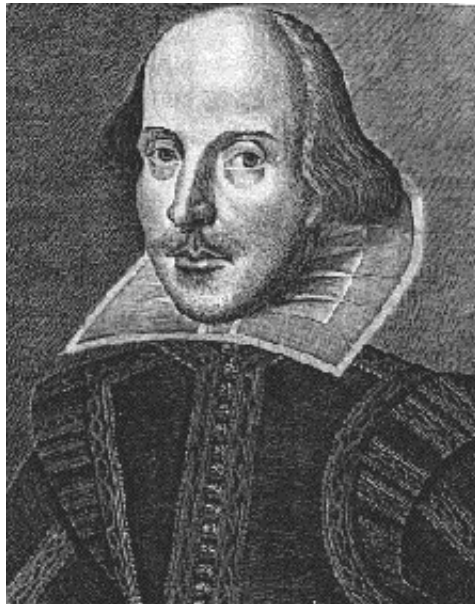


THE
Mery Wiues of Windsor.

by

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

Based on the Folio Text of 1623



DjVu Editions E-books



© 2001, Global Language Resources, Inc.

Shakespeare: First Folio

Table of Contents

The Merry Wiues of Windsor	1
<i>Actus primus, Scena prima.</i>	1
<i>Scena Secunda.</i>	7
<i>Scena Tertia.</i>	7
<i>Scoena Quarta.</i>	10
<i>Actus Secundus. Scoena Prima.</i>	13
<i>Scoena Secunda.</i>	18
<i>Scena Tertia.</i>	24
<i>Actus Tertius. Scoena Prima.</i>	26
<i>Scena Secunda.</i>	29
<i>Scena Tertia.</i>	31
<i>Scoena Quarta.</i>	35
<i>Scena Quinta.</i>	38
<i>Actus Quartus. Scoena Prima.</i>	41
<i>Scena Secunda.</i>	43
<i>Scena Tertia.</i>	47
<i>Scena Quarta.</i>	48
<i>Scena Quinta.</i>	50
<i>Scena Sexta.</i>	53
<i>Actus Quintus. Scoena Prima.</i>	54
<i>Scena Secunda.</i>	55
<i>Scena Tertia.</i>	55
<i>Scena Quarta.</i>	56
<i>Scena Quinta.</i>	56

The Merry Wiues of Windsor

D2

Actus primus, Scena prima.

2 *Enter Iustice Shallow, Slender, Sir Hugh Euans, Master*
3 *Page, Falstoffe, Bardolph, Nym, Pistoll, Anne Page,*
4 *Mistresse Ford, Mistresse Page, Simple.*
5 *Shallow.*
6 *Sir Hugh*, perswade me not: I will make a Star-Chamber
7 matter of it, if hee were twenty Sir
8 *Iohn Falstoffs*, he shall not abuse *Robert Shallow*
9 Esquire.
10 *Slen.* In the County of *Glocester*, Iustice of Peace and |(Coram.
11 *Shal.* I (Cosen *Slender*) and *Cust-alorum*.
12 *Slen.* I, and *Ratolorum* too; and a Gentleman borne
13 (Master Parson) who writes himselfe *Armigero*, in any
14 Bill, Warrant, Quittance, or Obligation, *Armigero*.
15 *Shal.* I that I doe, and haue done any time these three
16 hundred yeeres.
17 *Slen.* All his successors (gone before him) hath don't:
18 and all his Ancestors (that come after him) may: they
19 may giue the dozen white Luces in their Coate.
20 *Shal.* It is an olde Coate.
21 *Euans.* The dozen white Lowses doe become an old
22 Coat well: it agrees well passant: It is a familiar beast to
23 man, and signifies Loue.
24 *Shal.* The Luse is the fresh- fish, the salt- fish, is an old
25 Coate.
26 *Slen.* I may quarter (Coz).
27 *Shal.* You may, by marrying.
28 *Euans.* It is marring indeed, if he quarter it.
29 *Shal.* Not a whit.
30 *Euan.* Yes per- lady: if he ha's a quarter of your coat,
31 there is but three Skirts for your selfe, in my simple con-iectures;
32 but that is all one: if Sir *Iohn Falstaffe* haue
33 committed disparagements vnto you, I am of the Church
34 and will be glad to do my beneuolence, to make attone-ments
35 and compremises betweene you.
36 *Shal.* The Councell shall heare it, it is a Riot.
37 *Euan.* It is not meet the Councell heare a Riot: there
38 is no feare of Got in a Riot: The Councell (looke you)
39 shall desire to heare the feare of Got, and not to heare a

40 Riot: take your viza-ments in that.

41 *Shal.* Ha; o' my life, if I were yong againe, the sword
42 should end it.

43 *Euans.* It is petter that friends is the sword, and end
44 it: and there is also another deuce in my praine, which
45 peradventure prings goot discretions with it. There is
46 *Anne Page*, which is daughter to Master *Thomas Page*,
47 which is pretty virginity.

48 *Slen.* *Mistris Anne Page?* she has browne haire, and
49 speakes small like a woman.

50 *Euans.* It is that ferry person for all the orld, as iust as
51 you will desire, and seuen hundred pounds of Moneyes,
52 and Gold, and Siluer, is her Grand- sire vpon his deaths-bed,
53 (Got deliuer to a ioyfull resurrections) giue, when
54 she is able to ouertake seunteene yeeres old. It were a
55 goot motion, if we leaue our pribbles and prabbles, and
56 desire a marriage betweene Master *Abraham*, and Mistris
57 *Anne Page*.

58 *Slen.* Did her Grand- sire leaue her seauen hundred
59 pound?

60 *Euan.* I, and her father is make her a petter penny.

61 *Slen.* I know the young Gentlewoman, she has good
62 gifts.

63 *Euan.* Seuen hundred pounds, and possibilities, is
64 goot gifts.

65 *Shal.* Wel, let vs see honest Mr *Page*: is *Falstaffe* there?

66 *Euan.* Shall I tell you a lye? I doe despise a lyer, as I
67 doe despise one that is false, or as I despise one that is not
68 true: the Knight Sir *John* is there, and I beseech you be
69 ruled by your well- willers: I will peat the doore for Mr.
70 *Page*. What hoa? Got- plesse your house heere.

71 *Mr. Page.* Who's there?

72 *Euan.* Here is go't's plesing and your friend, and Iu-stice
73 *Shallow*, and heere yong Master *Slender*: that perad-uentures
74 shall tell you another tale, if matters grow to
75 your likings.

76 *Mr. Page.* I am glad to see your Worships well: I
77 thanke you for my Venison Master *Shallow*.

78 *Shal.* Master *Page*, I am glad to see you: much good
79 doe it your good heart: I wish'd your Venison better, it
80 was ill killd: how doth good Mistrisse *Page?* and I thank
81 you alwaies with my heart, la: with my heart.

82 *M. Page.* Sir, I thanke you.

83 *Shal.* Sir, I thanke you: by yea, and no I doe.

84 *M. Pa.* I am glad to see you, good Master *Slender*.

85 *Slen.* How do's your fallow Greyhound, Sir, I heard

86 say he was out- run on *Cotsall*.
 87 *M.Pa.* It could not be iudg'd, Sir.
 88 *Slen.* You'll not confesse: you'll not confesse.
 89 *Shal.* That he will not, 'tis your fault, 'tis your fault:
 90 'tis a good dogge.
 91 *M.Pa.* A Cur, Sir.
 92 *Shal.* Sir: hee's a good dog, and a faire dog, can there
 93 be more said? he is good, and faire. Is Sir *Iohn Falstaffe*
 94 heere?
 95 *M.Pa.* Sir, hee is within: and I would I could doe a
 96 good office betweene you.
 97 *Euan.* It is spoke as a Christians ought to speake.
 98 *Shal.* He hath wrong'd me (*Master Page*.)
 99 *M.Pa.* Sir, he doth in some sort confesse it. [D2v
 100 *Shal.* If it be confessed, it is not redressed; is not that
 101 so (*Master Page*?) he hath wrong'd me, indeed he hath, at a
 102 word he hath: beleue me, *Robert Shallow* Esquire, saith
 103 he is wronged.
 104 *Ma.Pa.* Here comes Sir *Iohn*.
 105 *Fal.* Now, Master *Shallow*, you'll complaine of me to
 106 the King?
 107 *Shal.* Knight, you haue beaten my men, kill'd my
 108 deere, and broke open my Lodge.
 109 *Fal.* But not kiss'd your Keepers daughter?
 110 *Shal.* Tut, a pin: this shall be answer'd.
 111 *Fal.* I will answere it strait, I haue done all this:
 112 That is now answer'd.
 113 *Shal.* The Councill shall know this.
 114 *Fal.* 'Twere better for you if it were known in coun-cell:
 115 you'll be laugh'd at.
 116 *Eu. Pauca verba;* (*Sir Iohn*) good worts.
 117 *Fal.* Good worts? good Cabidge; *Slender*, I broke
 118 your head: what matter haue you against me?
 119 *Slen.* Marry sir, I haue matter in my head against you,
 120 and against your cony- catching Rascalls, *Bardolf*, *Nym*,
 121 and *Pistoll*.
 122 *Bar.* You Banbery Cheese.
 123 *Slen.* I, it is no matter.
 124 *Pist.* How now, *Mephostophilus*?
 125 *Slen.* I, it is no matter.
 126 *Nym.* Slice, I say; *pauca, pauca*: Slice, that's my humor.
 127 *Slen.* Where's *Simple* my man? can you tell, Cosen?
 128 *Eua.* Peace, I pray you: now let vs vnderstand: there
 129 is three Vmpires in this matter, as I vnderstand; that is,
 130 Master *Page* (*fidelicet Master Page*,) & there is my selfe,
 131 (*fidelicet my selfe*) and the three party is (*lastly, and fi-nally*)

132 mine Host of the Garter.
 133 *Ma.Pa.* We three to hear it, & end it between them.
 134 *Euan.* Ferry goo't, I will make a priefe of it in my
 135 note- booke, and we wil afterwards orke vpon the cause,
 136 with as great discreetly as we can.
 137 *Fal. Pistoll.*
 138 *Pist.* He heares with eares.
 139 *Euan.* The Teuill and his Tam: what phrase is this?
 140 he heares with eare? why, it is affectations.
 141 *Fal. Pistoll,* did you picke M[aster]. *Slenders* purse?
 142 *Slen.* I, by these gloues did hee, or I would I might
 143 neuer come in mine owne great chamber againe else, of
 144 seauen groates in mill- sixpences, and two *Edward* Sho-uelboards,
 145 that cost me two shilling and two pence a
 146 peece of *Yead Miller:* by these gloues.
 147 *Fal.* Is this true, *Pistoll*?
 148 *Euan.* No, it is false, if it is a picke- purse.
 149 *Pist.* Ha, thou mountaine Forreyner: Sir *Iohn,* and
 150 Master mine, I combat challenge of this Latine Bilboe:
 151 word of deniall in thy *labras* here; word of denial; froth,
 152 and scum thou liest.
 153 *Slen.* By these gloues, then 'twas he.
 154 *Nym.* Be auis'd sir, and passe good humours: I will
 155 say marry trap with you, if you runne the nut- hooks hu-mor
 156 on me, that is the very note of it.
 157 *Slen.* By this hat, then he in the red face had it: for
 158 though I cannot remember what I did when you made
 159 me drunke, yet I am not altogether an asse.
 160 *Fal.* What say you *Scarlet,* and *Iohn*?
 161 *Bar.* Why sir, (for my part) I say the Gentleman had
 162 drunke himselfe out of his fiue sentences.
 163 *Eu.* It is his fiue sences: fie, what the ignorance is.
 164 *Bar.* And being fap, sir, was (as they say) casheerd: and
 165 so conclusions past the Car-eires.
 166 *Slen.* I, you spake in Latten then to: but 'tis no mat-ter;
 167 Ile nere be drunk whilst I liue againe, but in honest,
 168 ciuill, godly company for this tricke: if I be drunke, Ile
 169 be drunke with those that haue the feare of God, and not
 170 with drunken knaues.
 171 *Euan.* So got- udge me, that is a vertuous minde.
 172 *Fal.* You heare all these matters deni'd, Gentlemen;
 173 you heare it.
 174 *Mr.Page.* Nay daughter, carry the wine in, wee'll
 175 drinke within.
 176 *Slen.* Oh heauen: This is Mistresse *Anne Page.*
 177 *Mr.Page.* How now Mistris *Ford*?

178 *Fal.* *Mistris Ford*, by my troth you are very wel met:
 179 by your leaue good Mistris.

180 *Mr. Page.* Wife, bid these gentlemen welcome: come,
 181 we haue a hot Venison pasty to dinner; Come gentle-men,
 182 I hope we shall drinke downe all vnkindnesse.

183 *Slen.* I had rather then forty shillings I had my booke
 184 of Songs and Sonnets heere: How now *Simple*, where
 185 haue you beene? I must wait on my selfe, must I? you
 186 haue not the booke of Riddles about you, haue you?

187 *Sim.* Booke of Riddles? why did you not lend it to
 188 *Alice Short- cake* vpon Alhallowmas last, a fortnight a-fore
 189 Michaelmas.

190 *Shal.* Come Coz, come Coz, we stay for you: a word
 191 with you Coz: marry this, Coz: there is as 'twere a ten-der,
 192 a kinde of tender, made a farre- off by Sir *Hugh* here:
 193 doe you vnderstand me?

194 *Slen.* I Sir, you shall finde me reasonable; if it be so,
 195 I shall doe that that is reason.

196 *Shal.* Nay, but vnderstand me.

197 *Slen.* So I doe Sir.

198 *Euan.* Giue eare to his motions; (Mr. *Slender*) I will
 199 description the matter to you, if you be capacity of it.

200 *Slen.* Nay, I will doe as my Cozen *Shallow* saies: I
 201 pray you pardon me, he's a Iustice of Peace in his Coun-trie,
 202 simple though I stand here.

203 *Euan.* But that is not the question: the question is
 204 concerning your marriage.

205 *Shal.* I, there's the point Sir.

206 *Eu.* Marry is it: the very point of it, to Mi[stis]. *An Page.*

207 *Slen.* Why if it be so; I will marry her vpon any rea-sonable
 208 demands.

209 *Eu.* But can you affection the 'o-man, let vs command
 210 to know that of your mouth, or of your lips: for diuers
 211 Philosophers hold, that the lips is parcell of the mouth:
 212 therfore precisely, ca[n] you carry your good wil to y maid?

213 *Sh.* Cosen *Abraham Slender*, can you loue her?

214 *Slen.* I hope sir, I will do as it shall become one that
 215 would doe reason.

216 *Eu.* Nay, got's Lords, and his Ladies, you must speake
 217 possitable, if you can carry- her your desires towards her.

218 *Shal.* That you must:
 219 Will you, (vpon good dowry) marry her?

220 *Slen.* I will doe a greater thing then that, vpon your
 221 request (Cosen) in any reason.

222 *Shal.* Nay conceiue me, conceiue mee, (sweet Coz):
 223 What I doe is to pleasure you (Coz:) can you loue the

224 maid?

225 *Slen.* I will marry her (Sir) at your request; but if
 226 there bee no great loue in the beginning, yet Heauen
 227 may decrease it vpon better acquaintance, when wee
 228 are married, and haue more occasion to know one ano-ther:
 229 I hope vpon familiarity will grow more content:
 230 but if you say mary- her, I will mary- her, that I am freely
 231 dissolued, and dissolutely. [D3

232 *Eu.* It is a fery discretion- answer; saue the fall is in
 233 the 'ord, dissolutely: the ort is (according to our mea-ning)
 234 resolutely: his meaning is good.

235 *Sh. I.* I thinke my Cosen meant well.

236 *Sl.* I, or else I would I might be hang'd (la.)

237 *Sh.* Here comes faire Mistris *Anne*; would I were
 238 yong for your sake, Mistris *Anne*.

239 *An.* The dinner is on the Table, my Father desires
 240 your worships company.

241 *Sh.* I will wait on him, (faire Mistris *Anne*.)

242 *Eu.* Od's plessed- wil: I wil not be abse[n]ce at the grace.

243 *An.* Wil't please your worship to come in, Sir?

244 *Sl.* No, I thank you forsooth, hartely; I am very well.

245 *An.* The dinner attends you, Sir.

246 *Sl.* I am not a- hungry, I thanke you, forsooth: goe,
 247 Sirha, for all you are my man, goe wait vpon my Cosen
 248 *Shallow*: a Iustice of peace sometime may be beholding
 249 to his friend, for a Man; I keepe but three Men, and a
 250 Boy yet, till my Mother be dead: but what though, yet
 251 I liue like a poore Gentleman borne.

252 *An.* I may not goe in without your worship: they
 253 will not sit till you come.

254 *Sl.* I' faith, ile eate nothing: I thanke you as much as
 255 though I did.

256 *An.* I pray you Sir walke in.

257 *Sl.* I had rather walke here (I thanke you) I bruiz'd
 258 my shin th' other day, with playing at Sword and Dag-ger
 259 with a Master of Fence (three veneyes for a dish of
 260 stew'd Prunes) and by my troth, I cannot abide the smell
 261 of hot meate since. Why doe your dogs barke so? be
 262 there Beares ith' Towne?

263 *An.* I thinke there are, Sir, I heard them talk'd of.

264 *Sl.* I loue the sport well, but I shall as soone quarrell
 265 at it, as any man in *England*: you are afraid if you see the
 266 Beare loose, are you not?

267 *An.* I indeede Sir.

268 *Sl.* That's meate and drinke to me now: I haue seene
 269 *Saskerson* loose, twenty times, and haue taken him by the

270 Chaine: but (I warrant you) the women haue so cride
 271 and shrekt at it, that it past: But women indeede, cannot
 272 abide 'em, they are very ill- fauour'd rough things.
 273 *Ma.Pa.* Come, gentle M[aster]. *Slender*, come; we stay for you.
 274 *Sl.* Ile eate nothing, I thanke you Sir.
 275 *Ma.Pa.* By cocke and pie, you shall not choose, Sir:
 276 come, come.
 277 *Sl.* Nay, pray you lead the way.
 278 *Ma.Pa.* Come on, Sir.
 279 *Sl.* Mistris *Anne*: your selfe shall goe first.
 280 *An.* Not I Sir, pray you keepe on.
 281 *Sl.* Truely I will not goe first: truely- la: I will not
 282 doe you that wrong.
 283 *An.* I pray you Sir.
 284 *Sl.* Ile rather be vnmanly, then troublesome: you
 285 doe your selfe wrong indeede- la. *Exeunt.*

Scena Secunda.

287 *Enter Euans, and Simple.*
 288 *Eu.* Go your waies, and aske of Doctor *Caius* house,
 289 which is the way; and there dwels one Mistris *Quickly*;
 290 which is in the manner of his Nurse; or his dry- Nurse; or
 291 his Cooke; or his Laundry; his Washer, and his Ringer.
 292 *Si.* Well Sir.
 293 *Eu.* Nay, it is petter yet: giue her this letter; for it is
 294 a 'oman that altogether acquainta[n]ce with Mistris *Anne*
 295 *Page*; and the Letter is to desire, and require her to soli-cite
 296 your Masters desires, to Mistris *Anne Page*: I pray
 297 you be gon: I will make an end of my dinner; ther's Pip-pins
 298 and Cheese to come. *Exeunt.*

Scena Tertia.

300 *Enter Falstaffe, Host, Bardolfe, Nym, Pistoll, Page.*
 301 *Fal.* Mine *Host* of the *Garter*?
 302 *Ho.* What saies my Bully Rooke? speake schollerly,
 303 and wisely.
 304 *Fal.* Truely mine *Host*; I must turne away some of my
 305 followers.
 306 *Ho.* Discard, (bully *Hercules*) casheere; let them wag;
 307 trot, trot.

308 *Fal.* I sit at ten pounds a weeke.
 309 *Ho.* Thou'rt an Emperor (*Cesar, Keiser and Pheazar*)
 310 I will entertaine *Bardolfe*: he shall draw; he shall tap; said
 311 I well (bully *Hector*?)
 312 *Fa.* Doe so (good mine *Host.*)
 313 *Ho.* I haue spoke; let him follow; let me see thee froth,
 314 and liue: I am at a word: follow.
 315 *Fal.* *Bardolfe*, follow him: a *Tapster* is a good trade:
 316 an old Cloake, makes a new Ierkin: a wither'd Seruing-man,
 317 a fresh Tapster: goe, adew.
 318 *Ba.* It is a life that I haue desir'd: I will thriue.
 319 *Pist.* O base hungarian wight: wilt y the spigot wield.
 320 *Ni.* He was gotten in drink: is not the humor co[n]ceited?
 321 *Fal.* I am glad I am so acquit of this Tinderbox: his
 322 Thefts were too open: his filching was like an vnskilfull
 323 Singer, he kept not time.
 324 *Ni.* The good humor is to steale at a minutes rest.
 325 *Pist.* Conuay: the wise it call: Steale? foh: a fico for
 326 the phrase.
 327 *Fal.* Well sirs, I am almost out at heeles.
 328 *Pist.* Why then let Kibes ensue.
 329 *Fal.* There is no remedy: I must conicatch, I must shift.
 330 *Pist.* Yong Rauens must haue foode.
 331 *Fal.* Which of you know *Ford* of this Towne?
 332 *Pist.* I ken the wight: he is of substance good.
 333 *Fal.* My honest Lads, I will tell you what I am about.
 334 *Pist.* Two yards, and more.
 335 *Fal.* No quips now *Pistoll*: (Indeede I am in the waste
 336 two yards about: but I am now about no waste: I am a-bout
 337 thrift) briefly: I doe meane to make loue to *Fords*
 338 wife: I spie entertainment in her: shee discourses: shee
 339 carues: she giues the leere of inuitation: I can construe
 340 the action of her familier stile, & the hardest voice of her
 341 behaiour (to be english'd rightly) is, *I am Sir Iohn Falstafs*.
 342 *Pist.* He hath studied her will; and translated her will:
 343 out of honesty, into English.
 344 *Ni.* The Anchor is deepe: will that humor passe?
 345 *Fal.* Now, the report goes, she has all the rule of her
 346 husbands Purse: he hath a legend of Angels.
 347 *Pist.* As many diuels entertaine: and to her Boy say I.
 348 *Ni.* The humor rises: it is good: humor me the angels.
 349 *Fal.* I haue writ me here a letter to her: & here ano-ther
 350 to *Pages* wife, who euen now gaue mee good eyes
 351 too; examind my parts with most iudicious illiads: some-times
 352 the beame of her view, guilded my foote: some-times
 353 my portly belly. [D3v

354 *Pist.* Then did the Sun on dung- hill shine.
 355 *Ni.* I thanke thee for that humour.
 356 *Fal.* O she did so course o're my exteriors with such
 357 a greedy intention, that the appetite of her eye, did seeme
 358 to scorch me vp like a burning- glasse: here's another
 359 letter to her: She beares the Purse too: She is a Region
 360 in *Guiana*: all gold, and bountie: I will be Cheaters to
 361 them both, and they shall be Exchequers to mee: they
 362 shall be my East and West Indies, and I will trade to
 363 them both: Goe, beare thou this Letter to Mistris *Page*;
 364 and thou this to Mistris *Ford*: we will thriue (Lads) we
 365 will thriue.
 366 *Pist.* Shall I Sir *Pandarus* of *Troy* become,
 367 And by my side weare Steele? then Lucifer take all.
 368 *Ni.* I will run no base humor: here take the humor- Letter;
 369 I will keepe the hauior of reputation.
 370 *Fal.* Hold Sirha, beare you these Letters tightly,
 371 Saile like my Pinnasse to these golden shores.
 372 Rogues, hence, auaut, vanish like haile- stones; goe,
 373 Trudge; plod away ith' hoofe: seeke shelter, packe:
 374 *Falstaffe* will learne the honor of the age,
 375 French- thrift, you Rogues, my selfe, and skirted *Page*.
 376 *Pist.* Let Vultures gripe thy guts: for gourd, and
 377 Fullam holds: & high and low beguiles the rich & poore,
 378 Tester ile haue in pouch when thou shalt lacke,
 379 Base *Phrygian* Turke.
 380 *Ni.* I haue opperations,
 381 Which be humors of reuenge.
 382 *Pist.* Wilt thou reuenge?
 383 *Ni.* By Welkin, and her Star.
 384 *Pist.* With wit, or Steele?
 385 *Ni.* With both the humors, I:
 386 I will discusse the humour of this Loue to *Ford*.
 387 *Pist.* And I to *Page* shall eke vnfold
 388 How *Falstaffe* (varlet vile)
 389 His Doue will proue; his gold will hold,
 390 And his soft couch defile.
 391 *Ni.* My humour shall not coole: I will incense *Ford*
 392 to deale with poyson: I will possesse him with yallow-nesse,
 393 for the reuolt of mine is dangerous: that is my
 394 true humour.
 395 *Pist.* Thou art the *Mars* of *Malecontents*: I second
 396 thee: troope on. *Exeunt.*

Scoena Quarta.

398 *Enter Mistris Quickly, Simple, Iohn Rugby, Doctor,*

399 *Caius, Fenton.*

400 *Qu.* What, *Iohn Rugby*, I pray thee goe to the Case-ment,
401 and see if you can see my Master, Master Docter
402 *Caius* comming: if he doe (I' faith) and finde any body
403 in the house; here will be an old abusing of Gods pati-ence,
404 and the Kings English.

405 *Ru.* Ile goe watch.

406 *Qu.* Goe, and we'll haue a posset for't soone at night,
407 (in faith) at the latter end of a Sea- cole- fire: An honest,
408 willing, kinde fellow, as euer seruant shall come in house
409 withall: and I warrant you, no tel- tale, nor no breede-bate:
410 his worst fault is, that he is giuen to prayer; hee is
411 something peeuish that way: but no body but has his
412 fault: but let that passe. *Peter Simple*, you say your
413 name is?

414 *Si.* I: for fault of a better.

415 *Qu.* And Master *Slender's* your Master?

416 *Si.* I forsooth.

417 *Qu.* Do's he not weare a great round Beard, like a
418 Glouers pairing- knife?

419 *Si.* No forsooth: he hath but a little wee- face; with
420 a little yellow Beard: a Caine colourd Beard.

421 *Qu.* A softly- sprighted man, is he not?

422 *Si.* I forsooth: but he is as tall a man of his hands, as
423 any is betweene this and his head: he hath fought with
424 a Warrener.

425 *Qu.* How say you: oh, I should remember him: do's
426 he not hold vp his head (as it were?) and strut in his gate?

427 *Si.* Yes indeede do's he.

428 *Qu.* Well, heauen send *Anne Page*, no worse fortune:
429 Tell Master Parson *Euans*, I will doe what I can for your
430 Master: *Anne* is a good girle, and I wish —

431 *Ru.* Out alas: here comes my Master.

432 *Qu.* We shall all be shent: Run in here, good young
433 man: goe into this Closset: he will not stay long: what
434 *Iohn Rugby*? *Iohn*: what *Iohn* I say? goe *Iohn*, goe en-quire
435 for my Master, I doubt he be not well, that hee
436 comes not home: (*and downe, downe, adowne'a. &c.*

437 *Ca.* Vat is you sing? I doe not like des- toyes: pray
438 you goe and vetch me in my Closset, vnboyteere verd;
439 a Box, a greene- a- Box: do intend vat I speake? a greene- a- Box.

441 *Qu.* I forsooth ile fetch it you:

442 I am glad hee went not in himselfe: if he had found the

443 yong man he would haue bin horne- mad.
 444 *Ca. Fe, fe, fe, fe, mai foy, il fait for ehando, Ie man voi a le*
 445 *Court la grand affaires.*
 446 *Qu. Is it this Sir?*
 447 *Ca. Ouy mette le au mon pocket, de-peeche quickly:*
 448 Vere is dat knaue *Rugby*?
 449 *Qu. What Iohn Rugby, Iohn?*
 450 *Ru. Here Sir.*
 451 *Ca. You are Iohn Rugby, and you are Iacke Rugby:*
 452 Come, take- a- your Rapier, and come after my heele to
 453 the Court.
 454 *Ru. 'Tis ready Sir, here in the Porch.*
 455 *Ca. By my trot: I tarry too long: od's- me: que ay ie*
 456 *oublie: dere is some Simples in my Closset, dat I vill not*
 457 *for the varld I shall leaue behinde.*
 458 *Qu. Ay- me, he'll finde the yong man there, & be mad.*
 459 *Ca. O Diable, Diable: vat is in my Closset?*
 460 Villanie, La-roone: *Rugby*, my Rapier.
 461 *Qu. Good Master be content.*
 462 *Ca. Wherefore shall I be content- a?*
 463 *Qu. The yong man is an honest man.*
 464 *Ca. What shall de honest man do in my Closset: dere*
 465 *is no honest man dat shall come in my Closset.*
 466 *Qu. I beseech you be not so flegmaticke: heare the*
 467 *truth of it. He came of an errand to mee, from Parson*
 468 *Hugh.*
 469 *Ca. Vell.*
 470 *Si. I forsooth: to desire her to —*
 471 *Qu. Peace, I pray you.*
 472 *Ca. Peace- a- your tongue: speake- a- your Tale.*
 473 *Si. To desire this honest Gentlewoman (your Maid)*
 474 *to speake a good word to Mistris Anne Page, for my Ma-ster*
 475 *in the way of Marriage.*
 476 *Qu. This is all indeede- la: but ile nere put my finger*
 477 *in the fire, and neede not.*
 478 *Ca. Sir Hugh send- a you? Rugby, ballow mee some*
 479 *paper: tarry you a littell- a- while. [D4*
 480 *Qui. I am glad he is so quiet: if he had bin through-ly*
 481 *moued, you should haue heard him so loud, and so me-lancholly:*
 482 *but notwithstanding man, Ile doe yoe your*
 483 *Master what good I can: and the very yea, & the no is, y*
 484 *French Doctor my Master, (I may call him my Master,*
 485 *looke you, for I keepe his house; and I wash, ring, brew,*
 486 *bake, scowre, dresse meat and drinke, make the beds, and*
 487 *doe all my selfe.)*
 488 *Simp. 'Tis a great charge to come vnder one bodies*

489 hand.

490 *Qui.* Are you a-uis'd o'that? you shall finde it a great
491 charge: and to be vp early, and down late: but notwith-standing,
492 (to tell you in your eare, I wold haue no words
493 of it) my Master himselfe is in loue with Mistris *Anne*
494 *Page*: but notwithstanding that I know *Ans* mind, that's
495 neither heere nor there.

496 *Caius.* You, Iack'Nape: giue- 'a this Letter to Sir
497 *Hugh*, by gar it is a shallenge: I will cut his troat in de
498 Parke, and I will teach a scury Iack-a-nape Priest to
499 meddle, or make:— you may be gon: it is not good
500 you tarry here: by gar I will cut all his two stones: by
501 gar, he shall not haue a stone to throw at his dogge.

502 *Qui.* Alas: he speakes but for his friend.

503 *Caius.* It is no matter 'a ver dat: do not you tell- a- me
504 dat I shall haue *Anne Page* for my selfe? by gar, I vill
505 kill de Iack- Priest: and I haue appointed mine Host of
506 de Iarterer to measure our weapon: by gar, I wil my selfe
507 haue *Anne Page*.

508 *Qui.* Sir, the maid loues you, and all shall bee well:
509 We must giue folkes leaue to prate: what the good-ier.

510 *Caius.* *Rugby*, come to the Court with me: by gar, if
511 I haue not *Anne Page*, I shall turne your head out of my
512 dore: follow my heeles, *Rugby*.

513 *Qui.* You shall haue *An-* fooles head of your owne:
514 No, I know *Ans* mind for that: neuer a woman in *Wind-sor*
515 knowes more of *Ans* minde then I doe, nor can doe
516 more then I doe with her, I thanke heauen.

517 *Fenton.* Who's with in there, hoa?

518 *Qui.* Who's there, I troa? Come neere the house I
519 pray you.

520 *Fen.* How now (good woman) how dost thou?

521 *Qui.* The better that it pleases your good Worship
522 to aske?

523 *Fen.* What newes? how do's pretty Mistris *Anne*?

524 *Qui.* In truth Sir, and shee is pretty, and honest, and
525 gentle, and one that is your friend, I can tell you that by
526 the way, I praise heauen for it.

527 *Fen.* Shall I doe any good thinkst thou? shall I not
528 loose my suit?

529 *Qui.* Troth Sir, all is in his hands aboue: but not-withstanding
530 (Master *Fenton*) Ile be sworne on a booke
531 shee loues you: haue not your Worship a wart aboue
532 your eye?

533 *Fen.* Yes marry haue I, what of that?

534 *Qui.* Wel, thereby hangs a tale: good faith, it is such

535 another *Nan*; (but (I detest) an honest maid as euer
 536 broke bread: wee had an howres talke of that wart; I
 537 shall neuer laugh but in that maids company: but (in-deed)
 538 shee is giuen too much to Allicholy and musing:
 539 but for you — well — goe too —
 540 *Fen.* Well: I shall see her to day: hold, there's mo-ney
 541 for thee: Let mee haue thy voice in my behalfe: if
 542 thou seest her before me, commend me. —
 543 *Qui.* Will I? I faith that wee will: And I will tell
 544 your Worship more of the Wart, the next time we haue
 545 confidence, and of other wooers.
 546 *Fen.* Well, fare- well, I am in great haste now.
 547 *Qui.* Fare- well to your Worship: truely an honest
 548 Gentleman: but *Anne* loues him not: for I know *Ans*
 549 minde as well as another do's: out vpon't: what haue I
 550 forgot. *Exit.*

Actus Secundus. Scoena Prima.

552 *Enter Mistris Page, Mistris Ford, Master Page, Master*
 553 *Ford, Pistoll, Nim, Quickly, Host, Shallow.*
 554 *Mist.Page.* What, haue scap'd Loue- letters in the
 555 holly- day- time of my beauty, and am I now a subiect
 556 for them? let me see?
 557 *Aske me no reason why I loue you, for though Loue vse Rea-son*
 558 *for his precisian, hee admits him not for his Counsailour:*
 559 *you are not yong, no more am I: goe to then, there's simpatie:*
 560 *you are merry, so am I: ha, ha, then there's more simpatie:*
 561 *you loue sacke, and so do I: would you desire better simpatie?*
 562 *Let it suffice thee (Mistris Page) at the least if the Loue of*
 563 *Souldier can suffice, that I loue thee: I will not say pittie mee,*
 564 *'tis not a Souldier- like phrase; but I say, loue me:*
 565 *By me, thine owne true Knight, by day or night:*
 566 *Or any kinde of light, with all his might,*
 567 *For thee to fight. Iohn Falstaffe.*
 568 What a *Herod* of *Iurie* is this? O wicked, wicked world:
 569 One that is well- nye worne to peeces with age
 570 To show himselfe a yong Gallant? What an vnwaied
 571 Behaiour hath this Flemish drunkard pickt (with
 572 The *Deuills* name) out of my conuersation, that he dares
 573 In this manner assay me? why, hee hath not beene thrice
 574 In my Company: what should I say to him? I was then
 575 Frugall of my mirth: (heauen forgiue mee:) why Ile
 576 Exhibit a Bill in the Parliament for the putting downe

577 of men: how shall I be reueng'd on him? for reueng'd I
 578 will be? as sure as his guts are made of puddings.
 579 *Mis.Ford. Mistris Page*, trust me, I was going to your
 580 house.
 581 *Mis.Page*. And trust me, I was comming to you: you
 582 looke very ill.
 583 *Mis.Ford*. Nay Ile nere beleuee that; I haue to shew
 584 to the contrary.
 585 *Mis.Page*. 'Faith but you doe in my minde.
 586 *Mis.Ford*. Well: I doe then: yet I say, I could shew
 587 you to the contrary: O Mistris *Page*, giue mee some
 588 counsaile.
 589 *Mis.Page*. What's the matter, woman?
 590 *Mi.Ford*. O woman: if it were not for one trifling re-spect,
 591 I could come to such honour.
 592 *Mi.Page*. Hang the trifle (woman) take the honour:
 593 what is it? dispence with trifles: what is it?
 594 *Mi.Ford*. If I would but goe to hell, for an eternall
 595 moment, or so: I could be knighted.
 596 *Mi.Page*. What thou liest? Sir *Alice Ford*? these
 597 Knights will hacke, and so thou shouldst not alter the ar-ticle
 598 of thy Gentry.
 599 *Mi.Ford*. Wee burne day- light: heere, read, read:
 600 perceiue how I might bee knighted, I shall thinke the
 601 worse of fat men, as long as I haue an eye to make diffe-rence
 602 of mens liking: and yet hee would not sweare: [D4v
 603 praise womens modesty: and gaue such orderly and wel-behaued
 604 reprooffe to al vncomelinesse, that I would haue
 605 sworne his disposition would haue gone to the truth of
 606 his words: but they doe no more adhere and keep place
 607 together, then the hundred Psalms to the tune of Green-sleeues:
 608 What tempest (I troa) threw this Whale, (with
 609 so many Tuns of oyle in his belly) a'shoare at Windsor?
 610 How shall I bee reuenged on him? I thinke the best way
 611 were, to entertaine him with hope, till the wicked fire
 612 of lust haue melted him in his owne greace: Did you e-uer
 613 heare the like?
 614 *Mis.Page*. Letter for letter; but that the name of
 615 *Page* and *Ford* differs: to thy great comfort in this my-stery
 616 of ill opinions, heere's the twyn- brother of thy Let-ter:
 617 but let thine inherit first, for I protest mine neuer
 618 shall: I warrant he hath a thousand of these Letters, writ
 619 with blancke- space for different names (sure more): and
 620 these are of the second edition: hee will print them out
 621 of doubt: for he cares not what hee puts into the presse,
 622 when he would put vs two: I had rather be a Giantesse,

623 and lye vnder Mount *Pelion*: Well; I will find you twen-tie
624 lasciuious Turtles ere one chaste man.

625 *Mis.Ford.* Why this is the very same: the very hand:
626 the very words: what doth he thinke of vs?

627 *Mis.Page.* Nay I know not: it makes me almost rea-die
628 to wrangle with mine owne honesty: Ile entertaine
629 my selfe like one that I am not acquainted withall: for
630 sure vnlesse hee know some straine in mee, that I know
631 not my selfe, hee would neuer haue boorded me in this
632 furie.

633 *Mi.Ford.* Boording, call you it? Ile bee sure to keepe
634 him aboute decke.

635 *Mi.Page.* So will I: if hee come vnder my hatches,
636 Ile neuer to Sea againe: Let's bee reueng'd on him: let's
637 appoint him a meeting: giue him a show of comfort in
638 his Suit, and lead him on with a fine baited delay, till hee
639 hath pawn'd his horses to mine Host of the Garter.

640 *Mi.Ford.* Nay, I wil consent to act any villany against
641 him, that may not sully the charinesse of our honesty: oh
642 that my husband saw this Letter: it would giue eternall
643 food to his ieaousie.

644 *Mis.Page.* Why look where he comes; and my good
645 man too: hee's as farre from ieaousie, as I am from gi-uing
646 him cause, and that (I hope) is an vnmeasurable di-stance.

648 *Mis.Ford.* You are the happier woman.

649 *Mis.Page.* Let's consult together against this greasie
650 Knight: Come hither.

651 *Ford.* Well: I hope, it be not so.

652 *Pist.* Hope is a curtall- dog in some affaires:
653 Sir *Iohn* affects thy wife.

654 *Ford.* Why sir, my wife is not young.

655 *Pist.* He wooes both high and low, both rich & poor,
656 both yong and old, one with another (*Ford*) he loues the
657 Gally- mawfry (*Ford*) perpend.

658 *Ford.* Loue my wife?

659 *Pist.* With liuer, burning hot: preuent:
660 Or goe thou like Sir *Acteon* he, with
661 Ring- wood at thy heeles: O, odious is the name.

662 *Ford.* What name Sir?

663 *Pist.* The horne I say: Farewell:
664 Take heed, haue open eye, for theeues doe foot by night.
665 Take heed, ere sommer comes, or Cuckoo- birds do sing.
666 Away sir Corporall *Nim*:

667 Beleeue it (*Page*) he speakes sence.

668 *Ford.* I will be patient: I will find out this.

669 *Nim.* And this is true: I like not the humor of lying:

670 hee hath wronged mee in some humors: I should haue
 671 borne the humour'd Letter to her: but I haue a sword:
 672 and it shall bite vpon my necessitie: he loues your wife;
 673 There's the short and the long: My name is Corporall
 674 *Nim*: I speak, and I auouch; 'tis true: my name is *Nim*:
 675 and *Falstaffe* loues your wife: adieu, I loue not the hu-mour
 676 of bread and cheese: adieu.
 677 *Page*. The humour of it (quoth 'a?) heere's a fellow
 678 frights English out of his wits.
 679 *Ford*. I will seeke out *Falstaffe*.
 680 *Page*. I neuer heard such a drawling- affecting rogue.
 681 *Ford*. If I doe finde it: well.
 682 *Page*. I will not beleeeue such a *Cataian*, though the
 683 Priest o' th' Towne commended him for a true man.
 684 *Ford*. 'Twas a good sensible fellow: well.
 685 *Page*. How now *Meg*?
 686 *Mist.Page*. Whether goe you (*George*?) harke you.
 687 *Mis.Ford*. How now (sweet *Frank*) why art thou me-lancholy?
 688 *Ford*. I melancholy? I am not melancholy:
 690 Get you home: goe.
 691 *Mis.Ford*. Faith, thou hast some crochets in thy head,
 692 Now: will you goe, *Mistris Page*?
 693 *Mis.Page*. Haue with you: you'll come to dinner
 694 *George*? Looke who comes yonder: shee shall bee our
 695 Messenger to this paltrie Knight.
 696 *Mis.Ford*. Trust me, I thought on her: shee'll fit it.
 697 *Mis.Page*. You are come to see my daughter *Anne*?
 698 *Qui*. I forsooth: and I pray how do's good Mistresse
 699 *Anne*?
 700 *Mis.Page*. Go in with vs and see: we haue an houres
 701 talke with you.
 702 *Page*. How now Master Ford?
 703 *For*. You heard what this knaue told me, did you not?
 704 *Page*. Yes, and you heard what the other told me?
 705 *Ford*. Doe you thinke there is truth in them?
 706 *Pag*. Hang 'em slaues: I doe not thinke the Knight
 707 would offer it: But these that accuse him in his intent
 708 towards our wiues, are a yoake of his discarded men: ve-ry
 709 rogues, now they be out of seruice.
 710 *Ford*. Were they his men?
 711 *Page*. Marry were they.
 712 *Ford*. I like it neuer the beter for that,
 713 Do's he lye at the Garter?
 714 *Page*. I marry do's he: if hee should intend this voy-age
 715 toward my wife, I would turne her loose to him;
 716 and what hee gets more of her, then sharpe words, let it

717 lye on my head.
 718 *Ford.* I doe not misdoubt my wife: but I would bee
 719 loath to turne them together: a man may be too confi-dent:
 720 I would haue nothing lye on my head: I cannot
 721 be thus satisfied.
 722 *Page.* Looke where my ranting- Host of the Garter
 723 comes: there is eyther liquor in his pate, or mony in his
 724 purse, when hee lookes so merrily: How now mine
 725 Host?
 726 *Host.* How now Bully- Rooke: thou'rt a Gentleman
 727 Caueleiro Iustice, I say.
 728 *Shal.* I follow, (mine Host) I follow: Good- euen,
 729 and twenty (good Master *Page.*) Master *Page*, wil you go
 730 with vs? we haue sport in hand.
 731 *Host.* Tell him Caueleiro- Iustice: tell him Bully- Rooke.
 732 *Shal.* Sir, there is a fray to be fought, betweene Sir
 733 *Hugh* the Welch Priest, and *Caius* the French Doctor. [D5
 734 *Ford.* Good mine Host o'th' Garter: a word with you.
 735 *Host.* What saist thou, my Bully- Rooke?
 736 *Shal.* Will you goe with vs to behold it? My merry
 737 Host hath had the measuring of their weapons; and (I
 738 thinke) hath appointed them contrary places: for (be-leeue
 739 mee) I heare the Parson is no Iester: harke, I will
 740 tell you what our sport shall be.
 741 *Host.* Hast thou no suit against my Knight? my guest- Caualeire?
 742 *Shal.* None, I protest: but Ile giue you a pottle of
 743 burn'd sacke, to giue me recourse to him, and tell him
 744 my name is *Broome*: onely for a iest.
 745 *Host.* My hand, (Bully:) thou shalt haue egressse and
 746 regresse, (said I well?) and thy name shall be *Broome*. It
 747 is a merry Knight: will you goe An- heires?
 748 *Shal.* Haue with you mine Host.
 749 *Page.* I haue heard the French- man hath good skill
 750 in his Rapier.
 751 *Shal.* Tut sir: I could haue told you more: In these
 752 times you stand on distance: your Passes, Stoccado's, and
 753 I know not what: 'tis the heart (Master *Page*) 'tis heere,
 754 'tis heere: I haue seene the time, with my long- sword, I
 755 would haue made you fowre tall fellowes skippe like
 756 Rattes.
 757 *Host.* Heere boyes, heere, heere: shall we wag?
 758 *Page.* Haue with you: I had rather heare them scold,
 759 then fight.
 760 *Ford.* Though *Page* be a secure foole, and stands so
 761 firmly on his wiues frailty; yet, I cannot put- off my o-pinion
 762 so easily: she was in his company at *Pages* house:

765 and what they made there, I know not. Well, I wil looke
 766 further into't, and I haue a disguise, to sound *Falstaffe*; if
 767 I finde her honest, I loose not my labor: if she be other-wise,
 768 'tis labour well bestowed. *Exeunt.*

Scoena Secunda.

770 *Enter Falstaffe, Pistoll, Robin, Quickly, Bardolffe,*
 771 *Ford.*
 772 *Fal.* I will not lend thee a penny.
 773 *Pist.* Why then the world's mine Oyster, which I,
 774 with sword will open.
 775 *Fal.* Not a penny: I haue beene content (Sir,) you
 776 should lay my countenance to pawne: I haue grated vp-on
 777 my good friends for three Repreeues for you, and
 778 your Coach- fellow *Nim*; or else you had look'd through
 779 the grate, like a Geminy of Baboones: I am damn'd in
 780 hell, for swearing to Gentlemen my friends, you were
 781 good Souldiers, and tall- fellowes. And when Mistresse
 782 *Briget* lost the handle of her Fan, I took't vpon mine ho-nour
 783 thou hadst it not.
 784 *Pist.* Didst not thou share? hadst thou not fifteene
 785 pence?
 786 *Fal.* Reason, you roague, reason: thinkst thou Ile en-danger
 787 my soule, *gratis*? at a word, hang no more about
 788 mee, I am no gibbet for you: goe, a short knife, and a
 789 throng, to your Mannor of *Pickt-hatch*: goe, you'll not
 790 beare a Letter for mee you roague? you stand vpon your
 791 honor: why, (thou vnconfinable basenesse) it is as much
 792 as I can doe to keepe the termes of my honor precise:
 793 I, I, I my selfe sometimes, leauing the feare of heauen on
 794 the left hand, and hiding mine honor in my necessity, am
 795 faine to shuffle: to hedge, and to lurch, and yet, you
 796 Rogue, will en- sconce your raggs; your Cat- a- Moun-taine- lookes,
 797 your red- lattice phrases, and your bold-beating- oathes,
 798 vnder the shelter of your honor? you
 799 will not doe it? you?
 800 *Pist.* I doe relent: what would thou more of man?
 801 *Robin.* Sir, here's a woman would speake with you.
 802 *Fal.* Let her approach.
 803 *Qui.* Giue your worship good morrow.
 804 *Fal.* Good- morrow, good- wife.
 805 *Qui.* Not so, and't please your worship.
 806 *Fal.* Good maid then.

807 *Qui.* Ile be sworne,
 808 As my mother was the first houre I was borne.
 809 *Fal.* I doe beleuee the swearer; what with me?
 810 *Qui.* Shall I vouch- safe your worship a word, or
 811 two?
 812 *Fal.* Two thousand (faire woman) and ile vouchsafe
 813 thee the hearing.
 814 *Qui.* There is one Mistresse *Ford*, (Sir) I pray come a
 815 little neerer this waies: I my selfe dwell with M[aster]. Doctor
 816 *Caius*:
 817 *Fal.* Well, on; Mistresse *Ford*, you say.
 818 *Qui.* Your worship saies very true: I pray your wor-ship
 819 come a little neerer this waies.
 820 *Fal.* I warrant thee, no- bodie heares: mine owne
 821 people, mine owne people.
 822 *Qui.* Are they so? heauen- blesse them, and make
 823 them his Seruants.
 824 *Fal.* Well; Mistresse *Ford*, what of her?
 825 *Qui.* Why, Sir; shee's a good- creature; Lord, Lord,
 826 your Worship's a wanton: well: heauen forgiue you,
 827 and all of vs, I pray —.
 828 *Fal.* Mistresse *Ford*: come, Mistresse *Ford*.
 829 *Qui.* Marry this is the short, and the long of it: you
 830 haue brought her into such a Canaries, as 'tis wonder-full:
 831 the best Courtier of them all (when the Court lay
 832 at *Windsor*) could neuer haue brought her to such a Ca-narie:
 833 yet there has beene Knights, and Lords, and Gen-tlemen,
 834 with their Coaches; I warrant you Coach after
 835 Coach, letter after letter, gift after gift, smelling so sweet-ly;
 836 all Muske, and so rushling, I warrant you, in silke
 837 and golde, and in such alligant termes, and in such wine
 838 and suger of the best, and the fairest, that would haue
 839 wonne any womans heart: and I warrant you, they could
 840 neuer get an eye- winke of her: I had my selfe twentie
 841 Angels giuen me this morning, but I defie all Angels (in
 842 any such sort, as they say) but in the way of honesty: and
 843 I warrant you, they could neuer get her so much as sippe
 844 on a cup with the prowdest of them all, and yet there has
 845 beene Earles: nay, (which is more) Pentioners, but I
 846 warrant you all is one with her.
 847 *Fal.* But what saies shee to mee? be briefe my good
 848 shee-*Mercurie*.
 849 *Qui.* Marry, she hath receiu'd your Letter: for the
 850 which she thanks you a thousand times; and she giues
 851 you to notifie, that her husband will be absence from his
 852 house, betweene ten and eleuen.

853 *Fal.* Ten, and eleuen.

854 *Qui.* I, forsooth: and then you may come and see the
855 picture (she sayes) that you wot of: Master *Ford* her hus-band
856 will be from home: alas, the sweet woman leades
857 an ill life with him: hee's a very iealousie- man; she leads
858 a very frampold life with him, (good hart.)

859 *Fal.* Ten, and eleuen. [D5v
860 Woman, commend me to her, I will not faile her.

861 *Qui.* Why, you say well: But I haue another messen-ger
862 to your worship: Mistresse *Page* hath her heartie
863 commendations to you to: and let mee tell you in your
864 eare, shee's as fartuous a ciuill modest wife, and one (I
865 tell you) that will not misse you morning nor euening
866 prayer, as any is in *Windsor*, who ere bee the other: and
867 shee bade me tell your worship, that her husband is sel-dome
868 from home, but she hopes there will come a time.
869 I neuer knew a woman so doate vpon a man; surely I
870 thinke you haue charmes, la: yes in truth.

871 *Fal.* Not I, I assure thee; setting the attraction of my
872 good parts aside, I haue no other charmes.

873 *Qui.* Blessing on your heart for't.

874 *Fal.* But I pray thee tell me this: has *Fords* wife, and
875 *Pages* wife acquainted each other, how they loue me?

876 *Qui.* That were a iest indeed: they haue not so little
877 grace I hope, that were a tricke indeed: But Mistris *Page*
878 would desire you to send her your little *Page* of al loues:
879 her husband has a maruellous infectio[n] to the little *Page*:
880 and truly Master *Page* is an honest man: neuer a wife in
881 *Windsor* leades a better life then she do's: doe what shee
882 will, say what she will, take all, pay all, goe to bed when
883 she list, rise when she list, all is as she will: and truly she
884 deserues it; for if there be a kinde woman in *Windsor*, she
885 is one: you must send her your *Page*, no remedie.

886 *Fal.* Why, I will.

887 *Qu.* Nay, but doe so then, and looke you, hee may
888 come and goe betweene you both: and in any case haue
889 a nay- word, that you may know one anothers minde,
890 and the Boy neuer neede to vnderstand any thing; for
891 'tis not good that children should know any wickednes:
892 olde folkes you know, haue discretion, as they say, and
893 know the world.

894 *Fal.* Farethee- well, commend mee to them both:
895 there's my purse, I am yet thy debter: Boy, goe along
896 with this woman, this newes distracts me.

897 *Pist.* This Puncke is one of *Cupids* Carriers,
898 Clap on more sailes, pursue: vp with your sights:

899 Giue fire: she is my prize, or Ocean whelme them all.
 900 *Fal.* Saist thou so (old *Iacke*) go thy waies: Ile make
 901 more of thy olde body then I haue done: will they yet
 902 looke after thee? wilt thou after the expence of so much
 903 money, be now a gainer? good Body, I thanke thee: let
 904 them say 'tis grossely done, so it bee fairely done, no
 905 matter.
 906 *Bar.* Sir *Iohn*, there's one Master *Broome* below would
 907 faine speake with you, and be acquainted with you; and
 908 hath sent your worship a mornings draught of Sacke.
 909 *Fal.* *Broome* is his name?
 910 *Bar.* I Sir.
 911 *Fal.* Call him in: such *Broomes* are welcome to mee,
 912 that ore'flowes such liquor: ah ha, Mistresse *Ford* and Mi-stresse
 913 *Page*, haue I encompass'd you? goe to, *via*.
 914 *Ford.* 'Blesse you sir.
 915 *Fal.* And you sir: would you speake with me?
 916 *Ford.* I make bold, to presse, with so little prepara-tion
 917 vpon you.
 918 *Fal.* You'r welcome, what's your will? giue vs leaue
 919 Drawer.
 920 *Ford.* Sir, I am a Gentleman that haue spent much,
 921 my name is *Broome*.
 922 *Fal.* Good Master *Broome*, I desire more acquaintance
 923 of you.
 924 *Ford.* Good Sir *Iohn*, I sue for yours: not to charge
 925 you, for I must let you vnderstand, I thinke my selfe in
 926 better plight for a Lender, then you are: the which hath
 927 something emboldned me to this vnseason'd intrusion:
 928 for they say, if money goe before, all waies doe lye
 929 open.
 930 *Fal.* Money is a good Souldier (Sir) and will on.
 931 *Ford.* Troth, and I haue a bag of money heere trou-bles
 932 me: if you will helpe to beare it (Sir *Iohn*) take all,
 933 or halfe, for easing me of the carriage.
 934 *Fal.* Sir, I know not how I may deserue to bee your
 935 Porter.
 936 *Ford.* I will tell you sir, if you will giue mee the hea-ring.
 938 *Fal.* Speake (good Master *Broome*) I shall be glad to
 939 be your Seruant.
 940 *Ford.* Sir, I heare you are a Scholler: (I will be briefe
 941 with you) and you haue been a man long knowne to me,
 942 though I had neuer so good means as desire, to make my
 943 selfe acquainted with you. I shall discouer a thing to
 944 you, wherein I must very much lay open mine owne im-perfection:
 945 but (good Sir *Iohn*) as you haue one eye vp-on

946 my follies, as you heare them vnfolded, turne another
 947 into the Register of your owne, that I may passe with a
 948 reproofe the easier, sith you your selfe know how easie it
 949 is to be such an offender.
 950 *Fal.* Very well Sir, proceed.
 951 *Ford.* There is a Gentlewoman in this Towne, her
 952 husbands name is *Ford*.
 953 *Fal.* Well Sir.
 954 *Ford.* I haue long lou'd her, and I protest to you, be-stowed
 955 much on her: followed her with a doating ob-seruance:
 956 Ingross'd opportunities to meete her: fee'd e-uery
 957 slight occasion that could but nigardly giue mee
 958 sight of her: not only bought many presents to giue her,
 959 but haue giuen largely to many, to know what shee
 960 would haue giuen: briefly, I haue pursu'd her, as Loue
 961 hath pursued mee, which hath beene on the wing of all
 962 occasions: but whatsoeuer I haue merited, either in my
 963 minde, or in my meanes, meede I am sure I haue receiued
 964 none, vnlesse Experience be a Iewell, that I haue purcha-sed
 965 at an infinite rate, and that hath taught mee to say
 966 this,
 967 "*Loue like a shadow flies, when substance Loue pursues,*
 968 "*Pursuing that that flies, and flying what pursues.*
 969 *Fal.* Haue you receiu'd no promise of satisfaction at
 970 her hands?
 971 *Ford.* Neuer.
 972 *Fal.* Haue you importun'd her to such a purpose?
 973 *Ford.* Neuer.
 974 *Fal.* Of what qualitie was your loue then?
 975 *Ford.* Like a fair house, built on another mans ground,
 976 so that I haue lost my edifice, by mistaking the place,
 977 where I erected it.
 978 *Fal.* To what purpose haue you vnfolded this to me?
 979 *For.* When I haue told you that, I haue told you all:
 980 Some say, that though she appeare honest to mee, yet in
 981 other places shee enlargeth her mirth so farre, that there
 982 is shrewd construction made of her. Now (*Sir Iohn*) here
 983 is the heart of my purpose: you are a gentleman of ex-cellent
 984 breeding, admirable discourse, of great admit-tance,
 985 authenticke in your place and person, generally
 986 allow'd for your many war- like, court- like, and learned
 987 preparations.
 988 *Fal.* O Sir.
 989 *Ford.* Beleeue it, for you know it: there is money,
 990 spend it, spend it, spend more; spend all I haue, onely [D6
 991 giue me so much of your time in enchange of it, as to lay

992 an amiable siege to the honesty of this *Fords* wife: vse
 993 your Art of wooing; win her to consent to you: if any
 994 man may, you may as soone as any.
 995 *Fal.* Would it apply well to the vehemency of your
 996 affection that I should win what you would enioy? Me-thinkes
 997 you prescribe to your selfe very preposterously.
 998 *Ford.* O, vnderstand my drift: she dwells so securely
 999 on the excellency of her honor, that the folly of my soule
 1000 dares not present it selfe: shee is too bright to be look'd
 1001 against. Now, could I come to her with any detection
 1002 in my hand; my desires had instance and argument to
 1003 commend themselues, I could driue her then from the
 1004 ward of her purity, her reputation, her marriage- vow,
 1005 and a thousand other her defences, which now are too-too
 1006 strongly embattailld against me: what say you too't,
 1007 *Sir Iohn*?
 1008 *Fal.* Master *Broome*, I will first make bold with your
 1009 money: next, giue mee your hand: and last, as I am a
 1010 gentleman, you shall, if you will, enioy *Fords* wife.
 1011 *Ford.* O good Sir.
 1012 *Fal.* I say you shall.
 1013 *Ford.* Want no money (*Sir Iohn*) you shall want none.
 1014 *Fal.* Want no *Mistresse Ford* (*Master Broome*) you shall
 1015 want none: I shall be with her (I may tell you) by her
 1016 owne appointment, euen as you came in to me, her assi-stant,
 1017 or goe- betweene, parted from me: I say I shall be
 1018 with her betweene ten and eleuen: for at that time the
 1019 iealous- rascally- knaue her husband will be forth: come
 1020 you to me at night, you shall know how I speed.
 1021 *Ford.* I am blest in your acquaintance: do you know
 1022 *Ford* Sir?
 1023 *Fal.* Hang him (poore Cuckoldly knaue) I know
 1024 him not: yet I wrong him to call him poore: They say
 1025 the iealous wittolly- knaue hath masses of money, for
 1026 the which his wife seemes to me well- fauourd: I will vse
 1027 her as the key of the Cuckoldly- rogues Coffe, & ther's
 1028 my haruest- home.
 1029 *Ford.* I would you knew *Ford*, sir, that you might a-uid
 1030 him, if you saw him.
 1031 *Fal.* Hang him, mechanicall- salt- butter rogue; I wil
 1032 stare him out of his wits: I will awe- him with my cud-gell:
 1033 it shall hang like a Meteor ore the Cuckolds horns:
 1034 Master *Broome*, thou shalt know, I will predominate o-uer
 1035 the pezant, and thou shalt lye with his wife. Come
 1036 to me soone at night: *Ford's* a knaue, and I will aggra-uate
 1037 his stile: thou (*Master Broome*) shalt know him for

1038 knaue, and Cuckold. Come to me soone at night.
 1039 *Ford.* What a damn'd Epicurian- Rascall is this? my
 1040 heart is ready to cracke with impatience: who saies this
 1041 is improuident iealousie? my wife hath sent to him, the
 1042 howre is fixt, the match is made: would any man haue
 1043 thought this? see the hell of hauing a false woman: my
 1044 bed shall be abus'd, my Coffers ransack'd, my reputati-on
 1045 gnawne at, and I shall not onely receiue this villanous
 1046 wrong, but stand vnder the adoption of abhominable
 1047 termes, and by him that does mee this wrong: Termes,
 1048 names: *Amaimon* sounds well: *Lucifer*, well: *Barbason*,
 1049 well: yet they are Diuels additions, the names of fiends:
 1050 But Cuckold, Wittoll, Cuckold? the Diuell himselfe
 1051 hath not such a name. *Page* is an Asse, a secure Asse; hee
 1052 will trust his wife, hee will not be iealous: I will rather
 1053 trust a *Fleming* with my butter, Parson *Hugh* the *Welsh-man*
 1054 with my Cheese, an *Irish-man* with my Aqua- vitae- bottle,
 1055 or a Theefe to walke my ambling gelding, then
 1056 my wife with her selfe. Then she plots, then shee rumi-nates,
 1057 then shee deuises: and what they thinke in their
 1058 hearts they may effect; they will breake their hearts but
 1059 they will effect. Heauen bee prais'd for my iealousie:
 1060 eleuen o' clocke the howre, I will preuent this, detect
 1061 my wife, bee reueng'd on *Falstaffe*, and laugh at *Page*. I
 1062 will about it, better three houres too soone, then a my-nute
 1063 too late: fie, fie, fie: Cuckold, Cuckold, Cuckold.
 1064 *Exit.*

Scena Tertia.

1066 *Enter Caius, Rugby, Page, Shallow, Slender, Host.*
 1067 *Caius.* *Jacke Rugby.*
 1068 *Rug.* Sir.
 1069 *Caius.* Vat is the clocke, *Jack.*
 1070 *Rug.* 'Tis past the howre (Sir) that Sir *Hugh* promis'd
 1071 to meet.
 1072 *Cai.* By gar, he has saue his soule, dat he is no- come:
 1073 hee has pray his Pible well, dat he is no- come: by gar
 1074 (*Jack Rugby*) he is dead already, if he be come.
 1075 *Rug.* Hee is wise Sir: hee knew your worship would
 1076 kill him if he came.
 1077 *Cai.* By gar, de herring is no dead, so as I vill kill
 1078 him: take your Rapier, (*Jacke*) I vill tell you how I vill
 1079 kill him.

1080 *Rug.* Alas sir, I cannot fence.
 1081 *Cai.* Villaine, take your Rapier.
 1082 *Rug.* Forbeare: heer's company.
 1083 *Host.* 'Blesse thee, bully- Doctor.
 1084 *Shal.* 'Saue you Mr. Doctor *Caius*.
 1085 *Page.* Now good Mr. Doctor.
 1086 *Slen.* 'Giue you good- morrow, sir.
 1087 *Caius.* Vat be all you one, two, tree, fowre, come for?
 1088 *Host.* To see thee fight, to see thee foigne, to see thee
 1089 trauerse, to see thee heere, to see thee there, to see thee
 1090 passe thy puncto, thy stock, thy reuerse, thy distance, thy
 1091 montant: Is he dead, my Ethiopian? Is he dead, my Fran-cisco?
 1092 ha Bully? what saies my *Esculapius*? my *Galien*? my
 1093 heart of Elder? ha? is he dead bully- Stale? is he dead?
 1094 *Cai.* By gar, he is de Coward- Iack- Priest of de world:
 1095 he is not show his face.
 1096 *Host.* Thou art a Castalion- king- Vrinall: *Hector* of
 1097 *Greece* (my Boy)
 1098 *Cai.* I pray you beare witnessse, that me haue stay,
 1099 sixe or seuen, two tree howres for him, and hee is no-come.
 1100 *Shal.* He is the wiser man (M[aster]. Doctor) he is a curer of
 1101 soules, and you a curer of bodies: if you should fight, you
 1102 goe against the haire of your professions: is it not true,
 1103 Master *Page*?
 1104 *Page.* Master *Shallow*; you haue your selfe beene a
 1105 great fighter, though now a man of peace.
 1106 *Shal.* Body- kins M[aster]. *Page*, though I now be old, and
 1107 of the peace; if I see a sword out, my finger itches to
 1108 make one: though wee are Iustices, and Doctors, and
 1109 Church- men (M[aster]. *Page*) wee haue some salt of our youth
 1110 in vs, we are the sons of women (M[aster]. *Page*.)
 1111 *Page.* 'Tis true, Mr. *Shallow*.
 1112 *Shal.* It wil be found so, (M[aster]. *Page*;) M[aster]. Doctor *Caius*,
 1113 I am come to fetch you home: I am sworn of the peace:
 1114 you haue show'd your selfe a wise Physician, and Sir
 1115 *Hugh* hath showne himselfe a wise and patient Church-man:
 1116 you must goe with me, M[aster]. Doctor. [D6v
 1117 *Host.* Pardon, Guest- Iustice; a Mounseur Mocke- water.
 1119 *Cai.* Mock- vater? vat is dat?
 1120 *Host.* Mock- water, in our English tongue, is Valour
 1121 (Bully.)
 1122 *Cai.* By gar, then I haue as much Mock- vater as de
 1123 Englishman: scuruy- Iack- dog- Priest: by gar, mee vill
 1124 cut his eares.
 1125 *Host.* He will Clapper- claw thee tightly (Bully.)
 1126 *Cai.* Clapper- de- claw? vat is dat?

1127 *Host.* That is, he will make thee amends.
 1128 *Cai.* By- gar, me doe looke hee shall clapper- de- claw
 1129 me, for by- gar, me vill haue it.
 1130 *Host.* And I will prouoke him to't, or let him wag.
 1131 *Cai.* Me tanck you for dat.
 1132 *Host.* And moreouer, (Bully) but first, Mr. Ghuest,
 1133 and M[aster]. *Page*, & eeke *Caualeiro Slender*, goe you through
 1134 the Towne to *Frogmore*.
 1135 *Page.* Sir *Hugh* is there, is he?
 1136 *Host.* He is there, see what humor he is in: and I will
 1137 bring the Doctor about by the Fields: will it doe well?
 1138 *Shal.* We will doe it.
 1139 *All.* Adieu, good M[aster]. Doctor.
 1140 *Cai.* By- gar, me vill kill de Priest, for he speake for a
 1141 Iack- an- Ape to *Anne Page*.
 1142 *Host.* Let him die: sheath thy impatience: throw cold
 1143 water on thy Choller: goe about the fields with mee
 1144 through *Frogmore*, I will bring thee where Mistris *Anne*
 1145 *Page* is, at a Farm- house a Feasting: and thou shalt wooe
 1146 her: Cride- game, said I well?
 1147 *Cai.* By- gar, mee dancke you vor dat: by gar I loue
 1148 you: and I shall procure 'a you de good Guest: de Earle,
 1149 de Knight, de Lords, de Gentlemen, my patients.
 1150 *Host.* For the which, I will be thy aduersary toward
 1151 *Anne Page*: said I well?
 1152 *Cai.* By- gar, 'tis good: vell said.
 1153 *Host.* Let vs wag then.
 1154 *Cai.* Come at my heeles, *Iack Rugby*.
 1155 *Exeunt.*

Actus Tertius. Scoena Prima.

1157 *Enter Euans, Simple, Page, Shallow, Slender, Host, Caius,*
 1158 *Rugby.*
 1159 *Euans.* I pray you now, good Master *Slenders* seruing-man,
 1160 and friend *Simple* by your name; which way haue
 1161 you look'd for Master *Caius*, that calls himselfe Doctor
 1162 of Phisicke.
 1163 *Sim.* Marry Sir, the pittie- ward, the Parke- ward:
 1164 euery way: olde *Windsor* way, and euery way but the
 1165 Towne- way.
 1166 *Euan.* I most feheemently desire you, you will also
 1167 looke that way.
 1168 *Sim.* I will sir.

1169 *Euan.* 'Plesse my soule: how full of Chollors I am, and
 1170 tremping of minde: I shall be glad if he haue deceiued
 1171 me: how melancholies I am? I will knog his Vrinalls a-bout
 1172 his knaues costard, when I haue good oportunities
 1173 for the orke: 'Plesse my soule: *To shallow Riuers to whose*
 1174 *falls: melodious Birds sings Madrigalls: There will we make*
 1175 *our Peds of Roses: and a thousand fragrant posies. To shal-low:*
 1176 'Mercie on mee, I haue a great dispositions to cry.
 1177 *Melodious birds sing Madrigalls: — When as I sat in Pa-bilon:*
 1178 *and a thousand vagram Posies. To shallow, &c.*
 1179 *Sim.* Yonder he is comming, this way, Sir *Hugh.*
 1180 *Euan.* Hee's welcome: *To shallow Riuers, to whose fals:*
 1181 Heauen prosper the right: what weapons is he?
 1182 *Sim.* No weapons, Sir: there comes my Master, Mr.
 1183 *Shallow*, and another Gentleman; from *Frogmore*, ouer
 1184 the stile, this way.
 1185 *Euan.* Pray you giue mee my gowne, or else keepe it
 1186 in your armes.
 1187 *Shal.* How now Master Parson? good morrow good
 1188 Sir *Hugh:* keepe a Gamester from the dice, and a good
 1189 Student from his booke, and it is wonderfull.
 1190 *Slen.* Ah sweet *Anne Page.*
 1191 *Page.* 'Saué you, good Sir *Hugh.*
 1192 *Euan.* 'Plesse you from his mercy- sake, all of you.
 1193 *Shal.* What? the Sword, and the Word?
 1194 Doe you study them both, Mr. Parson?
 1195 *Page.* And youthfull still, in your doublet and hose,
 1196 this raw- rumaticke day?
 1197 *Euan.* There is reasons, and causes for it.
 1198 *Page.* We are come to you, to doe a good office, Mr.
 1199 Parson.
 1200 *Euan.* Fery- well: what is it?
 1201 *Page.* Yonder is a most reuerend Gentleman; who
 1202 (be- like) hauing receiued wrong by some person, is at
 1203 most odds with his owne grauity and patience, that euer
 1204 you saw.
 1205 *Shal.* I haue liued foure- score yeeres, and vpward: I
 1206 neuer heard a man of his place, grauity, and learning, so
 1207 wide of his owne respect.
 1208 *Euan.* What is he?
 1209 *Page.* I thinke you know him: Mr. Doctor *Caius* the
 1210 renowned French Physician.
 1211 *Euan.* Got's- will, and his passion of my heart: I had
 1212 as lief you would tell me of a messe of porredge.
 1213 *Page.* Why?
 1214 *Euan.* He has no more knowledge in *Hibocrates* and

1215 *Galen*, and hee is a knaue besides: a cowardly knaue, as
 1216 you would desires to be acquainted withall.
 1217 *Page*. I warrant you, hee's the man should fight with
 1218 him.
 1219 *Slen*. O sweet *Anne Page*.
 1220 *Shal*. It appeares so by his weapons: keepe them a-sunder:
 1221 here comes Doctor *Caius*.
 1222 *Page*. Nay good Mr. Parson, keepe in your weapon.
 1223 *Shal*. So doe you, good Mr. Doctor.
 1224 *Host*. Disarme them, and let them question: let them
 1225 keepe their limbs whole, and hack our English.
 1226 *Cai*. I pray you let- a- mee speake a word with your
 1227 eare; wherefore vill you not meet- a me?
 1228 *Euan*. Pray you vse your patience in good time.
 1229 *Cai*. By- gar, you are de Coward: de Iack dog: Iohn
 1230 Ape.
 1231 *Euan*. Pray you let vs not be laughing- stocks to other
 1232 mens humors: I desire you in friendship, and I will one
 1233 way or other make you amends: I will knog your Vrinal
 1234 about your knaues Cogs- combe.
 1235 *Cai*. *Diable: Iack Rugby*: mine *Host de Iarteer*: haue I
 1236 not stay for him, to kill him? haue I not at de place I did
 1237 appoint?
 1238 *Euan*. As I am a Christians- soule, now looke you:
 1239 this is the place appointed, Ile bee iudgement by mine
 1240 *Host of the Garter*.
 1241 *Host*. Peace, I say, *Gallia and Gaule, French & Welch*,
 1242 Soule- Curer, and Body- Curer. [E1
 1243 *Cai*. I, dat is very good, excellant.
 1244 *Host*. Peace, I say: heare mine Host of the Garter,
 1245 Am I politicke? Am I subtle? Am I a Machiuell?
 1246 Shall I loose my Doctor? No, hee giues me the Potions
 1247 and the Motions. Shall I loose my Parson? my Priest?
 1248 my Sir *Hugh*? No, he giues me the Prouerbes, and the
 1249 No- verbes. Giue me thy hand (Celestiall) so: Boyes of
 1250 Art, I haue deceiu'd you both: I haue directed you to
 1251 wrong places: your hearts are mighty, your skinnes are
 1252 whole, and let burn'd Sacke be the issue: Come, lay their
 1253 swords to pawne: Follow me, Lad of peace, follow, fol-low,
 1254 follow.
 1255 *Shal*. Trust me, a mad Host: follow Gentlemen, fol-low.
 1257 *Slen*. O sweet *Anne Page*.
 1258 *Cai*. Ha' do I perceiue dat? Haue you make- a- de- sot
 1259 of vs, ha, ha?
 1260 *Eua*. This is well, he has made vs his vlowting- stog:
 1261 I desire you that we may be friends: and let vs knog our

1262 praines together to be reuenge on this same scall scur-uy- cogging- companion
 1263 the Host of the Garter.
 1264 *Cai.* By gar, with all my heart: he promise to bring
 1265 me where is *Anne Page*: by gar he deceiue me too.
 1266 *Euan.* Well, I will smite his noddles: pray you follow.

Scena Secunda.

1268 *Mist.Page, Robin, Ford, Page, Shallow, Slender, Host,*
 1269 *Euans, Caius.*
 1270 *Mist.Page.* Nay keepe your way (little Gallant) you
 1271 were wont to be a follower, but now you are a Leader:
 1272 whether had you rather lead mine eyes, or eye your ma-sters
 1273 heeles?
 1274 *Rob.* I had rather (forsooth) go before you like a man,
 1275 then follow him like a dwarfe.
 1276 *M.Pa.* O you are a flattering boy, now I see you'l be a
 1277 (Courtier.
 1278 *Ford.* Well met mistris *Page*, whether go you.
 1279 *M.Pa.* Truly Sir, to see your wife, is she at home?
 1280 *Ford.* I, and as idle as she may hang together for want
 1281 of company: I thinke if your husbands were dead, you
 1282 two would marry.
 1283 *M.Pa.* Be sure of that, two other husbands.
 1284 *Ford.* Where had you this pretty weather- cocke?
 1285 *M.Pa.* I cannot tell what (the dickens) his name is my
 1286 husband had him of, what do you cal your Knights name |(sirrah?
 1287 *Rob.* Sir *Iohn Falstaffe.*
 1288 *Ford.* Sir *Iohn Falstaffe.*
 1289 *M.Pa.* He, he, I can neuer hit on's name; there is such a
 1290 league betweene my goodman, and he: is your Wife at |(home indeed?
 1291 *Ford.* Indeed she is.
 1292 *M.Pa.* By your leaue sir, I am sicke till I see her.
 1293 *Ford.* Has *Page* any braines? Hath he any eies? Hath he
 1294 any thinking? Sure they sleepe, he hath no vse of them:
 1295 why this boy will carrie a letter twentie mile as easie, as
 1296 a Canon will shoot point- blanke twelue score: hee pee-ces
 1297 out his wiues inclination: he giues her folly motion
 1298 and aduantage: and now she's going to my wife, & *Fal-staffes*
 1299 boy with her: A man may heare this showre sing
 1300 in the winde; and *Falstaffes* boy with her: good plots,
 1301 they are laide, and our reuolted wiues share damnation
 1302 together. Well, I will take him, then torture my wife,
 1303 plucke the borrowed vaile of modestie from the so- see-ming

1304 Mist[ris]. *Page*, divulge *Page* himselfe for a secure and
 1305 wilfull *Acteon*, and to these violent proceedings all my
 1306 neighbors shall cry aime. The clocke giues me my Qu,
 1307 and my assurance bids me search, there I shall finde *Fal-staffe*:
 1308 I shall be rather praisd for this, then mock'd, for
 1309 it is as possitiue, as the earth is firme, that *Falstaffe* is
 1310 there: I will go.
 1311 *Shal. Page, &c.* Well met Mr *Ford*.
 1312 *Ford*. Trust me, a good knotte; I haue good cheere at
 1313 home, and I pray you all go with me.
 1314 *Shal.* I must excuse my selfe Mr *Ford*.
 1315 *Slen.* And so must I Sir,
 1316 We haue appointed to dine with Mistris *Anne*,
 1317 And I would not breake with her for more mony
 1318 Then Ile speake of.
 1319 *Shal.* We haue linger'd about a match betweene *An*
 1320 *Page*, and my cozen *Slender*, and this day wee shall haue
 1321 our answer.
 1322 *Slen.* I hope I haue your good will Father *Page*.
 1323 *Pag.* You haue Mr *Slender*, I stand wholly for you,
 1324 But my wife (Mr Doctor) is for you altogether.
 1325 *Cai.* I be- gar, and de Maid is loue- a- me: my nursh- a- Quickly
 1326 tell me so mush.
 1327 *Host.* What say you to yong Mr *Fenton*? He capers,
 1328 he dances, he has eies of youth: he writes verses, hee
 1329 speakes holliday, he smels April and May, he wil carry't,
 1330 he will carry't, 'tis in his buttons, he will carry't.
 1331 *Page.* Not by my consent I promise you. The Gentle-man
 1332 is of no hauing, hee kept companie with the wilde
 1333 Prince, and *Pointz*: he is of too high a Region, he knows
 1334 too much: no, hee shall not knit a knot in his fortunes,
 1335 with the finger of my substance: if he take her, let him
 1336 take her simply: the wealth I haue waits on my consent,
 1337 and my consent goes not that way.
 1338 *Ford.* I beseech you heartily, some of you goe home
 1339 with me to dinner: besides your cheere you shall haue
 1340 sport, I will shew you a monster: Mr Doctor, you shal
 1341 go, so shall you Mr *Page*, and you Sir *Hugh*.
 1342 *Shal.* Well, fare you well:
 1343 We shall haue the freer woing at Mr *Pages*.
 1344 *Cai.* Go home *Iohn Rugby*, I come anon.
 1345 *Host.* Farewell my hearts, I will to my honest Knight
 1346 *Falstaffe*, and drinke Canarie with him.
 1347 *Ford.* I thinke I shall drinke in Pipe- wine first with
 1348 him, Ile make him dance. Will you go Gentles?
 1349 *All.* Haue with you, to see this Monster. *Exeunt*

Scena Tertia.

- 1351 *Enter M.Ford, M.Page, Seruants, Robin, Falstaffe,*
 1352 *Ford, Page, Caius, Euans.*
 1353 *Mist.Ford.* What *Iohn*, what *Robert*.
 1354 *M.Page.* Quickly, quickly: Is the Buck- basket —
 1355 *Mis.Ford.* I warrant. What *Robin* I say.
 1356 *Mis.Page.* Come, come, come.
 1357 *Mist.Ford.* Heere, set it downe.
 1358 *M.Pag.* Giue your men the charge, we must be briefe.
 1359 *M.Ford.* Marrie, as I told you before (*Iohn & Robert*)
 1360 be ready here hard- by in the Brew- house, & when I so-dainly
 1361 call you, come forth, and (without any pause, or
 1362 staggering) take this basket on your shoulders: y done,
 1363 trudge with it in all hast, and carry it among the Whit-sters
 1364 in *Dotchet* Mead, and there empty it in the muddie
 1365 ditch, close by the Thames side.
 1366 *M.Page.* You will do it?
 1367 *M.Ford.* I ha told them ouer and ouer, they lacke no |(direction. [E1v
 1368 Be gone, and come when you are call'd.
 1369 *M.Page.* Here comes little *Robin*.
 1370 *Mist.Ford.* How now my Eyas- Musket, what newes |(with you?
 1371 *Rob.* My M[aster]. Sir *Iohn* is come in at your backe doore
 1372 (Mist[ris]. *Ford*, and requests your company.
 1373 *M.Page.* You litle Iack- a- lent, haue you bin true to vs
 1374 *Rob.* I, Ile be sworne: my Master knowes not of your
 1375 being heere: and hath threatned to put me into euerla-sting
 1376 liberty, if I tell you of it: for he swears he'll turne
 1377 me away.
 1378 *Mist.Pag.* Thou'rt a good boy: this secrecy of thine
 1379 shall be a Tailor to thee, and shal make thee a new dou-blet
 1380 and hose. Ile go hide me.
 1381 *Mi.Ford.* Do so: go tell thy Master, I am alone: Mi-stris
 1382 *Page*, remember you your *Qu*.
 1383 *Mist.Pag.* I warrant thee, if I do not act it, hisse me.
 1384 *Mist.Ford.* Go- too then: we'l vse this vnwholsome
 1385 humidity, this grosse- watry Pumpion; we'll teach him
 1386 to know Turtles from Iayes.
 1387 *Fal.* Haue I caught thee, my heauenly Iewell? Why
 1388 now let me die, for I haue liu'd long enough: This is the
 1389 period of my ambition: O this blessed houre.
 1390 *Mist.Ford.* O sweet Sir *Iohn*.
 1391 *Fal.* Mistris *Ford*, I cannot cog, I cannot prate (Mist[ris].

1392 *Ford*) now shall I sin in my wish; I would thy Husband
 1393 were dead, Ile speake it before the best Lord, I would
 1394 make thee my Lady.
 1395 *Mist.Ford.* I your Lady Sir *Iohn*? Alas, I should bee a
 1396 pittifull Lady.
 1397 *Fal.* Let the Court of France shew me such another:
 1398 I see how thine eye would emulate the Diamond: Thou
 1399 hast the right arched- beauty of the brow, that becomes
 1400 the Ship- tyre, the Tyre- valiant, or any Tire of Venetian
 1401 admittance.
 1402 *Mist.Ford.* A plaine Kerchiefe, Sir *Iohn*:
 1403 My browes become nothing else, nor that well neither.
 1404 *Fal.* Thou art a tyrant to say so: thou wouldst make
 1405 an absolute Courtier, and the firme fixture of thy foote,
 1406 would giue an excellent motion to thy gate, in a semi-circled
 1407 Farthingale. I see what thou wert if Fortune thy
 1408 foe, were not Nature thy friend: Come, thou canst not
 1409 hide it.
 1410 *Mist.Ford.* Beleeue me, ther's no such thing in me.
 1411 *Fal.* What made me loue thee? Let that perswade
 1412 thee. Ther's something extraordinary in thee: Come, I
 1413 cannot cog, and say thou art this and that, like a- manie
 1414 of these lipping- hauthorne buds, that come like women
 1415 in mens apparrell, and smell like Bucklers- berry in sim-ple
 1416 time: I cannot, but I loue thee, none but thee; and
 1417 thou deseru'st it.
 1418 *M.Ford.* Do not betray me sir, I fear you loue M[istris]. *Page.*
 1419 *Fal.* Thou mightst as well say, I loue to walke by the
 1420 Counter- gate, which is as hatefull to me, as the reeke of
 1421 a Lime- kill.
 1422 *Mis.Ford.* Well, heauen knowes how I loue you,
 1423 And you shall one day finde it.
 1424 *Fal.* Keepe in that minde, Ile deserue it.
 1425 *Mist.Ford.* Nay, I must tell you, so you doe;
 1426 Or else I could not be in that minde.
 1427 *Rob. Mistris Ford, Mistris Ford:* heere's Mistris *Page* at
 1428 the doore, sweating, and blowing, and looking wildely,
 1429 and would needs speake with you presently.
 1430 *Fal.* She shall not see me, I will ensconce mee behinde
 1431 the Arras.
 1432 *M.Ford.* Pray you do so, she's a very tatling woman.
 1433 Whats the matter? How now?
 1434 *Mist.Page.* O mistris *Ford* what haue you done?
 1435 You'r sham'd, y'are ouerthrowne, y'are vndone for euer.
 1436 *M.Ford.* What's the matter, good mistris *Page*?
 1437 *M.Page.* O weladay, mist[ris]. *Ford*, hauing an honest man

1438 to your husband, to giue him such cause of suspition.
 1439 *M.Ford.* What cause of suspition?
 1440 *M.Page.* What cause of suspition? Out vpon you:
 1441 How am I mistooke in you?
 1442 *M.Ford.* Why (alas) what's the matter?
 1443 *M.Page.* Your husband's comming hether (Woman)
 1444 with all the Officers in Windsor, to search for a Gentle-man,
 1445 that he sayes is heere now in the house; by your
 1446 consent to take an ill aduantage of his absence: you are
 1447 vndone.
 1448 *M.Ford.* 'Tis not so, I hope.
 1449 *M.Page.* Pray heauen it be not so, that you haue such
 1450 a man heere: but 'tis most certaine your husband's com-ming,
 1451 with halfe Windsor at his heeles, to serch for such
 1452 a one, I come before to tell you: If you know your selfe
 1453 cleere, why I am glad of it: but if you haue a friend here,
 1454 conuey, conuey him out. Be not amaz'd, call all your
 1455 senses to you, defend your reputation, or bid farwell to
 1456 your good life for euer.
 1457 *M.Ford.* What shall I do? There is a Gentleman my
 1458 deere friend: and I feare not mine owne shame so much,
 1459 as his perill. I had rather then a thousand pound he were
 1460 out of the house.
 1461 *M.Page.* For shame, neuer stand (you had rather, and
 1462 you had rather:) your husband's heere at hand, bethinke
 1463 you of some conueyance: in the house you cannot hide
 1464 him. Oh, how haue you deceiu'd me? Looke, heere is a
 1465 basket, if he be of any reasonable stature, he may creepe
 1466 in heere, and throw fowle linnen vpon him, as if it were
 1467 going to bucking: Or it is whiting time, send him by
 1468 your two men to *Datchet-* Meade.
 1469 *M.Ford.* He's too big to go in there: what shall I do?
 1470 *Fal.* Let me see't, let me see't, O let me see't:
 1471 Ile in, Ile in: Follow your friends counsell, Ile in.
 1472 *M.Page.* What Sir *Iohn Falstaffe*? Are these your Let-ters,
 1473 Knight?
 1474 *Fal.* I loue thee, helpe mee away: let me creepe in
 1475 heere: ile neuer —
 1476 *M.Page.* Helpe to couer your master (Boy:) Call
 1477 your men (Mist[ris]. *Ford.*) You dissembling Knight.
 1478 *M.Ford.* What *Iohn, Robert, Iohn*; Go, take vp these
 1479 cloathes heere, quickly: Wher's the Cowle- staffe? Look
 1480 how you drumble? Carry them to the Landresse in *Dat-*chet
 1481 mead: quickly, come.
 1482 *Ford.* 'Pray you come nere: if I suspect without cause,
 1483 Why then make sport at me, then let me be your iest,

1484 I deserue it: How now? Whether beare you this?
 1485 *Ser.* To the Landresse forsooth?
 1486 *M.Ford.* Why, what haue you to doe whether they
 1487 beare it? You were best meddle with buck- washing.
 1488 *Ford.* Buck? I would I could wash my selfe of y Buck:
 1489 Bucke, bucke, bucke, I bucke: I warrant you Bucke,
 1490 And of the season too; it shall appeare.
 1491 Gentlemen, I haue dream'd to night, Ile tell you my
 1492 dreame: heere, heere, heere bee my keyes, ascend my
 1493 Chambers, search, seeke, finde out: Ile warrant wee'le
 1494 vnkennell the Fox. Let me stop this way first: so, now
 1495 vncape.
 1496 *Page.* Good master *Ford*, be contented:
 1497 You wrong your selfe too much.
 1498 *Ford.* True (master *Page*) vp Gentlemen,
 1499 You shall see sport anon: [E2
 1500 Follow me Gentlemen.
 1501 *Euans.* This is fery fantastickall humors and ieaousies.
 1502 *Caius.* By gar, 'tis no- the fashion of France:
 1503 It is not ieaous in France.
 1504 *Page.* Nay follow him (Gentlemen) see the yssue of
 1505 his search.
 1506 *Mist.Page.* Is there not a double excellency in this?
 1507 *Mist.Ford.* I know not which pleases me better,
 1508 That my husband is deceiued, or Sir *Iohn*.
 1509 *Mist.Page.* What a taking was hee in, when your
 1510 husband askt who was in the basket?
 1511 *Mist.Ford.* I am halfe affraid he will haue neede of
 1512 washing: so throwing him into the water, will doe him
 1513 a benefit.
 1514 *Mist.Page.* Hang him dishonest rascall: I would all
 1515 of the same straine, were in the same distresse.
 1516 *Mist.Ford.* I thinke my husband hath some speciall
 1517 suspition of *Falstaffs* being heere: for I neuer saw him so
 1518 grosse in his ieaousie till now.
 1519 *Mist.Page.* I will lay a plot to try that, and wee will
 1520 yet haue more trickes with *Falstaffe*: his dissolute disease
 1521 will scarce obey this medicine.
 1522 *Mis.Ford.* Shall we send that foolishion Carion, Mist[ris].
 1523 *Quickly* to him, and excuse his throwing into the water,
 1524 and giue him another hope, to betray him to another
 1525 punishment?
 1526 *Mist.Page.* We will do it: let him be sent for to mor-row
 1527 eight a clocke to haue amends.
 1528 *Ford.* I cannot finde him: may be the knaue bragg'd
 1529 of that he could not compasse.

1530 *Mis.Page.* Heard you that?
 1531 *Mis.Ford.* You vse me well, M[aster]. *Ford?* Do you?
 1532 *Ford.* I, I do so.
 1533 *M.Ford.* Heauen make you better then your thoghts
 1534 *Ford.* Amen.
 1535 *Mi.Page.* You do your selfe mighty wrong (M[aster]. *Ford*)
 1536 *Ford.* I, I: I must beare it.
 1537 *Eu.* If there be any pody in the house, & in the cham-bers,
 1538 and in the coffers, and in the presses: heauen for-giue
 1539 my sins at the day of iudgement.
 1540 *Caius.* Be gar, nor I too: there is no- bodies.
 1541 *Page.* Fy, fy, M[aster]. *Ford,* are you not asham'd? What spi-rit,
 1542 what diuell suggests this imagination? I wold not ha
 1543 your distemper in this kind, for y welth of *Windsor castle.*
 1544 *Ford.* 'Tis my fault (M[aster]. *Page*) I suffer for it.
 1545 *Euans.* You suffer for a pad conscience: your wife is
 1546 as honest a o'mans, as I will desires among fiue thou-sand,
 1547 and fiue hundred too.
 1548 *Cai.* By gar, I see 'tis an honest woman.
 1549 *Ford.* Well, I promisd you a dinner: come, come, walk
 1550 in the Parke, I pray you pardon me: I wil hereafter make
 1551 knowne to you why I haue done this. Come wife, come
 1552 Mi[stis]. *Page,* I pray you pardon me. Pray hartly pardon me.
 1553 *Page.* Let's go in Gentlemen, but (trust me) we'l mock
 1554 him: I doe inuite you to morrow morning to my house
 1555 to breakfast: after we'll a Birding together, I haue a fine
 1556 Hawke for the bush. Shall it be so:
 1557 *Ford.* Any thing.
 1558 *Eu.* If there is one, I shall make two in the Companie
 1559 *Ca.* If there be one, or two, I shall make- a- theturd.
 1560 *Ford.* Pray you go, M[aster]. *Page.*
 1561 *Eua.* I pray you now remembrance to morrow on the
 1562 lowsie knaue, mine Host.
 1563 *Cai.* Dat is good by gar, withall my heart.
 1564 *Eua.* A lowsie knaue, to haue his gibes, and his moc-keries.
 1565 *Exeunt.*

Scoena Quarta.

1567 *Enter Fenton, Anne, Page, Shallow, Slender,*
 1568 *Quickly, Page, Mist.Page.*
 1569 *Fen.* I see I cannot get thy Fathers loue,
 1570 Therefore no more turne me to him (sweet Nan.)
 1571 *Anne.* Alas, how then?

1572 *Fen.* Why thou must be thy selfe.
 1573 He doth object, I am too great of birth,
 1574 And that my state being gall'd with my expence,
 1575 I seeke to heale it onely by his wealth.
 1576 Besides these, other barres he layes before me,
 1577 My Riots past, my wilde Societies,
 1578 And tels me 'tis a thing impossible
 1579 I should loue thee, but as a property.
 1580 *An.* May be he tels you true.
 1581 No, heauen so speed me in my time to come,
 1582 Albeit I will confesse, thy Fathers wealth
 1583 Was the first motiue that I woo'd thee (*Anne:*)
 1584 Yet wooing thee, I found thee of more valew
 1585 Then stamper in Gold, or summes in sealed bagges:
 1586 And 'tis the very riches of thy selfe,
 1587 That now I ayme at.
 1588 *An.* Gentle M[aster]. *Fenton,*
 1589 Yet seeke my Fathers loue, still seeke it sir,
 1590 If opportunity and humblest suite
 1591 Cannot attaine it, why then harke you hither.
 1592 *Shal.* Breake their talke Mistris *Quickly.*
 1593 My Kinsman shall speake for himselfe.
 1594 *Slen.* Ile make a shaft or a bolt on't, slid, tis but ventu-|(ring.
 1595 *Shal.* Be not dismaid.
 1596 *Slen.* No, she shall not dismay me:
 1597 I care not for that, but that I am affeard.
 1598 *Qui.* Hark ye, M[aster]. *Slender* would speak a word with you
 1599 *An.* I come to him. This is my Fathers choice:
 1600 O what a world of vilde ill- fauour'd faults
 1601 Lookes handsome in three hundred pounds a yeere?
 1602 *Qui.* And how do's good Master *Fenton*?
 1603 Pray you a word with you.
 1604 *Shal.* Shee's comming; to her Coz:
 1605 O boy, thou hadst a father.
 1606 *Slen.* I had a father (*M[istris]. An*) my vnckle can tel you good
 1607 iests of him: pray you Vnckle, tel Mistris. *Anne* the iest how
 1608 my Father stole two Geese out of a Pen, good Vnckle.
 1609 *Shal.* Mistris *Anne*, my Cozen loues you.
 1610 *Slen.* I that I do, as well as I loue any woman in Glo-cestershire.
 1612 *Shal.* He will maintaine you like a Gentlewoman.
 1613 *Slen.* I that I will, come cut and long- taile, vnder the
 1614 degree of a Squire.
 1615 *Shal.* He will make you a hundred and fiftie pounds
 1616 ioynture.
 1617 *Anne.* Good Maister *Shallow* let him woo for him-selfe.
 1619 *Shal.* Marrie I thanke you for it: I thanke you for

1620 that good comfort: she calls you (Coz) Ile leave you.
 1621 *Anne.* Now Master *Slender*.
 1622 *Slen.* Now good Mistris *Anne*.
 1623 *Anne.* What is your will?
 1624 *Slen.* My will? Odd's- hart-lings, that's a prettie
 1625 iest indeede: I ne're made my Will yet (I thanke Hea-uen:)
 1626 I am not such a sickely creature, I giue Heauen
 1627 praise. [E2v
 1628 *Anne.* I meane (M[aster]. *Slender*) what wold you with me?
 1629 *Slen.* Truely, for mine owne part, I would little or
 1630 nothing with you: your father and my vncler hath made
 1631 motions: if it be my lucke, so; if not, happy man bee his
 1632 dole, they can tell you how things go, better then I can:
 1633 you may aske your father, heere he comes.
 1634 *Page.* Now Mr *Slender*; Loue him daughter *Anne*.
 1635 Why how now? What does Mr *Fenton* here?
 1636 You wrong me Sir, thus still to haunt my house.
 1637 I told you Sir, my daughter is disposd of.
 1638 *Fen.* Nay Mr *Page*, be not impatient.
 1639 *Mist.Page.* Good M[aster]. *Fenton*, come not to my child.
 1640 *Page.* She is no match for you.
 1641 *Fen.* Sir, will you heare me?
 1642 *Page.* No, good M[aster]. *Fenton*.
 1643 Come M[aster]. *Shallow*: Come sonne *Slender*, in;
 1644 Knowing my minde, you wrong me (M[aster]. *Fenton*.)
 1645 *Qui.* Speake to Mistris *Page*.
 1646 *Fen.* Good Mist[ris]. *Page*, for that I loue your daughter
 1647 In such a righteous fashion as I do,
 1648 Perforce, against all checkes, rebukes, and manners,
 1649 I must aduance the colours of my loue,
 1650 And not retire. Let me haue your good will.
 1651 *An.* Good mother, do not marry me to yond foole.
 1652 *Mist.Page.* I meane it not, I seeke you a better hus-band.
 1654 *Qui.* That's my master, M[aster]. Doctor.
 1655 *An.* Alas I had rather be set quick i'th earth,
 1656 And bowl'd to death with Turnips.
 1657 *Mist.Page.* Come, trouble not your selfe good M[aster].
 1658 *Fenton*, I will not be your friend, nor enemy:
 1659 My daughter will I question how she loues you,
 1660 And as I finde her, so am I affected:
 1661 Till then, farewell Sir, she must needs go in,
 1662 Her father will be angry.
 1663 *Fen.* Farewell gentle Mistris: farewell *Nan*.
 1664 *Qui.* This is my doing now: Nay, saide I, will you
 1665 cast away your childe on a Foole, and a Physitian:
 1666 Looke on M[aster]. *Fenton*, this is my doing.

1667 *Fen.* I thanke thee: and I pray thee once to night,
 1668 Giue my sweet *Nan* this Ring: there's for thy paines.
 1669 *Qui.* Now heauen send thee good fortune, a kinde
 1670 heart he hath: a woman would run through fire & wa-ter
 1671 for such a kinde heart. But yet, I would my Maister
 1672 had Mistris *Anne*, or I would M[aster]. *Slender* had her: or (in
 1673 sooth) I would M[aster]. *Fenton* had her; I will do what I can
 1674 for them all three, for so I haue promis'd, and Ile bee as
 1675 good as my word, but speciously for M[aster]. *Fenton.* Well, I
 1676 must of another errand to Sir *Iohn Falstaffe* from my two
 1677 Mistresses: what a beast am I to slacke it. *Exeunt*

Scena Quinta.

1679 *Enter Falstaffe, Bardolfe, Quickly, Ford.*
 1680 *Fal.* *Bardolfe* I say.
 1681 *Bar.* Heere Sir.
 1682 *Fal.* Go, fetch me a quart of Sacke, put a tost in't.
 1683 Haue I liu'd to be carried in a Basket like a barrow of
 1684 butchers Offall? and to be throwne in the Thames? Wel,
 1685 if I be seru'd such another tricke, Ile haue my braines
 1686 'tane out and butter'd, and giue them to a dogge for a
 1687 New- yeares gift. The rogues slighted me into the riuer
 1688 with as little remorse, as they would haue drown'de a
 1689 blinde bitches Puppies, fifteene i'th litter: and you may
 1690 know by my size, that I haue a kinde of alacrity in sink-ing:
 1691 if the bottome were as deepe as hell, I shold down.
 1692 I had beene drown'd, but that the shore was sheluy and
 1693 shallow: a death that I abhorre: for the water swelles a
 1694 man; and what a thing should I haue beene, when I
 1695 had beene swel'd? I should haue beene a Mountaine of
 1696 Mummie.
 1697 *Bar.* Here's M[istris]. *Quickly* Sir to speake with you.
 1698 *Fal.* Come, let me poure in some Sack to the Thames
 1699 water: for my bellies as cold as if I had swallow'd snow-bals,
 1700 for pilles to coole the reines. Call her in.
 1701 *Bar.* Come in woman.
 1702 *Qui.* By your leaue: I cry you mercy?
 1703 Giue your worship good morrow.
 1704 *Fal.* Take away these Challices:
 1705 Go, brew me a pottle of Sacke finely.
 1706 *Bard.* With Egges, Sir?
 1707 *Fal.* Simple of it selfe: Ile no Pullet- Spersme in my
 1708 brewage. How now?

1709 *Qui.* Marry Sir, I come to your worship from M[istris]. *Ford.*
 1710 *Fal.* *Mist[ris]. Ford?* I haue had Ford enough: I was thrown
 1711 into the Ford; I haue my belly full of Ford.
 1712 *Qui.* Alas the day, (good- heart) that was not her
 1713 fault: she do's so take on with her men; they mistooke
 1714 their erection.
 1715 *Fal.* So did I mine, to build vpon a foolish Womans |(promise.
 1716 *Qui.* Well, she laments Sir for it, that it would yern
 1717 your heart to see it: her husband goes this morning a
 1718 birding; she desires you once more to come to her, be-tweene
 1719 eight and nine: I must carry her word quickly,
 1720 she'll make you amends I warrant you.
 1721 *Fal.* Well, I will visit her, tell her so: and bidde her
 1722 thinke what a man is: Let her consider his frailety, and
 1723 then iudge of my merit.
 1724 *Qui.* I will tell her.
 1725 *Fal.* Do so. Betweene nine and ten saist thou?
 1726 *Qui.* Eight and nine Sir.
 1727 *Fal.* Well, be gone: I will not misse her.
 1728 *Qui.* Peace be with you Sir.
 1729 *Fal.* I meruaile I heare not of Mr *Broome*: he sent me
 1730 word to stay within: I like his money well.
 1731 Oh, heere he comes.
 1732 *Ford.* Blesse you Sir.
 1733 *Fal.* Now M[aster]. *Broome*, you come to know
 1734 What hath past betweene me, and *Fords* wife.
 1735 *Ford.* That indeed (Sir *Iohn*) is my businesse.
 1736 *Fal.* M[aster]. *Broome* I will not lye to you,
 1737 I was at her house the houre she appointed me.
 1738 *Ford.* And sped you Sir?
 1739 *Fal.* Very ill- faoueredly M[aster]. *Broome.*
 1740 *Ford.* How so sir, did she change her determination?
 1741 *Fal.* No (M[aster]. *Broome*) but the peaking Curnuto her hus-band
 1742 (M[aster]. *Broome*) dwelling in a continual larum of ielou-sie,
 1743 coms me in the instant of our encounter, after we had
 1744 embrast, kist, protested, & (as it were) spoke the prologue
 1745 of our Comedy: and at his heeles, a rabble of his compa-nions,
 1746 thither prouoked and instigated by his distemper,
 1747 and (forsooth) to serch his house for his wiues Loue.
 1748 *Ford.* What? While you were there?
 1749 *Fal.* While I was there.
 1750 *For.* And did he search for you, & could not find you?
 1751 *Fal.* You shall heare. As good lucke would haue it,
 1752 comes in one *Mist[ris]. Page*, giues intelligence of *Fords* ap-proch:
 1753 and in her inuention, and *Fords* wiues distraction,
 1754 they conuey'd me into a bucke- basket. [E3

1755 *Ford.* A Buck- basket?
 1756 *Fal.* Yes: a Buck- basket: ram'd mee in with foule
 1757 Shirts and Smockes, Socks, foule Stockings, greasie
 1758 Napkins, that (Master *Broome*) there was the rankest
 1759 compound of villanous smell, that euer offended no-strill.
 1761 *Ford.* And how long lay you there?
 1762 *Fal.* Nay, you shall heare (Master *Broome*) what I
 1763 haue sufferd, to bring this woman to euill, for your
 1764 good: Being thus cram'd in the Basket, a couple of
 1765 *Fords* knaues, his Hindes, were cald forth by their Mi-stris,
 1766 to carry mee in the name of foule Cloathes to
 1767 *Datchet-lane*: they tooke me on their shoulders: met
 1768 the iealous knaue their Master in the doore; who
 1769 ask'd them once or twice what they had in their Bas-ket?
 1770 I quak'd for feare least the Lunatique Knaue
 1771 would haue search'd it: but Fate (ordaining he should
 1772 be a Cuckold) held his hand: well, on went hee, for
 1773 a search, and away went I for foule Cloathes: But
 1774 marke the sequell (Master *Broome*) I suffered the pangs
 1775 of three seuerall deaths: First, an intollerable fright,
 1776 to be detected with a iealous rotten Bell- weather:
 1777 Next to be compass'd like a good Bilbo in the circum-ference
 1778 of a Pecke, hilt to point, heele to head. And
 1779 then to be stopt in like a strong distillation with stink-ing
 1780 Cloathes, that fretted in their owne grease:
 1781 thinke of that, a man of my Kidney; thinke of that,
 1782 that am as subiect to heate as butter; a man of conti-nuall
 1783 dissolution, and thaw: it was a miracle to scape
 1784 suffocation. And in the height of this Bath (when I
 1785 was more then halfe stew'd in grease (like a Dutch- dish)
 1786 to be throwne into the Thames, and
 1787 coold, glowing- hot, in that serge like a Horse- shoo;
 1788 thinke of that; hissing hot: thinke of that (Master
 1789 *Broome.*)
 1790 *Ford.* In good sadnesse Sir, I am sorry, that for my sake
 1791 you haue sufferd all this.
 1792 My suite then is desperate: You'll vndertake her no
 1793 more?
 1794 *Fal.* Master *Broome*: I will be throwne into *Etna*,
 1795 as I haue beene into Thames, ere I will leaue her thus;
 1796 her Husband is this morning gone a Birding: I
 1797 haue receiued from her another ambassie of mee-ting:
 1798 'twixt eight and nine is the houre (Master
 1799 *Broome.*)
 1800 *Ford.* 'Tis past eight already Sir.
 1801 *Fal.* Is it? I will then addresse mee to my appoint-ment:

1802 Come to mee at your conuenient leisure, and
 1803 you shall know how I speede: and the conclusion
 1804 shall be crowned with your enjoying her: adiew: you
 1805 shall haue her (Master *Broome*) Master *Broome*, you shall
 1806 cuckold *Ford*.
 1807 *Ford*. Hum: ha? Is this a vision? Is this a dreame?
 1808 doe I sleepe? Master *Ford* awake, awake Master *Ford*:
 1809 ther's a hole made in your best coate (Master *Ford*:) this
 1810 'tis to be married; this 'tis to haue Lynnen, and Buck-baskets:
 1811 Well, I will proclaime my selfe what I am:
 1812 I will now take the Leacher: hee is at my house: hee
 1813 cannot scape me: 'tis impossible hee should: hee can-not
 1814 creepe into a halfe- penny purse, nor into a Pepper-Boxe:
 1815 But least the Diuell that guides him, should
 1816 aide him, I will search impossible places: though
 1817 what I am, I cannot auoide; yet to be what I would
 1818 not, shall not make me tame: If I haue hornes, to make
 1819 one mad, let the prouerbe goe with me, Ile be horne-mad.
 1820 *Exeunt*. [

Actus Quartus. Scoena Prima.

1822 *Enter Mistris Page, Quickly, William, Euans.*
 1823 *Mist.Pag.* Is he at M[aster]. *Fords* already think'st thou?
 1824 *Qui.* Sure he is by this; or will be presently; but
 1825 truely he is very couragious mad, about his throwing
 1826 into the water. Mistris *Ford* desires you to come so-dainely.
 1828 *Mist.Pag.* Ile be with her by and by: Ile but bring
 1829 my yong- man here to Schoole: looke where his Master
 1830 comes; 'tis a playing day I see: how now Sir *Hugh*, no
 1831 Schoole to day?
 1832 *Eua.* No: Master *Slender* is let the Boyes leaue to play.
 1833 *Qui* 'Blessing of his heart.
 1834 *Mist.Pag.* Sir *Hugh*, my husband saies my sonne pro-fits
 1835 nothing in the world at his Booke: I pray you aske
 1836 him some questions in his Accidence.
 1837 *Eu.* Come hither *William*; hold vp your head; come.
 1838 *Mist.Pag.* Come- on Sirha; hold vp your head; an-swere
 1839 your Master, be not afraid.
 1840 *Eua.* *William*, how many Numbers is in Nownes?
 1841 *Will.* Two.
 1842 *Qui.* Truely, I thought there had bin one Number
 1843 more, because they say od's- Nownes.
 1844 *Eua.* Peace, your tatlings. What is (*Faire*) *William*?

1845 *Will. Pulcher.*
 1846 *Qu.* Powlcats? there are fairer things then Powlcats,
 1847 sure.
 1848 *Eua.* You are a very simplicity o' man: I pray you
 1849 peace. What is (*Lapis*) *William*?
 1850 *Will.* A Stone.
 1851 *Eua.* And what is a Stone (*William*)?
 1852 *Will.* A Peeble.
 1853 *Eua.* No; it is *Lapis*: I pray you remember in your
 1854 praine.
 1855 *Will. Lapis.*
 1856 *Eua.* That is a good *William*: what is he (*William*) that
 1857 do's lend Articles.
 1858 *Will.* Articles are borrowed of the Pronoune; and be
 1859 thus declined. *Singulariter nominatiuo hic, haec, hoc.*
 1860 *Eua. Nominatiuo hig, hag, hog:* pray you marke: *geni-tiuo*
 1861 *huius:* Well: what is your *Accusatiue- case*?
 1862 *Will. Accusatiuo hinc.*
 1863 *Eua.* I pray you haue your remembrance (*childe*) *Ac-cusatiuo*
 1864 *hing, hang, hog.*
 1865 *Qu.* Hang- hog, is latten for Bacon, I warrant you.
 1866 *Eua.* Leaue your prables (o' man) What is the *Foca-tiue*
 1867 *case* (*William*)?
 1868 *Will. O, Vocatiuo, O.*
 1869 *Eua.* Remember *William, Focatiue, is caret.*
 1870 *Qu.* And that's a good roote.
 1871 *Eua.* O' man, forbear.
 1872 *Mist.Pag.* Peace.
 1873 *Eua.* What is your *Genitiue case plurall* (*William*)?
 1874 *Will. Genitiue case?*
 1875 *Eua.* I.
 1876 *Will. Genitiue horum, harum, horum.*
 1877 *Qu.* 'Vengeance of Ginyes case; fie on her; neuer
 1878 name her (*childe*) if she be a whore.
 1879 *Eua.* For shame o' man.
 1880 *Qu.* You doe ill to teach the *childe* such words: hee
 1881 teaches him to *hic*, and to *hac*; which they'll doe fast
 1882 enough of themselues, and to call *horum*; fie vpon you. [E3v
 1883 *Euans.* O' man, art thou Lunatics? Hast thou no vn-derstandings
 1884 for thy Cases, & the numbers of the Gen-ders?
 1885 Thou art as foolish Christian creatures, as I would
 1886 desires.
 1887 *Mi.Page.* Pre'thee hold thy peace.
 1888 *Eu.* Shew me now (*William*) some declensions of your
 1889 Pronounes.
 1890 *Will.* Forsooth, I haue forgot.

1891 *Eu.* It is *Qui, que, quod*; if you forget your *Quies*,
 1892 your *Ques*, and your *Quods*, you must be preeches: Goe
 1893 your waies and play, go.
 1894 *M.Pag.* He is a better scholler then I thought he was.
 1895 *Eu.* He is a good sprag- memory: Farewel *Mis[tris]*. *Page.*
 1896 *Mis.Page.* Adieu good Sir *Hugh*:
 1897 Get you home boy, Come we stay too long. *Exeunt.*

Scena Secunda.

1899 *Enter Falstoffe, Mist.Ford, Mist.Page, Seruants, Ford,*
 1900 *Page, Caius, Euans, Shallow.*
 1901 *Fal. Mi[stis]. Ford,* Your sorrow hath eaten vp my suffe-rance;
 1902 I see you are obsequious in your loue, and I pro-fesse
 1903 requittal to a haire bredth, not onely *Mist[ris]*. *Ford,*
 1904 in the simple office of loue, but in all the accustrement,
 1905 complement, and ceremony of it: But are you sure of
 1906 your husband now?
 1907 *Mis.Ford.* Hee's a birding (sweet Sir *John.*)
 1908 *Mis.Page.* What hoa, gossip *Ford*: what hoa.
 1909 *Mis.Ford.* Step into th' chamber, Sir *John.*
 1910 *Mis.Page.* How now (sweete heart) whose at home
 1911 besides your selfe?
 1912 *Mis.Ford.* Why none but mine owne people.
 1913 *Mis.Page.* Indeed?
 1914 *Mis.Ford.* No certainly: Speake louder.
 1915 *Mist.Pag.* Truly, I am so glad you haue no body here.
 1916 *Mist.Ford.* Why?
 1917 *Mis.Page.* Why woman, your husband is in his olde
 1918 lines againe: he so takes on yonder with my husband, so
 1919 railes against all married mankinde; so curses all *Eues*
 1920 daughters, of what complexion soeuer; and so buffettes
 1921 himselfe on the for- head: crying peere- out, peere- out,
 1922 that any madnesse I euer yet beheld, seem'd but tame-nesse,
 1923 ciuility, and patience to this his distemper he is in
 1924 now: I am glad the fat Knight is not heere.
 1925 *Mist.Ford.* Why, do's he talke of him?
 1926 *Mist.Page.* Of none but him, and swears he was ca-ried
 1927 out the last time hee search'd for him, in a Basket:
 1928 Protests to my husband he is now heere, & hath drawne
 1929 him and the rest of their company from their sport, to
 1930 make another experiment of his suspition: But I am glad
 1931 the Knight is not heere; now he shall see his owne foo-lerie.
 1933 *Mist.Ford.* How neere is he *Mistris Page*?

1934 *Mist.Pag.* Hard by, at street end; he wil be here anon.
 1935 *Mist.Ford.* I am vndone, the Knight is heere.
 1936 *Mist.Page.* Why then you are vtterly sham'd, & hee's
 1937 but a dead man. What a woman are you? Away with
 1938 him, away with him: Better shame, then murther.
 1939 *Mist.Ford.* Which way should he go? How should I
 1940 bestow him? Shall I put him into the basket againe?
 1941 *Fal.* No, Ile come no more i'th Basket:
 1942 May I not go out ere he come?
 1943 *Mist.Page.* Alas: three of Mr. *Fords* brothers watch
 1944 the doore with Pistols, that none shall issue out: other-wise
 1945 you might slip away ere hee came: But what make
 1946 you heere?
 1947 *Fal.* What shall I do? Ile creepe vp into the chimney.
 1948 *Mist.Ford.* There they alwaies vse to discharge their
 1949 Birding- peeces: creepe into the Kill- hole.
 1950 *Fal.* Where is it?
 1951 *Mist.Ford.* He will seeke there on my word: Neyther
 1952 Presse, Coffe, Chest, Trunke, Well, Vault, but he hath
 1953 an abstract for the remembrance of such places, and goes
 1954 to them by his Note: There is no hiding you in the
 1955 house.
 1956 *Fal.* Ile go out then.
 1957 *Mist.Ford.* If you goe out in your owne semblance,
 1958 you die Sir *Iohn*, vnlesse you go out disguis'd.
 1959 *Mist.Ford.* How might we disguise him?
 1960 *Mist.Page.* Alas the day I know not, there is no wo-mans
 1961 gowne bigge enough for him: otherwise he might
 1962 put on a hat, a muffler, and a kerchiefe, and so escape.
 1963 *Fal.* Good hearts, deuise something: any extremitie,
 1964 rather then a mischiefe.
 1965 *Mist.Ford.* My Maids Aunt the fat woman of *Brain-ford*,
 1966 has a gowne aboue.
 1967 *Mist.Page.* On my word it will serue him: shee's as
 1968 big as he is: and there's her thrum'd hat, and her muffler
 1969 too: run vp Sir *Iohn*.
 1970 *Mist.Ford.* Go, go, sweet Sir *Iohn*: *Mistris Page* and
 1971 I will looke some linnen for your head.
 1972 *Mist.Page.* Quicke, quicke, wee'le come dresse you
 1973 straight: put on the gowne the while.
 1974 *Mist.Ford.* I would my husband would meete him
 1975 in this shape: he cannot abide the old woman of *Brain-ford*;
 1976 he swears she's a witch, forbad her my house, and
 1977 hath threatned to beate her.
 1978 *Mist.Page.* Heauen guide him to thy husbands cud-gell:
 1979 and the diuell guide his cudgell afterwards.

1980 *Mist.Ford.* But is my husband comming?
 1981 *Mist.Page.* I in good sadnesse is he, and talkes of the
 1982 basket too, howsoever he hath had intelligence.
 1983 *Mist.Ford.* Wee'l try that: for Ile appoint my men to
 1984 carry the basket againe, to meete him at the doore with
 1985 it, as they did last time.
 1986 *Mist.Page.* Nay, but hee'l be heere presently: let's go
 1987 dresse him like the witch of *Brainford*.
 1988 *Mist.Ford.* Ile first direct my men, what they
 1989 shall doe with the basket: Goe vp, Ile bring linnen for
 1990 him straight.
 1991 *Mist.Page.* Hang him dishonest Varlet,
 1992 We cannot misuse enough:
 1993 We'll leaue a prooffe by that which we will doo,
 1994 Wiues may be merry, and yet honest too:
 1995 We do not acte that often, iest, and laugh,
 1996 'Tis old, but true, Still Swine eats all the draugh.
 1997 *Mist.Ford.* Go Sirs, take the basket againe on your
 1998 shoulders: your Master is hard at doore: if hee bid you
 1999 set it downe, obey him: quickly, dispatch.
 2000 1 *Ser.* Come, come, take it vp.
 2001 2 *Ser.* Pray heauen it be not full of Knight againe.
 2002 1 *Ser.* I hope not, I had lief as beare so much lead.
 2003 *Ford.* I, but if it proue true (*Mr. Page*) haue you any
 2004 way then to vnfoole me againe. Set downe the basket
 2005 villaine: some body call my wife: Youth in a basket:
 2006 Oh you Panderly Rascals, there's a knot: a gin, a packe,
 2007 a conspiracie against me: Now shall the diuel be sham'd.
 2008 What wife I say: Come, come forth: behold what ho-nest [E4
 2009 cloathes you send forth to bleaching.
 2010 *Page.* Why, this passes *M[aster]*. *Ford:* you are not to goe
 2011 loose any longer, you must be pinnion'd.
 2012 *Euans.* Why, this is Lunaticks: this is madde, as a
 2013 mad dogge.
 2014 *Shall.* Indeed *M[aster]*. *Ford,* this is not well indeed.
 2015 *Ford.* So say I too Sir, come hither *Mistris Ford,* *Mi-stris*
 2016 *Ford,* the honest woman, the modest wife, the vertu-ous
 2017 creature, that hath the iealious foole to her husband:
 2018 I suspect without cause (*Mistris*) do I?
 2019 *Mist.Ford.* Heauen be my wnesse you doe, if you
 2020 suspect me in any dishonesty.
 2021 *Ford.* Well said *Brazon-* face, hold it out: Come forth
 2022 sirrah.
 2023 *Page.* This passes.
 2024 *Mist.Ford.* Are you not asham'd, let the cloths alone.
 2025 *Ford.* I shall finde you anon.

2026 *Eua.* 'Tis vnreasonable; will you take vp your wiues
 2027 cloathes? Come, away.
 2028 *Ford.* Empty the basket I say.
 2029 *M.Ford.* Why man, why?
 2030 *Ford.* Master *Page*, as I am a man, there was one con-uay'd
 2031 out of my house yesterday in this basket: why
 2032 may not he be there againe, in my house I am sure he is:
 2033 my Intelligence is true, my ieaousie is reasonable, pluck
 2034 me out all the linnen.
 2035 *Mist.Ford.* If you find a man there, he shall dye a Fleas
 2036 death.
 2037 *Page.* Heer's no man.
 2038 *Shal.* By my fidelity this is not well Mr. *Ford*: This
 2039 wrongs you.
 2040 *Euans.* Mr *Ford*, you must pray, and not follow the
 2041 imaginations of your owne heart: this is ieaousies.
 2042 *Ford.* Well, hee's not heere I seeke for.
 2043 *Page.* No, nor no where else but in your braine.
 2044 *Ford.* Helpe to search my house this one time: if I find
 2045 not what I seeke, shew no colour for my extremity: Let
 2046 me for euer be your Table- sport: Let them say of me, as
 2047 ieaous as *Ford*, that search'd a hollow Wall- nut for his
 2048 wiues Lemman. Satisfie me once more, once more serch
 2049 with me.
 2050 *M.Ford.* What hoa (*Mistris Page*,) come you and
 2051 the old woman downe: my husband will come into the
 2052 Chamber.
 2053 *Ford.* Old woman? what old womans that?
 2054 *M.Ford.* Why it is my maids Aunt of *Brainford*.
 2055 *Ford.* A witch, a Queane, an olde couzening queane:
 2056 Haue I not forbid her my house. She comes of errands
 2057 do's she? We are simple men, wee doe not know what's
 2058 brought to passe vnder the profession of Fortune- telling.
 2059 She workes by Charmes, by Spels, by th' Figure, & such
 2060 dawbry as this is, beyond our Element: wee know no-thing.
 2061 Come downe you Witch, you Hagge you, come
 2062 downe I say.
 2063 *Mist.Ford.* Nay, good sweet husband, good Gentle-men,
 2064 let him strike the old woman.
 2065 *Mist.Page.* Come mother *Prat*, Come giue me your
 2066 hand.
 2067 *Ford.* Ile *Prat*- her: Out of my doore, you Witch,
 2068 you Ragge, you Baggage, you Poulcat, you Runnion,
 2069 out, out: Ile coniure you, Ile fortune- tell you.
 2070 *Mist.Page.* Are you not asham'd?
 2071 I thinke you haue kill'd the poore woman.

2072 *Mist.Ford.* Nay he will do it, 'tis a goodly credite
 2073 for you.
 2074 *Ford.* Hang her witch.
 2075 *Eua.* By yea, and no, I thinke the o'man is a witch in-deede:
 2076 I like not when a o'man has a great peard; I spie
 2077 a great peard vnder his muffler.
 2078 *Ford.* Will you follow Gentlemen, I beseech you fol-low:
 2079 see but the issue of my iealousie: If I cry out thus
 2080 vpon no traile, neuer trust me when I open againe.
 2081 *Page.* Let's obey his humour a little further:
 2082 Come Gentlemen.
 2083 *Mist.Page.* Trust me he beate him most pittifully.
 2084 *Mist.Ford.* Nay by th' Masse that he did not: he beate
 2085 him most vnpittifully, me thought.
 2086 *Mist.Page.* Ile haue the cudgell hallow'd, and hung
 2087 ore the Altar, it hath done meritorious seruice.
 2088 *Mist.Ford.* What thinke you? May we with the war-rant
 2089 of woman- hood, and the witsse of a good consci-ence,
 2090 pursue him with any further reuenge?
 2091 *M.Page.* The spirit of wantonnesse is sure scar'd out
 2092 of him, if the diuell haue him not in fee- simple, with
 2093 fine and recouery, he will neuer (I thinke) in the way of
 2094 waste, attempt vs againe.
 2095 *Mist.Ford.* Shall we tell our husbands how wee haue
 2096 seru'd him?
 2097 *Mist.Pape.* Yes, by all meanes: if it be but to scrape
 2098 the figures out of your husbands braines: if they can find
 2099 in their hearts, the poore vnuertuous fat Knight shall be
 2100 any further afflicted, wee two will still bee the mini-sters.
 2102 *Mist.Ford.* Ile warrant, they'l haue him publiquely
 2103 sham'd, and me thinkes there would be no period to the
 2104 iest, should he not be publikely sham'd.
 2105 *Mist.Pape.* Come, to the Forge with it, then shape it:
 2106 I would not haue things coole. *Exeunt*

Scena Tertia.

2108 *Enter Host and Bardolfe.*
 2109 *Bar.* Sir, the Germane desires to haue three of your
 2110 horses: the Duke himselfe will be to morrow at Court,
 2111 and they are going to meet him.
 2112 *Host.* What Duke should that be comes so secretly?
 2113 I heare not of him in the Court: let mee speake with the
 2114 Gentlemen, they speake English?

2115 *Bar.* Ile Sir? Ile call him to you.
 2116 *Host.* They shall haue my horses, but Ile make them
 2117 pay: Ile sauce them, they haue had my houses a week at
 2118 commaund: I haue turn'd away my other guests, they
 2119 must come off, Ile sawce them, come. *Exeunt*

Scena Quarta.

2121 *Enter Page, Ford, Mistris Page, Mistris*
 2122 *Ford, and Euans.*
 2123 *Eua.* 'Tis one of the best discretions of a o'man as e-uer
 2124 I did looke vpon.
 2125 *Page.* And did he send you both these Letters at an
 2126 instant?
 2127 *Mist.Page.* Within a quarter of an houre.
 2128 *Ford.* Pardon me (wife) henceforth do what y wilt:
 2129 I rather will suspect the Sunne with gold,
 2130 Then thee with wantonnes: Now doth thy honor stand [E4v
 2131 (In him that was of late an Heretike)
 2132 As firme as faith.
 2133 *Page.* 'Tis well, 'tis well, no more:
 2134 Be not as extreme in submission, as in offence,
 2135 But let our plot go forward: Let our wiues
 2136 Yet once againe (to make vs publike sport)
 2137 Appoint a meeting with this old fat- fellow,
 2138 Where we may take him, and disgrace him for it.
 2139 *Ford.* There is no better way then that they spoke of.
 2140 *Page.* How? to send him word they'll meete him in
 2141 the Parke at midnight? Fie, fie, he'll neuer come.
 2142 *Eu.* You say he has bin throwne in the Riuers: and
 2143 has bin greeuously peaten, as an old o'man: me- thinkes
 2144 there should be terrors in him, that he should not come:
 2145 Me- thinkes his flesh is punish'd, hee shall haue no de-sires.
 2147 *Page.* So thinke I too.
 2148 *M.Ford.* Deuise but how you'l vse him whe[n] he comes,
 2149 And let vs two deuise to bring him thether.
 2150 *Mis.Page.* There is an old tale goes, that *Herne* the
 2151 Hunter (sometime a keeper heere in Windsor Forrest)
 2152 Doth all the winter time, at still midnight
 2153 Walke round about an Oake, with great rag'd- hornes,
 2154 And there he blasts the tree, and takes the cattle,
 2155 And make milch- kine yeeld blood, and shakes a chaine
 2156 In a most hideous and dreadfull manner.
 2157 You haue heard of such a Spirit, and well you know

2158 The superstitious idle- headed- Eld
 2159 Receiu'd, and did deliuer to our age
 2160 This tale of *Herne* the Hunter, for a truth.
 2161 *Page*. Why yet there want not many that do feare
 2162 In deepe of night to walke by this Hernes Oake:
 2163 But what of this?
 2164 *Mist.Ford*. Marry this is our deuise,
 2165 That *Falstaffe* at that Oake shall meete with vs.
 2166 *Page*. Well, let it not be doubted but he'll come,
 2167 And in this shape, when you haue brought him thether,
 2168 What shall be done with him? What is your plot?
 2169 *Mist.Pa*. That likewise haue we thoght vpon: & thus:
 2170 *Nan Page* (my daughter) and my little sonne,
 2171 And three or foure more of their growth, wee'l dresse
 2172 Like Vrchins, Ouphes, and Fairies, greene and white,
 2173 With rounds of waxen Tapers on their heads,
 2174 And rattles in their hands; vpon a sodaine,
 2175 As *Falstaffe*, she, and I, are newly met,
 2176 Let them from forth a saw- pit rush at once
 2177 With some diffused song: Vpon their sight
 2178 We two, in great amazednesse will flye:
 2179 Then let them all encircle him about,
 2180 And Fairy- like to pinch the vncleane Knight;
 2181 And aske him why that houre of Fairy Reuell,
 2182 In their so sacred pathes, he dares to tread
 2183 In shape prophane.
 2184 *Ford*. And till he tell the truth,
 2185 Let the supposed Fairies pinch him, sound,
 2186 And burne him with their Tapers.
 2187 *Mist.Page*. The truth being knowne,
 2188 We'll all present our selues; dis- horne the spirit,
 2189 And mocke him home to Windsor.
 2190 *Ford*. The children must
 2191 Be practis'd well to this, or they'll neu'r doo't.
 2192 *Eua*. I will teach the children their behauiours: and I
 2193 will be like a Iacke- an- Apes also, to burne the Knight
 2194 with my Taber.
 2195 *Ford*. That will be excellent,
 2196 Ile go buy them vizards.
 2197 *Mist.Page*. My *Nan* shall be the Queene of all the
 2198 Fairies, finely attired in a robe of white.
 2199 *Page*. That silke will I go buy, and in that time
 2200 Shall M[aster]. *Slender* steale my *Nan* away,
 2201 And marry her at *Eaton*: go, send to *Falstaffe* straight.
 2202 *Ford*. Nay, Ile to him againe in name of *Broome*,
 2203 Hee'l tell me all his purpose: sure hee'l come.

2204 *Mist.Page.* Feare not you that: Go get vs properties
 2205 And tricking for our Fayries.
 2206 *Euans.* Let vs about it,
 2207 It is admirable pleasures, and ferry honest knaueries.
 2208 *Mis.Page.* Go *Mist[ris]. Ford,*
 2209 Send quickly to Sir *Iohn,* to know his minde:
 2210 Ile to the Doctor, he hath my good will,
 2211 And none but he to marry with *Nan Page:*
 2212 That *Slender* (though well landed) is an Ideot:
 2213 And he, my husband best of all affects:
 2214 The Doctor is well monied, and his friends
 2215 Potent at Court: he, none but he shall haue her,
 2216 Though twenty thousand worthier come to craue her.

Scena Quinta.

2218 *Enter Host, Simple, Falstaffe, Bardolfe, Euans,*
 2219 *Caius, Quickly.*
 2220 *Host.* What wouldst thou haue? (Boore) what? (thick
 2221 skin) speake, breathe, discusse: breefe, short, quicke,
 2222 snap.
 2223 *Simp.* Marry Sir, I come to speake with Sir *Iohn Fal-staffe*
 2224 from M[aster]. *Slender.*
 2225 *Host.* There's his Chamber, his House, his Castle,
 2226 his standing- bed and truckle- bed: 'tis painted about
 2227 with the story of the Prodigall, fresh and new: go, knock
 2228 and call: hee'l speake like an Anthropophaginian vnto
 2229 thee: Knocke I say.
 2230 *Simp.* There's an olde woman, a fat woman gone vp
 2231 into his chamber: Ile be so bold as stay Sir till she come
 2232 downe: I come to speake with her indeed.
 2233 *Host.* Ha? A fat woman? The Knight may be robb'd:
 2234 Ile call. Bully- Knight, Bully Sir *Iohn:* speake from thy
 2235 Lungs Military: Art thou there? It is thine Host, thine
 2236 Ephesian cal.
 2237 *Fal.* How now, mine Host?
 2238 *Host.* Here's a Bohemian- Tartar taries the comming
 2239 downe of thy fat- woman: Let her descend (Bully) let
 2240 her descend: my Chambers are honourable: Fie, priua-cy?
 2241 Fie.
 2242 *Fal.* There was (mine Host) an old- fat- woman euen
 2243 now with me, but she's gone.
 2244 *Simp.* Pray you Sir, was't not the Wise- woman of
 2245 *Brainford?*

2246 *Fal.* I marry was it (Mussel- shell) what would you
 2247 with her?
 2248 *Simp.* My Master (Sir) my master *Slender*, sent to her
 2249 seeing her go thorough the streets, to know (Sir) whe-ther
 2250 one *Nim* (Sir) that beguil'd him of a chaine, had the
 2251 chaine, or no.
 2252 *Fal.* I spake with the old woman about it.
 2253 *Sim.* And what sayes she, I pray Sir?
 2254 *Fal.* Marry shee sayes, that the very same man that
 2255 beguil'd Master *Slender* of his Chaine, cozon'd him of it.
 2256 *Simp.* I would I could haue spoken with the Woman [E5
 2257 her selfe, I had other things to haue spoken with her
 2258 too, from him.
 2259 *Fal.* What are they? let vs know.
 2260 *Host.* I: come: quicke.
 2261 *Fal.* I may not conceale them (Sir.)
 2262 *Host.* Conceale them, or thou di'st.
 2263 *Sim.* Why sir, they were nothing but about Mistris
 2264 *Anne Page*, to know if it were my Masters fortune to
 2265 haue her, or no.
 2266 *Fal.* 'Tis, 'tis his fortune.
 2267 *Sim.* What Sir?
 2268 *Fal.* To haue her, or no: goe; say the woman told
 2269 me so.
 2270 *Sim.* May I be bold to say so Sir?
 2271 *Fal.* I Sir: like who more bold.
 2272 *Sim.* I thanke your worship: I shall make my Master
 2273 glad with these tydings.
 2274 *Host.* Thou art clearkly: thou art clearkly (Sir *Iohn*)
 2275 was there a wise woman with thee?
 2276 *Fal.* I that there was (mine *Host*) one that hath taught
 2277 me more wit, then euer I learn'd before in my life: and
 2278 I paid nothing for it neither, but was paid for my lear-ning.
 2280 *Bar.* Out alas (Sir) cozonage: meere cozonage.
 2281 *Host.* Where be my horses? speake well of them var-letto.
 2283 *Bar.* Run away with the cozoners: for so soone as
 2284 I came beyond *Eaton*, they threw me off, from behinde
 2285 one of them, in a slough of myre; and set spurres, and
 2286 away; like three *Germane*- diuels; three *Doctor Fau-stasses*.
 2288 *Host.* They are gone but to meete the Duke (villaine)
 2289 doe not say they be fled: *Germanes* are honest men.
 2290 *Euan.* Where is mine *Host*?
 2291 *Host.* What is the matter Sir?
 2292 *Euan.* Haue a care of your entertainments: there is a
 2293 friend of mine come to Towne, tels mee there is three
 2294 Cozen- Iermans, that has cozend all the *Hosts* of *Reading*,

2295 of *Maidenhead*; of *Cole-brooke*, of horses and money: I
 2296 tell you for good will (looke you) you are wise, and full
 2297 of gibes, and vlouting- stocks: and 'tis not conuenient
 2298 you should be cozoned. Fare you well.
 2299 *Cai*. Ver' is mine *Host de Iarteere*?
 2300 *Host*. Here (Master *Doctor*) in perplexitie, and doubt-full
 2301 delemma.
 2302 *Cai*. I cannot tell vat is dat: but it is tell- a- me, dat
 2303 you make grand preparation for a Duke *de Iamanie*: by
 2304 my trot: der is no Duke that the Court is know, to
 2305 come: I tell you for good will: adieu.
 2306 *Host*. Huy and cry, (villaine) goe: assist me Knight, I
 2307 am vndone: fly, run: huy, and cry (villaine) I am vn-done.
 2309 *Fal*. I would all the world might be cozond, for I
 2310 haue beene cozond and beaten too: if it should come
 2311 to the eare of the Court, how I haue beene transformed;
 2312 and how my transformation hath beene washd, and
 2313 cudgeld, they would melt mee out of my fat drop by
 2314 drop, and liquor Fishermens- boots with me: I warrant
 2315 they would whip me with their fine wits, till I were as
 2316 crest- falne as a dride- peare: I neuer prosper'd, since I
 2317 forswore my selfe at *Primero*: well, if my winde were
 2318 but long enough; I would repent: Now? Whence come
 2319 you?
 2320 *Qui*. From the two parties forsooth.
 2321 *Fal*. The Diuell take one partie, and his Dam the
 2322 other: and so they shall be both bestowed; I haue suf-fer'd
 2323 more for their sakes; more then the villanous in-constancy
 2324 of mans disposition is able to beare.
 2325 *Qui*. And haue not they suffer'd? Yes, I warrant; spe-ciously
 2326 one of them; Mistris *Ford* (good heart) is beaten
 2327 blacke and blew, that you cannot see a white spot about
 2328 her.
 2329 *Fal*. What tell'st thou mee of blacke, and blew? I
 2330 was beaten my selfe into all the colours of the Raine-bow:
 2331 and I was like to be apprehended for the Witch
 2332 of *Braineford*, but that my admirable dexteritie of wit,
 2333 my counterfeiting the action of an old woman deliuer'd
 2334 me, the knaue Constable had set me ith' Stocks, ith' com-mon
 2335 Stocks, for a Witch.
 2336 *Qu*, Sir: let me speake with you in your Chamber,
 2337 you shall heare how things goe, and (I warrant) to your
 2338 content: here is a Letter will say somewhat: (good- hearts)
 2339 what a-doe here is to bring you together? Sure,
 2340 one of you do's not serue heauen well, that you are so
 2341 cross'd.

2342 *Fal.* Come vp into my Chamber. *Exeunt.*

Scena Sexta.

2344 *Enter Fenton, Host.*

2345 *Host.* Master *Fenton*, talke not to mee, my minde is
2346 heauy: I will giue ouer all.

2347 *Fen.* Yet heare me speake: assist me in my purpose,
2348 And (as I am a gentleman) ile giue thee
2349 A hundred pound in gold, more then your losse.

2350 *Host.* I will heare you (Master *Fenton*) and I will (at
2351 the least) keepe your counsell.

2352 *Fen.* From time to time, I haue acquainted you
2353 With the deare loue I beare to faire *Anne Page*,
2354 Who, mutually, hath answer'd my affection,
2355 (So farre forth, as her selfe might be her chooser)
2356 Euen to my wish; I haue a letter from her
2357 Of such contents, as you will wonder at;
2358 The mirth whereof, so larded with my matter,
2359 That neither (singly) can be manifested
2360 Without the shew of both: fat *Falstaffe*
2361 Hath a great Scene; the image of the iest
2362 Ile show you here at large (harke good mine *Host*:)
2363 To night at *Hernes-Oke*, iust 'twixt twelue and one,
2364 Must my sweet *Nan* present the *Faerie-Queene*:
2365 The purpose why, is here: in which disguise
2366 While other Iests are something ranke on foote,
2367 Her father hath commanded her to slip
2368 Away with *Slender*, and with him, at *Eaton*
2369 Immediately to Marry: She hath consented: Now Sir,
2370 Her Mother, (euen strong against that match
2371 And firme for Doctor *Caius*) hath appointed
2372 That he shall likewise shuffle her away,
2373 While other sports are tasking of their mindes,
2374 And at the *Deanry*, where a *Priest* attends
2375 Strait marry her: to this her Mothers plot
2376 She seemingly obedient) likewise hath
2377 Made promise to the *Doctor*: Now, thus it rests,
2378 Her Father meanes she shall be all in white;
2379 And in that habit, when *Slender* sees his time
2380 To take her by the hand, and bid her goe,
2381 She shall goe with him: her Mother hath intended
2382 (The better to deuote her to the *Doctor*;
2383 For they must all be mask'd, and vizarded) [E5v

2384 That quaint in greene, she shall be loose en- roab'd,
 2385 With Ribonds- pendant, flaring 'bout her head;
 2386 And when the Doctor spies his vantage ripe,
 2387 To pinch her by the hand, and on that token,
 2388 The maid hath giuen consent to go with him.
 2389 *Host.* Which meanes she to deceiue? Father, or Mo-ther.
 2391 *Fen.* Both (my good Host) to go along with me:
 2392 And heere it rests, that you'l procure the Vicar
 2393 To stay for me at Church, 'twixt twelue, and one,
 2394 And in the lawfull name of marrying,
 2395 To giue our hearts vnited ceremony.
 2396 *Host.* Well, husband your deuice; Ile to the Vicar,
 2397 Bring you the Maid, you shall not lacke a Priest.
 2398 *Fen.* So shall I euermore be bound to thee;
 2399 Besides, Ile make a present recompence. *Exeunt*

Actus Quintus. Scoena Prima.

2401 *Enter Falstoffs, Quickly, and Ford.*
 2402 *Fal.* Pre'thee no more pratling: go, Ile hold, this is
 2403 the third time: I hope good lucke lies in odde numbers:
 2404 Away, go, they say there is Diuinity in odde Numbers,
 2405 either in natiuity, chance, or death: away.
 2406 *Qui.* Ile prouide you a chaine, and Ile do what I can
 2407 to get you a paire of hornes.
 2408 *Fal.* Away I say, time weares, hold vp your head &
 2409 mince. How now M[aster]. *Broome?* Master *Broome*, the mat-ter
 2410 will be knowne to night, or neuer. Bee you in the
 2411 Parke about midnight, at Hernes- Oake, and you shall
 2412 see wonders.
 2413 *Ford.* Went you not to her yesterday (Sir) as you told
 2414 me you had appointed?
 2415 *Fal.* I went to her (Master *Broome*) as you see, like a
 2416 poore- old- man, but I came from her (Master *Broome*)
 2417 like a poore- old- woman; that same knaue (*Ford* hir hus-band)
 2418 hath the finest mad diuell of iealousie in him (Ma-ster
 2419 *Broome*) that euer gouern'd Frensie. I will tell you,
 2420 he beate me greuously, in the shape of a woman: (for in
 2421 the shape of Man (Master *Broome*) I feare not Goliath
 2422 with a Weauers beame, because I know also, life is a
 2423 Shuttle) I am in hast, go along with mee, Ile tell you all
 2424 (Master *Broome*:) since I pluckt Geese, plaide Trewant,
 2425 and whipt Top, I knew not what 'twas to be beaten, till
 2426 lately. Follow mee, Ile tell you strange things of this

2427 knaue *Ford*, on whom to night I will be reuenged, and I
 2428 will deliuer his wife into your hand. Follow, straunge
 2429 things in hand (M[aster]. *Broome*) follow. *Exeunt*.

Scena Secunda.

2431 *Enter Page, Shallow, Slender.*
 2432 *Page.* Come, come: wee'll couch i'th Castle- ditch,
 2433 till we see the light of our Fairies. Remember son *Slen-der*,
 2434 my
 2435 *Slen.* I forsooth, I haue spoke with her, & we haue
 2436 a nay- word, how to know one another. I come to her
 2437 in white, and cry Mum; she cries Budget, and by that
 2438 we know one another.
 2439 *Shal.* That's good too: But what needes either your
 2440 Mum, or her Budget? The white will decipher her well
 2441 enough. It hath strooke ten a' clocke.
 2442 *Page.* The night is darke, Light and Spirits will be-come
 2443 it wel: Heauen prosper our sport. No man means
 2444 euill but the deuill, and we shal know him by his hornes.
 2445 Lets away: follow me. *Exeunt*.

Scena Tertia.

2447 *Enter Mist.Page, Mist.Ford, Caius.*
 2448 *Mist.Page.* Mr Doctor, my daughter is in green, when
 2449 you see your time, take her by the hand, away with her
 2450 to the Deanerie, and dispatch it quickly: go before into
 2451 the Parke: we two must go together.
 2452 *Cai.* I know vat I haue to do, adieu.
 2453 *Mist.Page.* Fare you well (Sir:) my husband will not
 2454 reioyce so much at the abuse of *Falstaffe*, as he will chafe
 2455 at the Doctors marrying my daughter: But 'tis no mat-ter;
 2456 better a little chiding, then a great deale of heart-breake.
 2458 *Mist.Ford.* Where is *Nan* now? and her troop of Fai-ries?
 2459 and the Welch- deuill Herne?
 2460 *Mist.Page.* They are all couch'd in a pit hard by Hernes
 2461 Oake, with obscur'd Lights; which at the very instant
 2462 of *Falstaffes* and our meeting, they will at once display to
 2463 the night.
 2464 *Mist.Ford.* That cannot choose but amaze him.
 2465 *Mist.Page.* If he be not amaz'd he will be mock'd: If

2466 he be amaz'd, he will euery way be mock'd.
 2467 *Mist.Ford.* Wee'll betray him finely.
 2468 *Mist.Page.* Against such Lewdsters, and their lechery,
 2469 Those that betray them, do no treachery.
 2470 *Mist.Ford.* The houre drawes- on: to the Oake, to the
 2471 Oake. *Exeunt.*

Scena Quarta.

2473 *Enter Euans and Fairies.*
 2474 *Euans.* Trib, trib Fairies: Come, and remember your
 2475 parts: be pold (I pray you) follow me into the pit, and
 2476 when I giue the watch- 'ords, do as I pid you: Come,
 2477 come, trib, trib. *Exeunt*

Scena Quinta.

2479 *Enter Falstaffe, Mistris Page, Mistris Ford, Euans,*
 2480 *Anne Page, Fairies, Page, Ford, Quickly,*
 2481 *Slender, Fenton, Caius, Pistoll.*
 2482 *Fal.* The Windsor- bell hath stroke twelue: the Mi-nute
 2483 drawes- on: Now the hot- bloodied- Gods assist me:
 2484 Remember Ioue, thou was't a Bull for thy *Europa*, Loue
 2485 set on thy hornes. O powerfull Loue, that in some re-spects
 2486 makes a Beast a Man: in som other, a Man a beast.
 2487 You were also (Iupiter) a Swan, for the loue of *Leda*: O [E6
 2488 omnipotent Loue, how nere the God drew to the com-plexion
 2489 of a Goose: a fault done first in the forme of a
 2490 beast, (O Ioue, a beastly fault:) and then another fault,
 2491 in the semblance of a Fowle, thinke on't (Ioue) a fowle- fault.
 2492 When Gods haue hot backes, what shall poore
 2493 men do? For me, I am heere a Windsor Stagge, and the
 2494 fattest (I thinke) i'th Forrest. Send me a coole rut- time
 2495 (Ioue) or who can blame me to pisse my Tallow? Who
 2496 comes heere? my Doe?
 2497 *M.Ford.* Sir *Iohn*? Art thou there (my Deere?)
 2498 My male- Deere?
 2499 *Fal.* My Doe, with the blacke Scut? Let the skie
 2500 raine Potatoes: let it thunder, to the tune of Greene-sleeues,
 2501 haile- kissing Comfits, and snow Eringoes: Let
 2502 there come a tempest of prouocation, I will shelter mee
 2503 heere.

2504 *M.Ford.* Mistris *Page* is come with me (sweet hart.)
 2505 *Fal.* Diuide me like a brib'd- Bucke, each a Haunch:
 2506 I will keepe my sides to my selfe, my shoulders for the
 2507 fellow of this walke; and my hornes I bequeath your
 2508 husbands. Am I a Woodman, ha? Speake I like *Herne*
 2509 the Hunter? Why, now is Cupid a child of conscience,
 2510 he makes restitution. As I am a true spirit, welcome.
 2511 *M.Page.* Alas, what noise?
 2512 *M.Ford.* Heauen forgiue our sinnes.
 2513 *Fal.* What should this be?
 2514 *M.Ford. M.Page.* Away, away.
 2515 *Fal.* I thinke the diuell wil not haue me damn'd,
 2516 Least the oyle that's in me should set hell on fire;
 2517 He would neuer else crosse me thus.
 2518 *Enter Fairies.*
 2519 *Qui.* Fairies blacke, gray, greene, and white,
 2520 You Moone- shine reuellers, and shades of night.
 2521 You Orphan heires of fixed destiny,
 2522 Attend your office, and your quality.
 2523 Crier Hob- goblyn, make the Fairy Oyes.
 2524 *Pist.* Elues, list your names: Silence you aiery toyes.
 2525 Cricket, to Windsor- chimnies shalt thou leape;
 2526 Where fires thou find'st vnrak'd, and hearths vnswept,
 2527 There pinch the Maids as blew as Bill- berry,
 2528 Our radiant Queene, hates Sluts, and Sluttery.
 2529 *Fal.* They are Fairies, he that speaks to them shall die,
 2530 Ile winke, and couch: No man their workes must eie.
 2531 *Eu.* Wher's *Bede*? Go you, and where you find a maid
 2532 That ere she sleepe has thrice her prayers said,
 2533 Raise vp the Organs of her fantasie,
 2534 Sleepe she as sound as carelesse infancie,
 2535 But those as sleepe, and thinke not on their sins,
 2536 Pinch them armes, legs, backes, shoulders, sides, & shins.
 2537 *Qu.* About, about:
 2538 Search Windsor Castle (Elues) within, and out.
 2539 Strew good lucke (Ouphes) on euery sacred roome,
 2540 That it may stand till the perpetuall doome,
 2541 In state as wholesome, as in state 'tis fit,
 2542 Worthy the Owner, and the Owner it.
 2543 The seuerall Chaires of Order, looke you scowre
 2544 With iuyce of Balme; and euery precious flowre,
 2545 Each faire Instalment, Coate, and seu'rall Crest,
 2546 With loyall Blazon, euermore be blest.
 2547 And Nightly- meadow- Fairies, looke you sing
 2548 Like to the *Garters*- Compasse, in a ring
 2549 Th' expressure that it beares: Greene let it be,

2550 More fertile- fresh then all the Field to see:
 2551 And, *Hony Soit Qui Mal-y- Pence*, write
 2552 In Emrold- tuffes, Flowres purple, blew, and white,
 2553 Like Saphire- pearle, and rich embroiderie,
 2554 Buckled below faire Knight- hoods bending knee;
 2555 Fairies vse Flowres for their characterie.
 2556 Away, disperse: But till 'tis one a clocke,
 2557 Our Dance of Custome, round about the Oke
 2558 Of *Herne* the Hunter, let vs not forget.
 2559 *Euan*. Pray you lock hand in hand: your selues in order |(set:
 2560 And twenty glow- wormes shall our Lanthornes bee
 2561 To guide our Measure round about the Tree.
 2562 But stay, I smell a man of middle earth.
 2563 *Fal*. Heauens defend me from that Welsh Fairy,
 2564 Least he transforme me to a peece of Cheese.
 2565 *Pist*. Vilde worme, thou wast ore- look'd euen in thy
 2566 birth.
 2567 *Qu*. With Triall- fire touch me his finger end:
 2568 If he be chaste, the flame will backe descend
 2569 And turne him to no paine: but if he start,
 2570 It is the flesh of a corrupted hart.
 2571 *Pist*. A triall, come.
 2572 *Eua*. Come: will this wood take fire?
 2573 *Fal*. Oh, oh, oh.
 2574 *Qui*. Corrupt, corrupt, and tainted in desire.
 2575 About him (Fairies) sing a scornfull rime,
 2576 And as you trip, still pinch him to your time.
 2577 The Song.
 2578 *Fie on sinnefull phantasie: Fie on Lust, and Luxurie:*
 2579 *Lust is but a bloody fire, kindled with vnchaste desire,*
 2580 *Fed in heart whose flames aspire,*
 2581 *As thoughts do blow them higher and higher.*
 2582 *Pinch him (Fairies) mutually: Pinch him for his villanie.*
 2583 *Pinch him, and burne him, and turne him about,*
 2584 *Till Candles, & Star- light, & Moone- shine be out.*
 2585 *Page*. Nay do not flye, I thinke we haue watcht you
 2586 now: Will none but *Herne* the Hunter serue your
 2587 turne?
 2588 *M.Page*. I pray you come, hold vp the iest no higher.
 2589 Now (good Sir *Iohn*) how like you *Windsor* wiues?
 2590 See you these husband? Do not these faire yoakes
 2591 Become the Forrest better then the Towne?
 2592 *Ford*. Now Sir, whose a Cuckold now?
 2593 Mr *Broome*, *Falstaffes* a Knaue, a Cuckoldly knaue,
 2594 Heere are his hornes Master *Broome*:
 2595 And Master *Broome*, he hath enjoyed nothing of *Fords*,

2596 but his Buck- basket, his cudgell, and twenty pounds of
 2597 money, which must be paid to Mr *Broome*, his horses are
 2598 arrested for it, Mr *Broome*.
 2599 *M.Ford.* Sir *Iohn*, we haue had ill lucke: wee could
 2600 neuer meete: I will neuer take you for my Loue againe,
 2601 but I will alwayes count you my Deere.
 2602 *Fal.* I do begin to perceiue that I am made an Asse.
 2603 *Ford.* I, and an Oxe too: both the proofes are ex-tant.
 2605 *Fal.* And these are not Fairies:
 2606 I was three or foure times in the thought they were not
 2607 Fairies, and yet the guiltinesse of my minde, the sodaine
 2608 surprize of my powers, droue the grossnesse of the fop-pery
 2609 into a receiu'd beleefe, in despight of the teeth of
 2610 all rime and reason, that they were Fairies. See now
 2611 how wit may be made a lacke- a- Lent, when 'tis vpon ill
 2612 imployment.
 2613 *Euans.* Sir *Iohn Falstaffe*, serue Got, and leaue your
 2614 desires, and Fairies will not pinse you.
 2615 *Ford.* Well said Fairy *Hugh*.
 2616 *Euans.* And leaue you your ienalouzies too, I pray
 2617 you. [E6v
 2618 *Ford.* I will neuer mistrust my wife againe, till thou
 2619 art able to woo her in good English.
 2620 *Fal.* Haue I laid my braine in the Sun, and dri'de it,
 2621 that it wants matter to preuent so grosse ore- reaching as
 2622 this? Am I ridden with a Welch Goate too? Shal I haue
 2623 a Coxcombe of Frize? Tis time I were choak'd with a
 2624 peece of toasted Cheese.
 2625 *Eu.* Seese is not good to giue putter; your belly is al
 2626 putter.
 2627 *Fal.* Seese, and Putter? Haue I liu'd to stand at the
 2628 taunt of one that makes Fritters of English? This is e-nough
 2629 to be the decay of lust and late- walking through
 2630 the Realme.
 2631 *Mist.Page.* Why Sir *Iohn*, do you thinke though wee
 2632 would haue thrust vertue out of our hearts by the head
 2633 and shoulders, and haue giuen our selues without scruple
 2634 to hell, that euer the deuill could haue made you our
 2635 delight?
 2636 *Ford.* What, a hodge- pudding? A bag of flax?
 2637 *Mist.Page.* A puft man?
 2638 *Page.* Old, cold, wither'd, and of intollerable en-trailes?
 2640 *Ford.* And one that is as slanderous as Sathan?
 2641 *Page.* And as poore as Iob?
 2642 *Ford.* And as wicked as his wife?
 2643 *Euan.* And giuen to Fornications, and to Tauernes,

2644 and Sacke, and Wine, and Metheglins, and to drinkings
2645 and swearings, and starings? Pribles and prables?

2646 *Fal.* Well, I am your Theame: you haue the start of
2647 me, I am deieted: I am not able to answer the Welch
2648 Flannell, Ignorance it selfe is a plummet ore me, vse me
2649 as you will.

2650 *Ford.* Marry Sir, wee'l bring you to Windsor to one
2651 Mr *Broome*, that you haue cozon'd of money, to whom
2652 you should haue bin a Pander: ouer and aboue that you
2653 haue suffer'd, I thinke, to repay that money will be a bi-ting
2654 affliction.

2655 *Page.* Yet be cheerefull Knight: thou shalt eat a pos-set
2656 to night at my house, wher I will desire thee to laugh
2657 at my wife, that now laughes at thee: Tell her Mr *Slen-der*
2658 hath married her daughter.

2659 *Mist.Page.* Doctors doubt that;
2660 If *Anne Page* be my daughter, she is (by this) Doctour
2661 *Caius* wife.

2662 *Slen.* Whoa hoe, hoe, Father *Page*.

2663 *Page.* Sonne? How now? How now Sonne,
2664 Haue you dispatch'd?

2665 *Slen.* Dispatch'd? Ile make the best in Glostershire
2666 know on't: would I were hang'd la, else.

2667 *Page.* Of what sonne?

2668 *Slen.* I came yonder at *Eaton* to marry Mistris *Anne*
2669 *Page*, and she's a great lubberly boy. If it had not bene
2670 i'th Church, I would haue swing'd him, or hee should
2671 haue swing'd me. If I did not thinke it had bene *Anne*
2672 *Page*, would I might neuer stirre, and 'tis a Post- masters
2673 Boy.

2674 *Page.* Vpon my life then, you tooke the wrong.

2675 *Slen.* What neede you tell me that? I think so, when
2676 I tooke a Boy for a Girle: If I had bene married to him,
2677 (for all he was in womans apparrell) I would not haue
2678 had him.

2679 *Page.* Why this is your owne folly,
2680 Did not I tell you how you should know my daughter,
2681 By her garments?

2682 *Slen.* I went to her in greene, and cried Mum, and
2683 she cride budget, as *Anne* and I had appointed, and yet
2684 it was not *Anne*, but a Post- masters boy.

2685 *Mist.Page.* Good *George* be not angry, I knew of
2686 your purpose: turn'd my daughter into white, and in-deede
2687 she is now with the Doctor at the Deanrie, and
2688 there married.

2689 *Cai.* Ver is Mistris *Page*: by gar I am cozoned, I ha

2690 married oon Garsoon, a boy; oon pesant, by gar. A boy,
 2691 it is not *An Page*, by gar, I am cozened.
 2692 *M.Page*. Why? did you take her in white?
 2693 *Cai*. I bee gar, and 'tis a boy: be gar, Ile raise all
 2694 Windsor.
 2695 *Ford*. This is strange: Who hath got the right *Anne*?
 2696 *Page*. My heart misgiues me, here comes Mr *Fenton*.
 2697 How now Mr *Fenton*?
 2698 *Anne*. Pardon good father, good my mother pardon
 2699 *Page*. Now Mistris:
 2700 How chance you went not with Mr *Slender*?
 2701 *M.Page*. Why went you not with Mr Doctor, maid?
 2702 *Fen*. You do amaze her: heare the truth of it,
 2703 You would haue married her most shamefully,
 2704 Where there was no proportion held in loue:
 2705 The truth is, she and I (long since contracted)
 2706 Are now so sure that nothing can dissolue vs:
 2707 Th' offence is holy, that she hath committed,
 2708 And this deceit looses the name of craft,
 2709 Of disobedience, or vnduteous title,
 2710 Since therein she doth euitate and shun
 2711 A thousand irreligious cursed houres
 2712 Which forced marriage would haue brought vpon her.
 2713 *Ford*. Stand not amaz'd, here is no remedie:
 2714 In Loue, the heauens themselues do guide the state,
 2715 Money buyes Lands, and wiues are sold by fate.
 2716 *Fal*. I am glad, though you haue tane a special stand
 2717 to strike at me, that your Arrow hath glanc'd.
 2718 *Page*. Well, what remedy? *Fenton*, heauen giue thee
 2719 ioy, what cannot be eschew'd, must be embrac'd.
 2720 *Fal*. When night- dogges run, all sorts of Deere are
 2721 chac'd.
 2722 *Mist.Page*. Well, I will muse no further: Mr *Fenton*,
 2723 Heauen giue you many, many merry dayes:
 2724 Good husband, let vs euery one go home,
 2725 And laugh this sport ore by a Countrie fire,
 2726 Sir *Iohn* and all.
 2727 *Ford*. Let it be so (Sir *Iohn*:)
 2728 To Master *Broome*, you yet shall hold your word,
 2729 For he, to night, shall lye with Mistris *Ford*: *Exeunt*

FINIS.

2731 **THE**
Merry Wiues of Windsor.
