meaning "need, want")

palstaff What wind blew you hither, Pistol? pistol Not the ill wind which blows no man to good. Sweet knight, thou art now one of the greatest men in this realm.	. 85
SILENCE By 'r Lady, I think he be, but Goodman Puff of	
Earth of the control	90
PISTOL Puff?	90
Puff (in) thy teeth, most recreant coward base!—	
Sill John, I alli tilly Pistol and the friend	
And neiter-skelter have I rode to these	
And udings do I bring and lucky joyn	0.5
And golden times, and happy never of	95
play thee now, deliver them like a many s	
The state of the s	
PISTOL	
A foutre for the world and worldlings base!	
and golden joys.	.00
FALSTAFF	.00
0 base Assyrian knight, what is thy news?	
Let King Cophetua know the truth the co	
alleren sings.	
And Robin Hood, Scarlet, and John.	
FISTOL	
Shall dunghill curs confront the Helicons,	
and shall good news be haffled?	
Inen, Pistol, lay thy head in Furing 1	15
nonest gentleman I know	
orecame.	
PISTOL Why then, lament therefor.	

shallow Give me pardon, sir. If, sir, you come with 110 news from the court, I take it there's but two ways, either to utter them, or (to) conceal them. I am, sir,

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PISTOI.

Under which king, besonian? Speak or die.

under the King in some authority.

121. **fig me:** The "fig of Spain" was a contemptuous gesture that consisted of thrusting the thumb between two clinched fingers or into the mouth.

127-28. **double-charge:** i.e., fill you twice over (with wordplay on Pistol's name)

136. withal: in addition

137. Boot: i.e., put on your boots



Fortune. (4.3.112)
From [Robert Recorde,] *The castle of knowledge* . . . [1556].

SHALLOW Under King Harry, 115 Harry the Fourth, or Fifth? PISTOL SHALLOW Harry the Fourth. A foutre for thine office!-PISTOL Sir John, thy tender lambkin now is king. Harry the Fifth's the man. I speak the truth. 120 When Pistol lies, do this and fig me, like The bragging Spaniard. 「Pistol makes a fig. ¬ FALSTAFF What, is the old king dead? PISTOL As nail in door. The things I speak are just. FALSTAFF Away, Bardolph.—Saddle my horse.— 125 Master Robert Shallow, choose what office thou wilt in the land, 'tis thine.-Pistol, I will doublecharge thee with dignities. BARDOLPH O joyful day! I would not take a knighthood) for my fortune. 130 PISTOL What, I do bring good news! FALSTAFF Carry Master Silence to bed. - Master Shallow, my Lord Shallow, be what thou wilt. I am Fortune's steward. Get on thy boots. We'll ride all night.—O sweet Pistol!—Away, Bardolph!—Come, 135 Pistol, utter more to me, and withal devise something to do thyself good.—Boot, boot, Master Shallow. I know the young king is sick for me. Let us take any man's horses. The laws of England are at my commandment. Blessed are they that have been 140 my friends, and woe to my Lord Chief Justice! PISTOL.

Let vultures vile seize on his lungs also! "Where is the life that late I led?" say they. Why, here it is. Welcome these pleasant days.

⟨*They exit.*⟩

30

5.4 Doll Tearsheet is arrested.

0 SD. Beadles: sheriff's officers, under-bailiffs

4. delivered ... me: i.e., given Doll to me to punish

5. whipping cheer: i.e., flogging (the standard punishment for whores) cheer: hospitality, entertainment

7. about her: in her company; or, because of her

8. Nut-hook: a hooked stick used to pull down tree branches when gathering nuts; here an allusion to the beadle's thinness or to the weapon he carries

9. tripe-visaged: sallow-faced (The insult is repeated in line 11 with paper-faced.)

16-17. If ... now: The beadle accuses Doll of

faking pregnancy.

20. thin . . . censer: i.e., figure embossed on an incense burner (Allusions to his thinness are repeated in famished correctioner [22], starved bloodhound [28], Goodman Bones [29], and atomy [30], the Hostess's mistake for "anatomy" or skeleton.)

21. swinged: thrashed; bluebottle: a reference to the beadle's blue coat

23. forswear half-kirtles: i.e., give up wearing skirts

24. she-knight-errant: presumably a pun on "night" and on "errant" as (1) walking around and (2) sinning (A knight-errant was a medieval knight who wandered in search of adventure.)

25-26. that ... might: The proverb actually reads "Might overcomes right."

26. sufferance: i.e., suffering

31. rascal: lean deer

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(Scene 4)

Enter Hostess Quickly, Doll Tearsheet, and Beadles.

HOSTESS No, thou arrant knave. I would to God that I might die, that I might have thee hanged. Thou hast drawn my shoulder out of joint.

READLE The Constables have delivered her over to me, and she shall have whipping cheer (enough,) I warrant her. There hath been a man or two (lately) killed about her

noll Nut-hook, nut-hook, you lie! Come on, I'll tell thee what, thou damned tripe-visaged rascal: an the child I $\langle now \rangle$ go with do miscarry, thou wert better $_{-10}$ thou hadst struck thy mother, thou paper-faced villain.

HOSTESS O the Lord, that Sir John were come! I would make this a bloody day to somebody. But I pray God the fruit of her womb (might) miscarry.

BEADLE If it do, you shall have a dozen of cushions again; you have but eleven now. Come, I charge you both go with me, for the man is dead that you and Pistol beat amongst you.

DOLL I'll tell you what, you thin man in a censer, I will have you as soundly swinged for this, you bluebottle rogue, you filthy famished correctioner. If you be not swinged, I'll forswear half-kirtles.

BEADLE Come, come, you she-knight-errant, come.

HOSTESS O God, that right should thus overcome 25 might! Well, of sufferance comes ease.

DOLL Come, you rogue, come, bring me to a justice.

HOSTESS Ay, come, you starved bloodhound.

DOLL Goodman Death, Goodman Bones! HOSTESS Thou atomy, thou!

DOLL Come, you thin thing, come, you rascal.

BEADLE Very well.

(They exit.)

5.5 The newly crowned King Henry V keeps his word to the Lord Chief Justice.

0 SD. Grooms: servingmen

- 1. rushes: coverings for the path of the royal procession
 - 4. Dispatch: hurry
- 6. do you grace: i.e., honor you; leer upon: i.e., look meaningfully at
- 11. have ... liveries: i.e., have had new liveries made
 - 12. bestowed: spent
 - 13. you: i.e., Justice Shallow
 - 14. infer: show, imply
 - 22. shift me: change clothes



King Henry V. From John Taylor, All the workes of . . . (1630).

⟨Scene 5⟩ ⟨Enter two Grooms.⟩

FIRST GROOM More rushes, more rushes.

SECOND GROOM The trumpets have sounded twice.

FIRST GROOM 'Twill be two o'clock ere they come from the coronation. Dispatch, dispatch.

(Grooms exit.)

15

Trumpets sound, and the King and his train pass over the stage. After them enter Falstaff, Shallow, Pistol, Bardolph, and the (Page.)

FALSTAFF Stand here by me, Master (Robert) Shallow. I will make the King do you grace. I will leer upon him as he comes by, and do but mark the countenance that he will give me.

PISTOL God bless thy lungs, good knight!

had had time to have made new liveries, I would have bestowed the thousand pound I borrowed of you. But 'tis no matter. This poor show doth better. This doth infer the zeal I had to see him.

SHALLOW) It doth so.

FALSTAFF It shows my earnestness of affection—
SHALLOW It doth so.

FALSTAFF My devotion—

SHALLOW It doth, it doth, it doth.

MLSTAFF As it were, to ride day and night, and not to deliberate, not to remember, not to have patience to shift me—

SHALLOW It is best, certain.

FALSTAFF) But to stand stained with travel and sweating with desire to see him, thinking of nothing else, putting all affairs else in oblivion, as if there were nothing else to be done but to see him.

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28. **semper idem:** a Latin motto meaning "ever the same"; **obsque...est:** "apart from this there is nothing" (*obsque* is a mistake for *absque*)

28–29. 'tis... part: The proverb "all in all and all in every part" described absolute perfection.

31. liver: seat of violent passion

32–33. **Helen . . . thoughts:** i.e., your own **Helen** of Troy

33. contagious: foul, noxious

34. mechanical: mean, base

35–36. **Alecto's snake:** Alecto was one of the Furies, pictured with snakes twined in their hair. (See note to 5.3.106 and picture below.)

41. imp: offshoot, child

43. vain: foolish

48. ill: badly; becomes: i.e., are suitable for

52. hence: henceforth



The Furies. (5.3.106; 5.5.35–36)
From Vincenzo Cartari, Le vere e noue imagini
de gli dei delli antichi . . . (1615).

PISTOL 'Tis semper idem, for obsque hoc nihil est; 'tis (all) in every part.

SHALLOW 'Tis so indeed.

PISTOL My knight, I will inflame thy noble liver, and

make thee rage. Thy Doll and Helen of thy noble thoughts is in base durance and contagious prison, haled thither by most mechanical and dirty hand. Rouse up revenge from ebon den with fell Alecto's snake, for Doll is in. Pistol speaks nought but truth.

Shouts within. (The trumpets sound.)

MSTOL

There roared the sea, and trumpet-clangor sounds.

Enter the King and his train.

FALSTAFF

God save thy Grace, King Hal, my royal Hal.

The heavens thee guard and keep, most royal imp of fame!

FALSTAFF God save thee, my sweet boy!

My Lord Chief Justice, speak to that vain man. CHIEF JUSTICE, $\lceil to \; Falstaff \rceil$

Have you your wits? Know you what 'tis you speak?

My king, my Jove, I speak to thee, my heart!

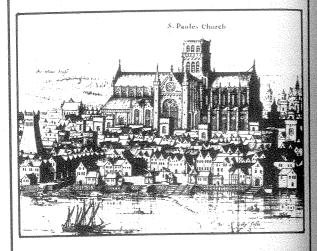
I know thee not, old man. Fall to thy prayers. How ill white hairs becomes a fool and jester. I have long dreamt of such a kind of man, So surfeit-swelled, so old, and so profane; But being awaked, I do despise my dream. Make less thy body hence, and more thy grace;

58. turned away: dismissed

66. For ... you: i.e., I will give you enough monev to sustain life

80. Fear not: i.e., don't worry about

87. color: pretext, pretense (Shallow's response puns on color as "collar," the hangman's noose, and on die as "dye." See "Historical Background," pages 299-300, for a discussion of the execution of Sir John Oldcastle.)



St. Paul's Cathedral. (1.2.53) From Claes Jansz Visscher, Londinum florentissima Britanniae urbs . . . [c. 1625].

Leave gormandizing. Know the grave doth gape For thee thrice wider than for other men. Reply not to me with a fool-born jest. Presume not that I am the thing I was. 55 For God doth know-so shall the world perceive-That I have turned away my former self. So will I those that kept me company. When thou dost hear I am as I have been. Approach me, and thou shalt be as thou wast, 60 The tutor and the feeder of my riots. Till then I banish thee, on pain of death, As I have done the rest of my misleaders, Not to come near our person by ten mile. For competence of life I will allow you, 65 That lack of means enforce you not to evils. And, as we hear you do reform yourselves, We will, according to your strengths and qualities, Give you advancement. To the Lord Chief Justice. Be it your charge, my lord. 70 To see performed the tenor of my word.— Set on. (King \ and his train \ exit.) FALSTAFF Master Shallow, I owe you a thousand pound. SHALLOW Yea, marry, Sir John, which I beseech you to 75 let me have home with me. FALSTAFF That can hardly be, Master Shallow. Do not you grieve at this. I shall be sent for in private to him. Look you, he must seem thus to the world. Fear not your advancements. I will be the man yet that shall make you great. SHALLOW I cannot (well) perceive how, unless you (should) give me your doublet and stuff me out with straw. I beseech you, good Sir John, let me have five hundred of my thousand. FALSTAFF Sir, I will be as good as my word. This that

you heard was but a color.

89. Fear no colors: i.e., have no fear (proverbial)

92. the Fleet: a famous London prison

97. Si . . . contenta: See note to 2.4.181-82.

101. conversations: behavior

107. civil swords: i.e., swords used in civil war

108. I...sing: proverbial



King Henry V. From John Taylor, All the workes of . . . (1630).

SHALLOW A color that I fear you will die in, Sir John.
FALSTAFF Fear no colors. Go with me to dinner.—
Come, Lieutenant Pistol.—Come, Bardolph.—I 90
shall be sent for soon at night.

Enter the Lord Chief Justice and Prince John, with Officers.

CHIEF JUSTICE

Go, carry Sir John Falstaff to the Fleet. Take all his company along with him. FALSTAFF My lord, my lord— CHIEF JUSTICE

I cannot now speak. I will hear you soon.—
Take them away.

PISTOL Si fortuna me tormenta, spero (me) contenta.

[All but John of] (Lancaster and Chief Justice) exit.

JOHN OF LANCASTER

I like this fair proceeding of the King's. He hath intent his wonted followers Shall all be very well provided for, But all are banished till their conversations

Appear more wise and modest to the world. CHIEF JUSTICE And so they are.

10HN OF LANCASTER

The King hath called his parliament, my lord. CHIEF JUSTICE He hath.

JOHN OF LANCASTER

I will lay odds that, ere this year expire, We bear our civil swords and native fire As far as France. I heard a bird so sing, Whose music, to my thinking, pleased the King. Come, will you hence?

⟨They exit.⟩

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Epilogue. The speaker apologizes for the play and promises another play with Falstaff in it.

- 1. curtsy: bow
- 5, 6. making, marring: Proverbial: "make or mar."
 - 6. doubt: fear
- 7. to the purpose: to the matter at hand; to the venture: i.e., I'll risk it
 - 8-9. in the end: i.e., at the conclusion
 - 11. ill venture: i.e., unlucky voyage
- 12. break: fail, become bankrupt; or, break my promise (line 10)
- 14–15. **Bate me some:** i.e., forgive some part of my debt

EPILOGUE

First my fear, then my curtsy, last my speech. My fear is your displeasure, my curtsy my duty, and my speech, to beg your pardons. If you look for a good speech now, you undo me, for what I have to say is of mine own making, and what indeed I should say will, I doubt, prove mine own marring.

But to the purpose, and so to the venture. Be it known to you, as it is very well, I was lately here in the end of a displeasing play to pray your patience for it and to promise you a better. I meant indeed to pay you with this, which, if like an ill venture it come unluckily home, I break, and you, my gentle creditors, lose. Here I promised you I would be, and here I commit my body to your mercies. Bate me some, and I will pay you some, and, as most debtors do, promise you infinitely. And so I kneel down before you, but, indeed, to pray for the Queen.

If my tongue cannot entreat you to acquit me, will you command me to use my legs? And yet that were but light payment, to dance out of your debt. But a good conscience will make any possible satisfaction, and so would I. All the gentlewomen here have forgiven me; if the gentlemen will not, then the gentlemen do not agree with the gentle-

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32. of a sweat: (1) from exertion; (2) from the sweating-sickness, an epidemic disease characterized by fever and sweating; (3) from venereal disease, a treatment for which was sweating in a tub of hot water (See below.)

34. Oldcastle: See "Historical Background," page 295.



Apud Tho: Harperum et Varneunt per Tho Staterum et Laurentium Chapman 1638 W.M. Sculp W.M. Sculpsit

A sweating tub for treating venereal disease. From Thomas Randolph, Cornelianum dolium . . . (1638). women, which was never seen $\langle before \rangle$ in such an assembly.

One word more, I beseech you: if you be not too much cloyed with fat meat, our humble author will continue the story, with Sir John in it, and make you merry with fair Katherine of France, where, for anything I know, Falstaff shall die of a sweat, unless already he be killed with your hard opinions; for Oldcastle died $\langle a \rangle$ martyr, and this is not the man. My tongue is weary; when my legs are too, I will bid 35 you good night.

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