

Abbott 1773 Lemuel Abbott (ed.), Macbeth -- a tragedy
-- by William Shakespeare (London, 1773).

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MACBETH.
A
TRAGEDY.

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MACBETH.
A TRAGEDY.
BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE.

COLLATED WITH
THE OLD AND MODERN EDITIONS.

LONDON,
PRINTED BY W. BOWYER AND J. NICHOLS:
AND SOLD BY W. OWEN, BETWEEN THE
TEMPLE-GATES, FLEET-STREET.
MDCCLXXIII.

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MACBETH,
A TRAGEDY.

EDITIONS COLLATED;

The /a Folio's, and Modern Editions.

/a The 1st folio appears to be the oldest edition of this Play.

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DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.

Duncan, King of Scotland. Appears Act I. Sc. 2, 6, 8.
Malcolm, Act I. Sc. 2, 6, 8. Act I. Sc. 5. Act
IV. Sc. 4, 5, 6. Act V. Sc. 4, 6, 7.
Sons to the King,
Donalbain, Act I. Sc. 2, 6, 8. Act II. Sc. 5.
Macbeth, Act I. Sc. 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10. Act II. Sc.
1, 2, 3, 4, 5. Act III. Sc. 1, 2, 3, 5.
Act IV. Sc. 2. Act V. Sc. 3, 5, 6.
Generals of the
King's Army
Banquo, Act I. Sc. 4, 5, 6, 8. Act II. Sc. 1, 5.
Act III. Sc. 1, 4.
Lenox, Act I. Sc. 2, 6, 8. Act II. Sc. 4, 5. Act
III. Sc. 1, 5, 7. Act IV. Sc. 2. Act
V. Sc. 2.
Macduff, Act I. Sc. 8. Act II. Sc. 4, 5, 6. Act
IV. Sc. 4, 5, 6. Act V. Sc. 4, 6, 7.
Rosse, Act I. Sc. 2, 5, 6, 8. Act II. Sc. 5, 6.
Act III. Sc. 1, 5. Act IV. Sc. 3, 6.
Act V. Sc. 7.
Noblemen of
Scotland,
Menteth, Act V. Sc. 2, 4.
Angus, Act I. Sc. 2, 6, 5, 8. Act V. Sc. 2, 4.
Cathness, Act V. Sc. 2, 4.
/b Fleance, Son to Banquo, Act II. Sc. 1. Act III. Sc. 4.
/c Seyward, General of the
English Forces, Act V. Sc. 4, 6, 7.
Young Seward, his Son, Act V. Sc. 4, 6.
Seyton, an Officer, attending
on Macbeth, Act V. Sc. 3, 5.
Son to Macduff, Act IV. Sc. 5.
A wounded Captain, Act I. Sc. II.
A Doctor, Act IV. Sc. 5.
Another Doctor, Act V. Sc. 1, 3.
A Porter, Act II. Sc. 4.
An old Man, Act II. Sc. 6.

/b The fo's sometimes spell this name Fleans.

/c T. and all after, except C. Siward.

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1st Murtherer, Act III. Sc. 2, 4, 5.
2d Murtherer, Act IV. Sc. 3.
3d Murtherer, Act III. Sc. 2, 4.
Other Murtherers, Act IV. Sc. 3.
Lady Macbeth, Act I. Sc. 7, 8, 10. Act II. Sc. 3, 5
Act III. Sc. 1, 3, 5. Act V. Sc. 1.
Lady Macduff, Act IV. Sc. 3.
Gentlewoman, attending on

Lady Macbeth, Act V. Sc. 1.
Hecate, Act III. Sc. 6. Act IV. Sc. 1, 2.
Three Witches, Act I. Sc. 1, 3, 4. Act III. Sc. 6. Act
IV. Sc. 1, 2.
Three other Witches, Act IV. Sc. 1, 2.
Lords, Gentlemen, Officers, Soldiers, and Attendants.
The Ghost of Banquo, Act III. Sc. 5. Act IV. Sc. 2.
Several other Apparitions, Act IV. Sc. 2.

SCENE,

In the End of the fourth Act, lies in England; through the
rest of the Play, in Scotland, and chiefly at Macbeth's
Castle.

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A
SKETCH
OF
THE PLAY.

ACT I.

Sc. I. An open place. Thunder and lightning. Enter
three witches. Their intention to meet Mac-
beth. They rise, and fly away.

Sc. II. The palace at Foris. Alarum within. Enter king,
Malc. Donalb. Len. with Attendants, meeting a
bleeding Captain, who brings an account of Macb.'s
having gained the victory over the rebels; but that
the Norweyans had begun a fresh assault. Exit
Captain. Enter Rosse and Ang. with the news that
the Thane of Cawdor had assisted the Norweyans,
but that the victory declared against them. The
king passes sentence of death upon the thane of
Cawdor, and invests Macb. with his title.

Sc. III. An heath. Thunder. Enter the three witches.
Their mischievous conjurations against a Sailor,
whose wife had refused to give one of them some
of her chesnuts. They make a charm for Macb.
and Banq.

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Sc. IV. To the Witches enter Macb. and Banq. The
Witches salute Macb. as Thane of Glamis and
Cawdor, and as one who shall be king. They
foretel that Banquo's children shall be kings. The
Witches vanish.

Sc. V. To Macb. and Banq. enter Rosse and Ang. who bring the king's thanks to Macb. for his exploits, and inform him that he is made Thane of Candor.

Sc. VI. The palace. Enter king, Malcolm, Donalb. Len. and attendants. Mal. informs the king that the traitrous Thane of Cawdor is executed. Enter Macb. Banq. Rosse and Ang. The king expresses his gratitude to Macb. and Banq. for their services; declares his eldest son Malcolm his heir and prince of Cumberland; and invites himself to Macb.'s castle at Inverness. Exit Macb. to make preparations for the reception of the king. Flourish, and exeunt the rest.

Sc. VII. An apartment in Macb.'s castle at Inverness. Enter lady Macb. alone, reading a letter from Macb. which informs her of what passed between him and the Witches. Her reflections thereon. Enter messenger with tidings that the king is coming to be her guest. Exit messenger. Lady Macb. in a soliloquy discovers her murtherous intentions against the king; and, Macb. entering, persuades him to engage therein. Exeunt.

Sc. VIII. Before Macb.'s castle. Enter king, Mal. Donalb. Banq. Len. Macd. Rosse, Ang. and attendants. The king and Banq. praise the seat for it's pleasantness. Enter lady Macbeth. After mutual compliments between the king and her, exeunt.

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Sc. IX. An apartment in the castle. Enter a Sewer and servants, with dishes and service over the stage. Enter Macb. His soliloquy on the intended murther. Reflecting on the doubtfulness of success, and the heinousness of the crime, he is staggered in his resolution.

Sc. X. To him enter lady Macb. who by specious arguments confirms him in the horrid design. Exeunt.

ACT II.

Sc. I. Macb.'s castle. Enter Banq. and Fle. with a torch before him. Talk of the darkness of the night. Enter Macb. and a servant with a torch. Banq. presents Macb. with a diamond for lady Macb. from the king. Talk of the Witches, &c. Exeunt Banq. and Fle.

Sc. II. Manet Macb. Soliloquy on a bloody dagger, which seems to appear to him leading him on to the murder. A bell rings. Exit, as to kill the king.

Sc. III. Enter lady Macb. Her soliloquy while Macb. is about the murder. Enter Macb. who informs her he has done the deed. Exeunt.

Sc. IV. Enter a porter. Knocking within. The porter's humorous speech as in the character of a porter of hell-gate. The porter opens. Enter Macd. and Len. Humorous talk about drink and its effects. Enter Macb. Macd. enquires of him, if the king be stirring, and tells him that he (Macd.) had orders to call the king early. Macb. shews Macd.

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the room where the king lies. Exit Macd. as to call the king. After a short space re-enter Macd. shocked with the sight of the murdered king. Exeunt Macb. and Len. to the king's chamber. Macd. orders the alarum-bell to be rung, and cries out, Murder and treason!

Sc. V. Bell rings. To Macd. enter lady Macb. pretending to enquire into the cause of the clamour. Enter Banq. whom Macd. acquaints with the king's murder. Enter Macb. Len. and Rosse. Soon after enter Malc. and Donalb. They are informed of their father's murder. It appears from a speech of Macb. that he, as judging the king's guards guilty of the murder, had killed them when he went with Len. into the king's chamber, in Sc. IV. Lady Macb. counterfeiting a swoon, is carried out. Exeunt all but Malc. and Donalb. They, thinking themselves in danger, are determined to fly; and agree that Malc. shall go to England, Donalb to Ireland. Exeunt, taking leave.

Sc. VI. The outside of Macb.'s castle. Enter Rosse with an old man, and soon after enter Macd. Talk of the omens that preceded the king's murder; of the king's two sons, Malc. and Donalb. being fled, which lays them under the suspicion of having suborned the guards to murder their father; and of the likelihood of Macb.'s being invested with the sovereignty. Exeunt.

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ACT III.

Sc. I. An apartment in the palace. Enter Banq. He suspects that Macb. has played foully for the crown which he has gained. Trumpets sound. Enter Macb. as king, lady Macbeth, Len. Rosse, lords and attendants. Macb. invites Banq. to a solemn supper to be held at night. Banq. promises (after a ride he and Fle. are to take for the afternoon) to return to the supper. Exit Banq. Exeunt lady Macb. and lords, &c.

Sc. II. Manent Macb. and a servant. Macb. bids the servant call two men that are waiting without. Exit servant. A soliloquy of Macb. He fears Banq. on account of his wisdom and valour. Enter two Murtherers, whom Macb. employs to murther Banq. and Fleance as they return from their ride. Exeunt murtherers. Exit Macb.

Sc. III. Another apartment in the palace. Enter lady Macb. and a servant, whom she sends to call Macb. Enter Macb. Talk of their dangerous situation while Banq. and Fle. live, &c. Exeunt.

Sc. IV. A park, the castle at a distance. Enter three murtherers, as waiting for Banq. and Fle. Enter Banq. and Fle. Banq. is murthered, but Fle. makes his escape. Exeunt murtherers.

Sc. V. A room of state in the castle. A banquet prepared. Enter Macb. lady Macb. Rosse, Len. lords and attendants. Macb. and his lady welcome the guests. Enter 1st murtherer, acquaints Macb. with the

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death of Banq. and escape of Fle. Exit murtherer. The ghost of Banq. rises and sits in Macb.'s place, which he had left to speak with the murtherer. Macb. starts, and falls into a fit of terror, which his lady excuses to the guests as a disorder he is troubled with. The ghost vanishes. Macb. drinks to the health of his guests, and of the absent Banq. wishing him present. The ghost rises again. Macb. falls into another fit of terror. Exeunt all but Macb. and lady. Macb. having stept so far in blood, determines to continue his course. Exeunt.

Sc. VI. The heath. Thunder. Enter three witches, meeting Hecate. Hecate is angry with them, that they did not consult with her in their charms on Macb.'s account. She appoints them to meet her in the morning at the pit of Acheron, whither she says

Macb. will come to know his destiny. Exeunt.

Sc. VII. A chamber. Enter Len. and another lord. Len. ironically insinuates that Macb. is the author of the late murders, and is informed by this lord that Macd. is gone to England to solicit assistance of king Edward against the tyrant Macb. Exeunt.

ACT IV,

Sc. I. A dark cave. In the middle, a great cauldron boiling. Thunder. Enter the three Witches. They march round the cauldron, and throw in the several ingredients as for the preparation of their charm.

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Enter Hecate and three other Witches. Music and a song.

Sc. II. To them enter Macb. He conjures them to answer some questions which he shall ask: They conjure up an apparition of an armed head, which bids him beware of Macduff. A second apparition of a bloody-child tells him that None of woman born shall harm Macbeth. A third apparition of a child crowned, with a tree in his hand, tells him, he shall never be vanquished till Birnam wood shall come to Dunsinane hill against him. Macb. conjures the Witches farther to tell him, whether Banq.'s issue shall ever reign in Scotland. As an answer to this question they cause eight kings (supposed Banq.'s issue) to appear and pass by in order; and Banq. after them, with a glass in his hand, wherein appear many more. Music. The Witches dance, and vanish. Enter Len. who tells Macb. that Macd. is fled to England. Macb. determines to seize upon the castle of Macd. and to murder his wife and family. Exeunt.

Sc. III. Macd. castle at Fife. Enter lady Macd. her son, and Rosse. Lady Macd. complains of her husband's flying to England: Rosse endeavours to comfort her. Exit Rosse. Talk between lady Macd. and her son. Enter Messenger, who being apprehensive of danger to her and hers, advises their flight. Exit Messenger. Soon after enter Murderers, who kill the son. Exit lady Macd. crying Murder! and the Murderers pursuing her.

Sc. IV. The king of England's palace. Enter Mal. and Macd. They bewail the kingdom of Scotland, as

deprived of its lawful king, and oppressed by an usurper. Malc. suspecting treachery in Macd. pretends to relinquish all thoughts of recovering his birth-right, viz. the crown of Scotland, and urges his own (feigned) vicious dispositions as the reason: but at length, discovering Macd.'s fidelity by his ingenuous behaviour, he acknowledges that he has unjustly accused himself, and accepts the proffered assistance of his friends to set him on the throne.

Sc. V. To them enter a Doctor, who gives them notice that king Edward is coming forth from his palace, and that a number of persons afflicted by the Evil are waiting for his touch. Exit Doctor.

Sc. VI. Enter Rosse, who brings news that Macd.'s castle is surprized, and his wife and children slaughtered. Macd.'s grief thereon, and determination to be revenged on the tyrant. Exeunt.

ACT V.

Sc. I. An anti-chamber in Macb.'s castle. Enter a Doctor of physic and a waiting Gentlewoman. Discourse of lady Macb. who walks and talks in her sleep. Enter lady Macb. in her sleep with her taper in her hand, discovers her guilty conscience by her talk. Exeunt.

Sc. II. A field with a wood at a distance. Drum and colours. Enter Ment. Cath. Ang. Len. and soldiers. From this scene we are informed that an army of the English led by Malc. Seyw. and Macd. is mov-

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ing towards Dunsinane, where Macb. is fortifying himself. Exeunt.

Sc. III. The castle of Dunsinane. Enter Macb. Doctor and attendants. A Servant informs Macb. that an army of ten thousand English are approaching. Enter Seyton, who confirms the news. Talk between Macb. and the Doctor about lady Macb.'s illness. Exeunt.

Sc. IV. Birnam wood. Drum and colours. Enter Malc. Seyw. Macd. Seyw.'s son, Ment. Cath. Ang. and soldiers marching. Malc. orders every soldier to

hew down a bough and carry it before him to conceal the number of the army as they advance towards Dunsinane. Exeunt marching.

Sc. V. The castle of Dunsinane. Enter Macb. Seyton, and soldiers, with drums and colours. A cry within of women; the cause whereof Macb. enquiring, is informed lady Macb. is dead. Enter a Messenger; who tells Macb. that as he looked towards Birnam, the wood seemed to move. Macb. orders the alarm-bell to be rung. Exeunt.

Sc. VI. Before Dunsinane. Drum and colours. Enter Malc. Seyw. Macd. and their army with boughs. Malc. bids them throw down their boughs. Alarum. Exeunt. Enter Macb. and soon after young Seyw. They fight, and the latter is slain. Exit Macb. Alarums. Enter Macd. seeking Macb. to engage with him. Exit. Enter Malc. and Seyw. Seyw. tells Malc. that the castle is rendered up, and the battle almost won. Exeunt. Alarum. Enter Macb. and, after him, Macd. They fight. Macb. boasts his security, for that he bears a charmed life which

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must not yield to one of woman born. Macd. bids him, despair his charm, for he (Macd.) was from his mother's womb untimely ript. On this Macb. refuses to fight; but on being provoked by Macd. with the name of coward, again engages him, and exeunt fighting.

Sc. VII. Retreat and flourish. Enter with drum and colours, Malc. Seyw. Rosse, Thanes and Soldiers. Seyw. is informed that his son is dead; but, as he received his wounds on the front, rejoices that he died honourably. Enter Macd. with Macb.'s head. He and the rest hail Malc. king of Scotland. Malc. creates the Thanes, Earls; gives thanks to all; and invites them to Scone, to see him crowned. Flourish. Exeunt omnes.

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MACBETH

ACT I.

SCENE I.

/a An open Place.

Thunder and Lightning. Enter three Witches.

1 Witch. When shall we three meet again
In thunder, lightning, /b and in rain?

2 Witch. When the hurly-burly's done.
When the battle's lost and won.

3 Witch. That will be ere set of sun.

1 Witch. Where the place?

2 Witch. Upon the heath.

3 Witch. /c There to meet with Macbeth.

/a This scene is not described in the
fo's; R. P. and H. call it, An open heath;
C. a cross-way.

/b So H. and C. which seems to be the
right reading; for the question is not
which of the three they should meet in,
thunder, lightning, or rain; but when
they should meet again for their incan-
tations, these meetings of theirs being
supposed to be always accompanied with
thunder, lightning, and rain. All the
rest read or for and.

/c So all before P; he and all after,
except C. There I go to meet Macbeth.
But this is certainly wrong; for not on-
ly the 3d Witch was going to meet Mac-
beth, but all three: So that if, for the
sake of the measure, there needed an
alteration, There we go to meet Macbeth,
would have been the proper reading.
C. reads, There to meet with great Mac-
beth.

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1 Witch. /d I come, /e Grimalkin.

/f 2 Witch. Padocke calls --- anon.

All. Fair is foul, and foul is fair.

Hover through /g the fog and filthy air.

/h [They rise from the stage, and fly away.]

SCENE II.

/i The Palace at Foris.

/k Alarum within. Enter King, Malcolme, Donalbaine, Le-
nox, with attendants, meeting a bleeding Captain.

King. What bloody man is that? he can report,
As seemeth by his plight, of the revolt
The newest state.

Mal. This is the serjeant,
Who like a good and hardy soldier fought
'Gainst my captivity. /l Hail, hail, brave friend!
Say to the King, the knowledge of the broil,
As thou didst leave it.

Cap. /m Doubtful it stood,

/d So all before P; he and all after,
except C. repeat I come twice.

/e The fo's and R. Gray-Malkin.

/f All before P. give this speech to
All: so does C.

/g P. and H. omit the.

/h This direction was first put in by
R; the fo's read only, [Exeunt.

/i This description of the Scene is first
put in by T; the fo's have no descrip-
tion; R. and P. only, A Palace; C. A
camp near Foris.

/k So the fo's; all after, except C.
omit Alarum within.

/l The 1st f. and J. read hail but
once.

/m So all before P; he and all after,
except C. Doubtful long it stood, &c.

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As two /n expert swimmers that do cling together,
And choak their art. The merciless /o Macdonald,
(Worthy to be a rebel; for to that
The multiplying /p villanies of nature
Do swarm upon him) from the western isles
/q Of Kernes and /r Gallowglasses, /s is supply'd;
And fortune on his damned /t quarry smiling,
Shew'd like /u a rebel's whore: /w But all 's too weak,
For brave Macbeth (well he deserves that name)
Disdaining fortune, with his brandisht steel,
Which smoak'd with bloody execution,
Like valour's minion carved out his passage,
/x Till he fac'd the slave;
Which ne'er shook hands nor /y bad farewell to him,
'Till he unseam'd him from the /z nave to th' chops,
And fix'd his head upon our battlements.

/n All the editions read spent: But
'tis probable Shakespeare wrote 'xpert,
cutting off the e to make it measure,
which the editors (not knowing what
to make of it) changed into spent, the
traces of the letters being near. Spent
can here have no meaning; for the si-
mile is drawn from two persons swim-

ming for a trial of their skill, who can swim fastest; and as they approach near the goal, they are supposed to cling together, and strive to hinder each other in their progress; an operation inconsistent with their being tired and spent, but well agreeing with their being expert in their art.

/o The 1st f. Macdonwald; the rest, Macdonnel.

/p The 2d and 3d fo's, villaines.

/q H. With for Of.

/r The 1st f. Gallowgrosses.

/s So all before P; he and the rest, except C. was for is.

/t H. W. J. and C. quarrel for quarry. See Heath in loc.

/u H. the for a.

/w So all before P; he and the rest, except C. all for all's.

/x So all before P; he and all after, except J. read, 'Till he had fac'd, &c.

/y The 4th f. and all after, but C. bid for bad.

/z H. and W. nape for nave.

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King. O valiant cousin! worthy gentleman!

Cap. As whence the sun /a 'gins his reflection
Shipwrecking storms and direful thunders /b break;
So from that spring, whence comfort seem'd to come,
/c Discomfort swells. Mark, king of Scotland, mark;
No sooner justice had, with valour arm'd,
Compell'd these skipping /d Kernes to trust their heels;
But the Norway lord, surveying 'vantage,
With furbisht arms and new supplies of men
Began a fresh assault.

King. Dismay'd not this
Our captains, /e Macbeth and Banquo?

Cap. Yes,
As sparrows, eagles; or the hare, the lion.
If I say sooth, I must report, they were
As cannons overcharg'd with double cracks,
So they /f doubly redoubled strokes upon the foe.
Except they meant to bathe in reeking wounds,
Or memorize another Golgotha,
I cannot tell ---

But I am faint, my gashes cry for help. ---

King. So well thy words become thee, as thy wounds;
They smack of honour both. Go, get him surgeons.

/g [Exeunt some with the soldier.]

/a So the copies before P. who reads
give for 'gin; followed by H.
/b The 1st f. omits break; the other
fo's and R. breaking for break: break is
P.'s emendation, followed by the rest.
/c So the fo's and R. P. Discomfort
swell'd; so T. and H. W. Discomfit
well'd. J. Discomforts well'd. C. Dis-
comfort wells.
/d J. Kermes.
/e H. and C. brave Macbeth.
/f P. and all after, except C. omit
doubly.
/g This direction put in by C_

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Enter Rosse and Angus.

/f Who comes here?
Mal. The worthy Thane of Rosse.
Len. /g What haste looks through his eyes?
/h So should he look, that /i seems to speak things strange.
Rosse. God save the King!
King. Whence cam'st thou, worthy Thane?
Rosse. From Fife, great king,
Where the Norwegian banners flout the sky,
And fan our people cold.
Norway himself, with /k terrible numbers,
Assisted by that most disloyal traytor
The Thane of Cawdor, /l began a dismal conflict,
'Till that Bellona's bridegroom, lapt in proof,
Confronted him with self-comparisons,
Point against point rebellious /m, arm 'gainst arm,
Curbing his lavish spirit. /n And to conclude,
The victory fell on us.
King. Great happiness!
Rosse. /o That now
Sweno, /o the Norway's king, craves composition:

/f P. and all after, read But before
who.
/g First f. What a haste, &c.
/h Upton thinks this line should be
given to Malcolme.
/i J. proposes, teems for seems.
/k P. alters this to, numbers terrible;
which gives occasion to T. to stop in the
following manner, Norway, himself with
numbers terrible, assisted, &c. followed by
all after.
/l So all before P; he and all after,
except C. 'gan.
/m In all editions before T. the com-
ma is placed after point.

/n P. and all after, except C. om__
And.

/o P. and all after, omit That an_
the.

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Nor would we deign him burial of his men,
Till he disbursed, at Saint /p Colmkil-isle,
Ten thousand dollars, to our general use.

King. No more that Thane of Cawdor shall deceive
Our bosom interest. Go, pronounce his /q present death;
And with his former title /r greet Macbeth.

Rosse. I'll see it done.

King. What he hath lost, noble Macbeth hath won.

[Exeunt.]

SCENE III.

Changes to the Heath.

Thunder. Enter the three Witches.

1 Witch. Where hast thou been, sister?

2 Witch. Killing swine.

3 Witch. Sister, where thou?

1 Witch, A sailor's wife had chesnuts in her lap,
And mouncht, and mouncht, and mouncht. Give me,
quoth I.

/s Aroynt thee, witch, the rump-fed ronyon cries.
Her husband 's to Aleppo gone, master o' th' Tiger:

/p The 1st f. Colmes ynch; the other
fo's, R. and C. Colmes-hill; the rest,
CoImes-kill-isle, except H. who reads as
in the text, and gives the following note:
"Colmkil is one of the Western isles of
Scotland, otherwise call'd Jona."

/q P. and all after, except C. omit
present.

/r The three last fo's, great.

/s The 3d and 4th fo's, Anoynt for
Aroynt.

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But in a sieve I'll thither sail,
And like a rat without a tail,
I'll do, I'll do, and I'll do.

2 Witch. I'll give thee a wind.

1 Witch. /t Thou 'rt kind.

3 Witch. And I another.

1 Witch. I myself have all the other.
And the /u very /w points they blow;
All the quarters that they know,
I' th' ship-man's card.
/x I'll drain him dry as hay,
Sleep shall neither night nor day
Hang upon his pent-house lid;
He shall live a man /y forbid;
Weary sev'n-nights nine times nine,
Shall he dwindle, peak, and pine;
Though his bark cannot be lost,
Yet it shall be tempest-tost.
Look, what I have.

2 Witch. Shew me, shew me.

1 Witch. Here, I have a pilot's thumb,
Wrackt as homeward he did come.

[Drum within.]

3 Witch. A drum, a drum!
Macbeth doth come!

/t So the fo's, R. and C; the rest,
Thou art for Thou'rt.

/u J. proposes, various for very.

/w All before P. read ports for points.

/x So all before P; he and all after,
except C. I will for I'll.

/y i. e. interdicted. As the Pope's le-
gate told K. John, "He (the Pope)
hath wholly interdicted and cursed
you, for the wrongs you have done
unto the holy church." Fox, Vol. I.
p. 285. Upton's Crit. Ob.

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All. The /z weïrd sisters, hand in hand,
Posters of the sea and land,
Thus do go about, about,
Thrice to thine, and thrice to mine,
And thrice again to make up nine.
Peace, the charm's wound up.

SCENE IV.

Enter Macbeth and Banquo /a.

Mac. So foul and fair a day I have not seen.

Ban. How far is 't call'd to /b Foris? --- What are these,
So wither'd and so wild in their attire?
That look not like th' inhabitants o' th' earth,
And yet are on 't? Live you, or are you aught
That man may question? You seem to understand me,

By each at once her choppy finger laying
Upon her skinny lips; --- You should be women,

/z So T. H. and C; the rest, weyward.
"Be aventure Makbeth and Banquho
were passand to Fores, quhair king Dun-
cane hapnit to be for the tyme, and met be
ye gait thre wommen clothit in elrage and
uncouth weid. They wer jugit be the pe-
pill to be weird sisteris. The old Scottish
chron. fol. c. lxxiii. From the An-
gio-Sax. wyrd, fatum, comes, weird
sisters, parcae. So Douglass in his trans-
lation of Virgil, Æn. III. Prohibent nam
cætera parcæ scire. The weird sisteris de-
fendis that suld be wit. And hence comes
wizard. Upton, Crit. Obs.

/a R. and all after add, with soldiers
and other attendants, (except C. who di-
rects, Enter Macb. and Banq. journeying;
soldiers, and others, at a distance). But,
as it does not appear that there is any
need of them in the scene, so it is like-
wise improper there should be any wit-
nesses to what passed in it.

/b All before P. Soris for Foris.

27

And yet your beards forbid me to interpret
That you are so.

Mac. Speak; if you can; what are you?

1 Witch. All-hail, Macbeth! Hail to thee, Thane of
Glamis!

2 Witch. All-hail, Macbeth! Hail to thee, Thane of
Cawdor!

3 Witch. All-hail, Macbeth! that shalt be king hereafter.

Ban. Good sir, why do you start, and seem to fear
Things that do sound so fair? --- I' th' name of truth,
Are ye fantastical, or that indeed
Which outwardly ye shew? My noble partner
You greet with present grace, and great prediction
Of noble Having, and of royal hope,
That he seems /c rapt withal; to me you speak not.
If you can look into the seeds of time,
And say which grain will grow and which will not;
Speak then to me, who neither beg, nor fear,
Your favours, nor your hate.

1 Witch. Hail!

2 Witch. Hail!

3 Witch. Hail!

1 Witch. Lesser than Macbeth, and greater.

2 Witch. Not so happy, yet much happier.

3 Witch. Thou shalt get kings, though thou be none;
/d So, all hail, Macbeth and Banquo!

1 Witch. Banquo and Macbeth, all hail!

Mac. Stay, you imperfect speakers, tell me more;

/c All before P. wrapt.

/d P. and H. omit So.

28

By /e Sinel's death, I know I am Thane of Glamis;
But how of Cawdor? the Thane of Cawdor lives,
A prosperous gentleman; and, to be king,
Stands not within the prospect of belief,
No more than to be Cawdor. Say from whence
You owe this strange intelligence, or why
Upon this blasted heath you stop our way,
With such prophetic Greeting? --- Speak, I charge you.

[Witches vanish.]

Ban. The earth hath bubbles, as the water has;
And these are of them. Whither are they vanish'd?

Mac. Into the air; and what seem'd corporal
Melted, as breath, into the wind. ---
Would they had staid!

Ban. Were such things here, as we do speak about?
Or have we eaten /f of the insane root,
That takes the Reason prisoner?

Mac. Your children shall be kings.

Ban. You shall be king.

Mac. And Thane of Cawdor too; went it not so?

Ban. To th' self-same tune, and words. /g Who's here?

/e The father of Macbeth. P.

/f The 3 first fo's, on for of.

/g H. reads, but who is here? for who's
here?

29

SCENE V.

Enter Rosse and Angus.

Rosse. The king hath happily receiv'd, Macbeth,
The news of thy success; and when he reads
Thy personal /h venture in the rebels' fight,
His wonders and his praises do contend,
Which would be thine, or his. Silenc'd with that,
In viewing o'er the rest o' th' self-same day,
He finds thee in the stout Norwegian ranks,

Nothing /i afeard of what thyself didst make
Strange images of death. /k As thick as hail,
Came post on post, and every one did bear
Thy praises in his kingdom's great defence;
And pour'd them down before him.

Ang. We are sent,
To give thee, from our royal master, thanks;
Only to /l herald thee into his sight,
Not pay thee.

Rosse. And for an earnest of a greater honour,
He bad me, from him, call thee Thane of Cawdor:
In which addition, hail, most worthy Thane!
For it is thine.

/h W. reads 'venture, i. e. adventure;
followed by J.

/i So the 3 first fo's and C; the rest,
afraid.

/k The fo's read, As thick as tale
Can post with post, &c.

/l The 1st f. harrold.

30

Ban. What, can the devil speak true?

Mac. The Thane of Cawdor lives;
Why do you dress me in /m his borrow'd robes?

Ang. Who was the Thane, lives yet;
But under heavy judgment bears that life,
Which he deserves to lose. Whether he was combin'd
With n those of Norway, or did line the rebel
With hidden help and 'vantage; or /o that with both
He labour'd in his country's wreck, I know not;
But treasons capital, confess'd, and prov'd,
Have overthrown him.

Mac. Glamis and Thane of Cawdor! [Aside.
The greatest is behind --- Thanks for your pains. [To Angus.
Do you not hope your children shall be ings? [To Banquo.
When those that gave the Thane of Cawdor to me,
Promis'd no less to them?

Ban. That trusted home,
Might yet enkindle you unto the crown,
Besides the Thane of Cawdor. But 'tis strange;
And oftentimes, to win us to our harm,
The instruments of darkness tell us truths,
Win us with honest trifles, to /p betray us
In deepest consequence. --- Cousins, a word, I pray you.
[To Rosse and Angus.

Mac. Two truths are told, [Aside.
As happy prologues to the swelling act

Of the imperial theme. --- I thank you, gentlemen ---

/m The 1st f. and C. omit his.

/n So all before P; he and all after
omit those of.

/o P. and H. omit that.

/p The fo's and R.'s octavo, betray's
for betray us.

31

This supernatural solliciting
Cannot be ill; cannot be good --- If ill,
Why hath it given me earnest of success,
Commencing in a truth? I am Thane of Cawdor.
If good, why do I yield to that suggestion,
Whose horrid image doth /q unfix my /r hair,
And make my seated heart knock at my ribs,
Against the use of nature? Present /s fears
Are less than horrible imaginings.
My thought, /t whose murther yet is but fantastical,
Shakes so my single state of man, that function
Is smother'd in surmise; and nothing is,
But what is not.

Ban. Look how our partner 's rapt.

Mac. If chance will have me king, why, chance may
crown me,
Without my stir. [Aside.

Ban. New honours, come upon him,
Like our strange garments, cleave not to their mould
But with the aid of use.

Mac. Come what come may, [Aside.
/u Time and the hour runs through the roughest day.

Ban. Worthy Macbeth, we stay upon your leisure.

Mac. Give me your favour. My dull brain was wrought
With things /w forgotten. Kind gentlemen, your pains
[To Rosse and Angus.

/q W. upfix for unfix.

/r The fo's, heire for hair.

/s T. and all after, except C. read feats
for fears. This is W's emendation.

/t H. reads whose murther's yet but fan-
tasy, &c.

/u J. proposes reading, Time! on! ---
the hour, &c.

/w So all before P; he and the rest,
except C. forgot for forgotten.

32

/x Are registred where every day I turn

The leaf to read them, --- Let us toward the king.
Think upon what hath chanc'd; and at more time, [To Banquo.
The interim having weigh'd it, let us speak
Our free hearts each to other.

Ban. Very gladly,

Mac. 'Till then, enough. Come, friends. [Exeunt.

/y SCENE VI.

/z The Palace.

Flourish. Enter King, Malcolm, Donalbain, Lenox, and
Attendants.

King. Is execution done on Cawdor? /a
/b Are not those in commission yet return'd?

Mal. My liege,
They are not yet come back. But I have spoke
With one that saw him die; who did report,
That very frankly he confess'd his treasons,
Implor'd your Highness' pardon, and set forth
A deep repentance; nothing in his life

/x De me autem, quantas debeo gra-
tias paternæ benignitati vestræ, scriben-
do non sufficio reddere. Sed eas in charta
cordis mei scriptas lego assidue. Anselm.
Paschali Pontif. ap. Ead. p. 93.

/y In the fo's, R. and C. this is made
the 4th Scene.

/z R. first describes the scene.

/a After Cawdor P. adds yet, followed
by all but C.

/b The 1st f. T. W. and J. Or for
Are.

33

Became him like the leaving it. He dy'd,
As one that had been studied in his death,
To throw away the dearest thing he /c ow'd,
As 'twere a careless trifle.

King. There' s no art,
To find the mind's construction in the face:
He was a gentleman, on whom I built
An absolute trust.

Enter Macbeth, Banquo, Rosse, and Angus.

/d O worthiest cousin!

The sin of my ingratitude even now
Was heavy on me. Thou art so far before;
The swiftest wing of recompence is slow,

To overtake thee. Would, thou hadst less deserv'd,
That the proportion both of thanks and payment
Might have been mine! Only I have left to say,
/e More is thy due, than more than all can pay.

Mac. The service and the loyalty I owe,
In doing it pays itself. Your Highness' part
Is to receive our duties; and our duties
Are to your throne and state, children and servants;
Which do but what they should, by doing every thing
/f Safe toward your /g love and honour.

King. Welcome hither:
I have begun to plant thee, and will labour

/c W. own'd for ow'd; but Shake-
speare uses them both in the same sense.

/d H. reads, O my most worthy cousin.

/e H. reads, More it thy due, ev'n more
than all can pay.

/f So all before H. who reads Shap'd
for Safe; W. Fief'd; T. proposes, Fiefs;
Heath, Serves; J. --- in doing nothing,
save toward your love &c.

/g W. life for love.

34

To make thee full of growing. Noble Banquo,
Thou hast no less deserv'd, /h nor must be known
No less to have done so. Let me enfold thee,
And hold thee to my heart.

Ban. There if I grow,
The harvest is your own.

King. My plenteous joys,
Wanton in fulness, seek to hide themselves
In drops of sorrow. Sons, kinsmen, /i Thanes,
And you whose places are the nearest, know,
We will establish our estate upon
Our eldest Malcolm, whom we name hereafter
The Prince of Cumberland, which honour must,
Not /k unaccompanied, invest him only,
But signs of nobleness, like stars, shall shine
On all deservers. /l From hence to Inverness,
And bind us further to you.

Mac. The rest is labour, which is not us'd for you:
I'll be myself the harbinger, and make joyful
The hearing of my wife with your approach;
So humbly take my leave.

King. My worthy Cawdor!

Mac. The prince of Cumberland! --- That is a step [Aside.
On which I must fall down, or else o'er-leap,

/h So all before R; he and all after,
except C. and for nor. But perhaps there
was no need of an emendation: for we
have here only the double negative, which
Shakespeare sometimes makes use of;
Thou hast no less deserv'd than Macbeth,
nor must thou no less (any less, we should
say) be known to have deserved.

/i Before Thanos H. inserts and.

/k W. reads accompanied, an error of
the press, followed by J.

/l P. and all after, except C. omit
From.

35

For in my way it lies. Stars, hide your fires!
Let /m not /n light see my black and deep desires;
The eye wink at the hand; yet let that be,
Which the eye fears, when it is done, to see. [Exit.

King. True, worthy Banquo; /o he is full so valiant;
And in his commendations I am fed;
It is a banquet to me. /p Let 's after him,
Whose care is gone before to bid us welcome:
It is a peerless Kinsman. [/q Flourish. Exeunt.

/r SCENE VII.

/s An apartment in Macbeth's Castle at Inverness.

Enter /t Lady Macbeth alone, with a letter.

Lady. They met me in the day of success; and I have learn'd
by /u the perfectest report, they have more in them than mortal
knowledge. When I burnt in desire to question them further,
they made themselves air, into which they vanish'd. /w Whiles

/m H. no for not.

/n W. Night for light.

/o H. he is full of valour, &c.

/p P. and all after, Let us for Let's.

/q The 3 last fo's, P. H. and C. omit
Flourish.

/r This is the 5th Scene, in the fo's,
R. and C.

/s There is no description of the scene
in the fo's; R. first gives the above, ex-
cept the words, at Inverness, which are
added by P.

/t The fo's, Macbeth's wife.

/u W. the perfected report, i. e. the
prediction fulfilled.

/w P. and all after, except C. while
for whiles.

I stood rapt in the wonder of it, came missives from the king,
 who /x all-hail'd me, Thane of Cawdor; by which title, be-
 fore, these weïrd sisters saluted me, and referr'd me to the
 coming on of time, with Hail king that shalt be! This have
 I thought good to deliver thee, my dearest partner of greatness,
 that thou might'st not /y lose the dues of rejoicing, by being igno-
 rant of what greatness is promis'd thee. Lay it to thy heart,
 and farewell.

Glamis thou art, and Cawdor --- and shalt be
 What thou art promis'd. Yet /z do I fear thy nature;
 It is too full o' th' milk of human kindness,
 To catch the nearest way. Thou would'st be great;
 Art not without ambition; but without
 The illness should attend it. What thou would'st highly,
 That would'st thou holily; would'st not play false,
 And yet would'st wrongly win; thou'dst have, great Glamis,
 That which cries, Thus thou must do, if thou have /a it;
 /b And that which rather thou dost fear to do,
 Than wishest should be undone. /c Hie thee hither,
 That I may pour my spirits in thine ear,
 And chastise with the valour of my tongue
 All that /d impedes thee from the golden round,

/x The 3 last fo's and R. all hail'd
 for all-hail'd.

/y The two 1st fo's, loose for lose.

/z P. and H. omit do; the last f. and
 R. I do for do I.

/a J. says it is necessary to read me
 for it. Not at all necessary, Dr. J.
 That which, if thou wouldst have it,
 cries "Thus thou must do."

/b C. And that's what rather, &c.

/c The three 1st fo's, High for Hie.

/d The 3 last fo's and R. thee hinders
 for impedes thee.

Which fate and /e metaphysical aid doth /f seem
 To have /g thee crown'd withal.

Enter Messenger.

What is your tidings?

Mess. The king comes here to night.

Lady. Thou 'rt mad to say it.

Is not thy master with him? who, were 't so,

Would have inform'd for preparation.

Mes. So please you, it is true: our Thane is coming,
One of my fellows had the speed of him;
Who almost dead for breath, had scarcely more
/h Than would make up his message.

Lady. Give him tending;
He brings great news. The raven /i himself is hoarse,
[Exit Messenger.

That croaks the fatal entrance of Duncan
Under my battlements. Come, /k you spirits
That tend on mortal thoughts, unsex me here,
And fill me from the crown to the toe, top-full
Of direst cruelty; make thick my blood,
Stop up th' access and passage to remorse,
That no compunctious visitings of nature
Shake my fell purpose, nor keep /m peace between
Th' /n effect, and /o it. Come to my woman's breasts,

/e H. metaphysic.

/f J. proposes, seek for seem. See Heath
in loc.

/g W. crown'd thee for thee crown'd.

/h The three 1st fo's, Then.

/i W. himself s not hoarse, &c. See
Heath.

/k P. and all after, insert all before
you.

/l W. and J. direct for direst.

/m J. proposes, pace for peace.

/n The 2d f. essect.

/o The 1st and 2d fo's, hit for it.

38

And take my milk for gall, you murth'ring ministers,
Where-ever in your sightless substances
You wait on nature's mischief. Come, thick night!
And pall thee in the dunnest smoak of hell,
That my keen knife see not the wound it makes;
Nor heaven peep through the blanket of the dark,
To cry, Hold, hold!

Enter Macbeth.

Great Glamis! worthy Cawdor! /p [Embracing him.
Greater than both, by the all-hail hereafter!
Thy letters have transported me beyond
This ignorant present /q, and I feel now
The future in the instant.

Mac. /r My dearest love,
Duncan comes here to night.

Lady. And when goes hence?

Mac. To-morrow, as he purposes.

Lady. O never
Shall sun that morrow see.
Your face, my Thane, is as a book where men
May read strange matters /s. To beguile the time,
Look like the time; bear welcome in your eye,
Your hand, your tongue; look like the innocent flower,
But be the serpent under 't. He, that's coming,
Must be provided for; and you shall put
This night's great business into my dispatch,

/p This direction first given by R.
/q After present P. and all after add
time.
/r P. and all after, except C, omit
My.
/s The period is placed at the end of
this line, in the fo's, R. and P.

39

Which shall to all our nights and days to come
Give solely sovereign sway and masterdom.

Mac. We will speak further.

Lady. Only look up clear:
To alter favour ever is to fear:
Leave all the rest to me.

[Exeunt.]

/r SCENE VIII.

/s Before Macbeth's Castle-Gate.

Hautboys and Torches. Enter King, Malcolm, Donalbain,
Banquo, Lenox, Macduff, Rosse, Angus, and Atten-
dants.

King. This castle hath a pleasant seat; the air
Nimbly and sweetly recommends itself
Unto our /t gentle /u senses.

Ban. This guest of summer,
The temple-haunting /w martlet, does approve
By his lov'd /x mansionry that /y the heaven's breath
Smells woingly here. No /z jutty frieze,
Buttrice, nor coigne of 'vantage, but this bird
Hath made his pendant bed, and procreant cradle;

/r This is Scene VI. in the fo's, R.
and C.
/s The scene not described in the fo's.
/t W. general sense.
/u C. sense.
/w The fo's, bartlet.

/x The fo's, R. and P.'s quarto, man-
sonry; P.'s duodecimo and H_ masonry.

/y P. and all after, except C. omit
the.

/z P. and all after, except J. jut-
ting.

40

Where they /a must breed and haunt, I have observ'd,
The air is delicate.

Enter Lady Macbeth.

King. See, see! our honour'd hostess!
The love that follows us, /b sometimes is our trouble,
Which still we thank as love. Herein I teach you
How you /c shall bid God-eyld us for your pains,
And thank us for your trouble.

Lady. All our service,
In every point twice done, and then done double,
Were poor and single business to contend
Against those honours deep and broad, wherewith
Your Majesty loads our house. For those of old,
And the late dignities heap'd up to them,
We rest your /d hermits.

King. Where 's the Thane of Cawdor?
We cours'd him at the heels, and had a purpose
To be his purveyor; but he rides well,
And his great love, sharp as his spur, hath holp him
To his home before us. Fair and noble hostess,
We are your guest to-night.

Lady. Your servants ever
Have theirs, themselves, and what is theirs in compt,
To make their audit at your Highness' pleasure,
Still to return your own.

King. Give me your hand,

/a So the fo's; the rest, most for must.

/b The fo's, R. and C. sometime is our,
&c. P. sometime's our, &c.

/c So the fo's, R.'s octavo, H. and C;
the rest, should for shall.

/d The 1st f. Ermites.

41

Conduct me to mine host, we love him highly;
And shall continue our graces towards him.
By your leave, hostess.

[Exeunt.]

/e SCENE IX.

/f An Apartment in Macbeth's Castle.

Hautboys. Torches. Enter a /g Sewer, and divers Servants with dishes and service over the stage. Then enter Macbeth.

Mac. If it were done, when 'tis done, then 'twere well
It were done quickly; if th' assassination
Could trammel up the consequence, and catch,
With /h his surcease, success; that but this blow

/e In the fo's, R. and C. Scene VII.

/f No description of the scene in the fo's.

/g None but the fo's and C. mention a sewer.

/h So all before P; he and all after, except C. read its for his; whereby the passage is obscured, and J. has been led to propose an emendation, viz. With its success, surcease, &c. i. e. with success in the assassination, a surcease of farther fear and anxiety. This I suppose is J.'s meaning. But had the modern editors retained the old reading his, they would have met with no difficulty herein: for his refers to Duncan; and the meaning is this, If the assassination of Duncan would secure me the consequence I aim at, viz. the quiet possession of his crown, and procure me with his surcease, or death, success to my ambitious designs; that but this one blow might be all I had to do, and that nothing was to be feared here, in this life, afterwards; we'd jump the life to come; I would skip over those thoughts that regard a state beyond the grave, I would venture the future judgment. But in these cases of murder, we still have judgment here. And this is agreeable to the common opinion, that murder will out, some time or other, and receive its punishment in this world.

42

Might be the Be-all and the /i End-all here,
But here, upon this bank and /k school of time,
We 'd jump the life to come. --- But, in these cases,
We still have judgment here, that we but teach
Bloody instructions, which, being taught, return
/l To plague th' inventor; /m this even-handed justice
/n Commends th' ingredients of our poison'd chalice

To our own lips. He 's here in double trust:
First, as I am his kinsman and his subject,
Strong both against the deed; then, as his host,
Who should against his murderer shut the door,
Not bear the knife myself. Besides, this Duncan
Hath borne /p his /q faculties so meek, hath been
So clear in his great office, that his virtues
Will plead, like angels, trumpet-tongu'd, /r against
The deep damnation of his taking off;
And Pity, like a naked, new-born babe,
Striding the blast, or heaven's **cherubim**, hors'd
Upon the sightless /s couriers of the air,
Shall blow the horrid deed in every eye,
That tears shall drown the wind. --- I have no spur
To prick the sides of my intent, but only
Vaulting ambition, which o'erleaps itself,
And falls on th' other ---

/i R. End of all, &c.

/k T. H. J. and C. shoal; W. shelve.

/l The three last fo's and R. omit this
line.

/m P. T. H. and W. omit this.

/n So the 1st f. J. and C; the other
fo's and R. To plague for Commends; P.
and the rest, Returns for Commends.

/o The fo's, R. and C. th' ingre-
dience.

/p The three last fo's, this for his.

/q The two last fo's, R. and P. fa-
culty.

/r J. again.

/s The fo's, curriers; T. H. and W.
coursers.

43

SCENE X.

Enter Lady Macbeth.

How now? what news?

Lady. /t He has almost supp'd; why have you left the
chamber?

Mac. Hath he ask'd for me?

Lady. Know you not he has?

Mac. We will proceed no further in this business.
He hath honour'd me of late; and I have bought
Golden opinions from all /u sorts of people,
Which /w would be worn now in their newest gloss,
Not cast aside so soon.

Lady. Was the hope drunk,

Wherein you drest yourself? hath it slept since?
And wakes it now, to look so green and pale
At what it did so freely? From this time,
Such I account thy love. Art thou /x afeard
To be the same in thine own act and valour,
As thou art in desire? Wouldst thou have that,
Which thou esteem'st the ornament of life,
/y And live a coward in thine own esteem,

/t So the fo's, R. and C; H. He hath;
the rest, He's for He has.

/u T. W. and J. sort.

/w H. should for would.

/x So the three 1st fo's and C; the
rest, afraid.

/y J. would read So for And. But
what need of this alteration? the sense
is plain enough; Wouldst thou (dost
thou desire to) have that, which thou
esteem'st the ornament of life, and (yet,
or at the same time) live a coward in
thine own esteem, (by) letting I dare
not wait upon I would, &c.

44

Letting I dare not, wait upon I would,
Like the poor cat i' th' adage?

Mac. Pr'ythee peace!

I dare do all that may become a man;
Who dares /z do more, is none.

Lady. What beast was 't then,
That made you break this enterprize to me?
When you durst do it, then you were a man;
And (to be more than what you were) you would
Be so much more the man. Nor time, nor place,
Did then /a adhere, and yet you would make both;
They have made themselves, and that their fitness now
Does unmake you. I have given suck, and know
How tender 'tis to love the babe that milks me;
I would, while it was smiling in my face,
Have pluckt my nipple from his boneless gums,
And dash'd the brains out, had I /b but so sworn
As you have done to this.

Mac. If we should fail? ---

Lady. We fail!

But screw your courage to the sticking place,
And we'll not fail. When Duncan is asleep,
(Whereto the rather shall /c his day's hard journey
Soundly invite him) his two chamberlains
Will I with wine and wassel so convince,

That memory, the warder of the brain,
Shall be a fume; and the receipt of reason
A limbeck only. When in swinish sleep

/z The fo's, no for do.

/a So all before P; he and all after,
except C. co-here for adhere.

/b The 1st f. omits but.

/c P. and H. this for his.

45

Their drenched natures /d lie as in a death,
What cannot you and I perform upon
Th' unguarded Duncan? what not put upon
His spungy officers, who shall bear the guilt
Of our great quell?

Mac. Bring forth men-children only:
For thy undaunted /e metal should compose
Nothing but males. Will it not be receiv'd
When we have mark'd with blood those sleepy two
Of his own chamber, and us'd their very daggers,
That they have done 't?

Lady. Who dares receive it other,
As we shall make our griefs and clamour roar,
Upon his death?

Mac. I am settled, and bend up
Each corporal agent to this terrible feat.
Away, and mock the time with fairest show,
False face must hide what the false heart doth know.

[Exeunt.]

/d The 1st f. lyes.

/e The three first fo's and C. Mettle.

46

ACT II.

SCENE I.

/f Macbeth's Castle.

Enter Banquo, and Fleance with a Torch before him.

Ban. How goes the night, boy?

Fle. The moon is down: I have not heard the
clock.

Ban. And she goes down at twelve.

Fle. I take 't, 'tis later, Sir.

Ban. Hold, take my sword. There 's husbandry in heaven,
Their candles are all out. --- Take thee that too.
A heavy summons lies like lead upon me,
And yet I would not sleep. Merciful powers!
Restrain in me the cursed thoughts that nature
Gives way to in repose.

Enter Macbeth, and a servant with a torch.
Give me my sword. Who's there?

Mac. A friend.

Ban. What, Sir, not yet at rest? The King's a-bed.

/f The scene not described in the fo's; all the rest till J. call it a hall. C. Court
within the Castle.

47

He hath /g been in unusual pleasure, **and**
Sent /h forth /i great largess to your officers.
This diamond he greets your wife withal,
By the name of most kind hostess, /k and 's shut up
In measureless content.

Mac. Being unprepar'd,
Our will became the servant to defect;
Which else should free have wrought.

Ban. /m All 's well.
I dreamt last night of the three /n weird sisters;
To you they have shew'd some truth.

Mac. I think not of them;
Yet, when we can intreat an hour to serve,
/o We would spend /p it in some words upon that business,
If you would grant the time.

Ban. At your /q kind'st leisure.

Mac. /r If you shall cleave to my consent, when 'tis,

/g Here P. inserts to-night, followed
by all after.

/h P. and all after omit forth.

/i The three last fo's and R. insert a
before great.

/k So H. and C; the rest, and for
and's.

/l The three last fo's and R. shut it up,
&c.

/m H. and C. All's very well.

/n See Act I. Sc. 3. Note /z.

/o P. and all after, except C. omit
We.

/p R. omits it in.

/q So the two 1st fo's and C; the rest,
kind for kind'st.

/r That is, if you shall cleave to that
party which consents to my advance-
ment, when ever the opportunity may

offer. Heath.

But I should rather think something
is lost here, of the following purport:

Ban. At your kind'st leisure. ---
"Those lookers into fate, that hail'd
you, Cawdor!
Did also hail you, king! and I do trust,
Most worthy Thane, you would consent
to accept
What your deserts would grace, when
offer'd you."

Mac. If you shall cleave, &c.

48

It shall make honour for you.

Ban. So I lose none
In seeking to augment it, but still keep
My bosom franchis'd and allegiance clear,
I shall be counsell'd.

Mac. Good repose the while!

Ban. Thanks, sir; the like to you.

[Exeunt Ban. /s and Fleance.

SCENE II.

Mac. Go, bid thy mistress, when my drink is ready,
She strike upon the bell. Get thee to bed. [Exit servant.
Is this a dagger which I see before me,
The handle toward my hand? Come, let me clutch thee.
I have thee not, and yet I see thee still.
Art thou not, fatal Vision, sensible
To feeling as to sight? or art thou but
A dagger of the mind, a false creation
Proceeding from the heat-oppressed brain?
I see thee yet, in form as palpable
As this which now I draw. ---
Thou marshall'st me the way that I was going;
And such an instrument I was to use.
Mine eyes are made the fools o' th' other senses,
Or else worth all the rest --- I see thee still;

/s All before T. omit and Fleance.

49

/t And on thy blade and dudgeon, /u gouts of blood,
Which was not so before. --- There 's no such thing. ---
It is the bloody business, which informs
/w Thus to mine eyes. --- /x Now o'er the one half world
Nature seems dead, and wicked dreams abuse

The curtain'd sleep; /y now witchcraft celebrates
 Pale Hecate's offerings: and /z wither'd Murther,
 Alarum'd by his centinel, the wolf,
 Whose howl 's his watch) thus with his stealthy pace,
 With Tarquin's ravishing /a strides, towards his design
 Moves like a ghost. --- Thou /b sound and firm-set earth,
 Hear not my steps, /c which way they walk, for fear
 Thy very stones prate /d of my where-about,
 And take the present horror from the time,
 Which now suits with it. --- /e Whiles I threat, he lives ---
 /f Words to the heat of deeds too cold breath gives.

/t Certainly, if on the blade, then on
 the dudgeon; for dudgeon signifies a small
 dagger. We should read therefore, And
 on the blade of th' dudgeon, &c. W.

A dudgeon signifies a haft as well as
 as a dagger. See Lye's Etymologicon.
 Heath.

/u Gouttes, drops, Fr. P.

/w R. P. and H. This for Thus.

/x So all before P; he and all after,
 except C, Now o'er one half the world,
 &c.

/y All before R. omit now.

/z A lady proposes, with her for wi-
 ther'd.

/a All before P. read sides for strides.

J. proposes, Wi_h Tarquin ravish-
 ing, slides towards, &c. Vide Heath in
 loc.

/b This is P.'s emendation. The fo's
 and R. read sowre, sowr, sour. C.
 sure.

/c All before R. read, which they may
 walk, &c.

/d H. of that we're about, &c.

/e So the fo's; C. while; the rest,
 whilst for whiles.

/f This line is omitted by P. and H.
 in the text, but preserved in the mar-
 gin.

50

I go, and it is done; the bell invites me; [A bell rings.
 Hear it not, Duncan; for it is a knell
 That summons thee to heaven, or to hell. [Exit.

/f SCENE III.

Enter Lady /g Macbeth.

Lady. That which hath made them drunk, hath made me

bold;
What hath quench['d] them, hath given me fire. Hark!

peace!

It was the owl that shriek'd, the fatal bell-man,
Which gives the stern'st good-night --- He is about it ---
The doors are open; and the surfeited grooms
Do mock their charge with snores. I have drugg'd their
possets,
That death and nature do contend about them,
Whether they live or die.

Enter Macbeth.

Mac. Who 's there? what ho? ---

Lady. Alack! I am afraid, they have awak'd;
And 'tis not done. Th' attempt and not the deed,
Confounds us --- hark! --- I laid their daggers ready,
He could not miss 'em. --- Had he not resembled
My father as he slept, I had done 't --- My husband?

/f This is Sc. II. in the fo's and
C.

/g The fo's, R. P. T. and W. omit
Macbeth.

51

Mac. I have done the deed --- Didst thou not hear a noise?

Lady. I heard the owl scream, and the crickets cry.
Did not you speak?

Mac. When?

Lady. Now.

Mac. As I descended?

Lady. Ay.

Mac. Hark! --- who lies i' th' second chamber?

Lady. Donalbain.

Mac. This is a sorry sight.

[Looks on his hands.]

Lady. A foolish thought, to say a sorry sight.

Mac. There's one did laugh in 's sleep, and one cry'd
murther!

/h That they did wake each other; I stood and heard them;
But they did say their prayers, and /i addrest them
Again to sleep.

Lady. There are two lodg'd together.

Mac. One cry'd, God bless us, and, Amen, the other;
As they had seen me with these hangman's hands;
Listning their fear, I could not say, Amen,
When they did say, God bless us.

Lady. Consider it not so deeply.

Mac. But wherefore could not I pronounce, Amen?
I had most need of blessing, and Amen

Stuck in my throat.

Lady. These deeds must not be thought /k
After these ways; so, it will make us mad.

/h P. and all after, except C. alter this
line as follows,

They wak'd each other; and I stood and
heard them.

/i T. W. and J. address for address.

/k H. and C. add on after thought.

52

Mac. Methought I heard a voice cry, "Sleep no more;
Macbeth does murth' sleep; the innocent sleep;
/l Sleep, that knits up the ravell'd /m sleeve of care,
/n The death of each day's life, sore labour's bath,
Balm of hurt minds, great nature 's second course,
Chief nourisher in life's feast. ---"

Lady. What do you mean?

Mac. Still it cry'd, "Sleep no more, to all the house;
Glamis hath murth' sleep: And therefore Cawdor
Shall sleep no more; Macbeth shall sleep no more!"

Lady. Who was it that thus cry'd? Why, worthy Thane,
You do unbend your noble strength, to think
So brain-sickly of things. Go, get some water,
And wash this filthy witness from your hand.
Why did you bring these daggers from the place?
They must lie there: Go carry them, and smear
The sleepy grooms with blood.

Mac. I'll go no more.
I am afraid to think what I have done;
Look on 't again, I dare not.

Lady. Infirm of purpose!
Give me the daggers. The sleeping and the dead
Are but as pictures; 'tis the eye of childhood,

/l P. and H. omit this line in their
text.

/m All the copies spell this word sleeve.
Sleave signifies the ravell'd knotty gouty
parts of the silk, which gives great trou-
ble and embarrassment to the knitter or
weaver. So that sleep is said, by a very
expressive metaphor, to knit up and re-
duce to order all that confusion and vexa-
tion in which our cares and sollicitudes
had involved our waking thoughts.
Heath.

/n W. reads, The birth of each day's
life, &c. Perhaps Shakespeare wrote,
The death of each day's grief, &c.

That fears a painted devil. If he /o do bleed,
 I'll gild the faces of the grooms withal,
 For it must seem their guilt. [Exit.

Knock within.

Mac. Whence is that knocking?
 How is 't with me, /p when every noise appals me?
 What hands are here? hah! they pluck out mine eyes.
 Will all great Neptune's ocean wash this blood
 Clean from my hand? no, this my hand will rather
 /q Thy multitudinous sea /r incarnadine,
 /s Making the green one red.

Enter Lady.

Lady. My hands are of your colour; but I shame
 To wear a heart so white; I hear a knocking [Knock.
 At the south entry. Retire we to our chamber;
 A little water clears us of this deed.
 How easy is it then! Your constancy
 Hath left you unattended --- Hark, more knocking! [Knock.
 Get on your night-gown, lest occasion call us,
 And shew us to be Watchers. Be not lost
 So poorly in your thoughts.

Mac. /t To know my deed, 'twere best not know myself.
 [/u Knock.
 Wake, Duncan, with /w thy knocking. /x I would thou couldst!
 [Exeunt.

/o P. and H. omit do.
 /p <Pan moi phoberon to proserpon.> Æschyl.
 ed. Stanl. p. 18.
 /q P. and H. omit this line in their
 text.
 /r All but R. T. and C. incarnar-
 dine.
 /s P. and H. Make the green ocean
 red.
 /t H. reads, T'unknow, &c.
 /u All but fo's, R. and C. omit this
 direction here.
 /w So the fo's; the rest, this for thy.
 /x P. and all after, omit I.

/y SCENE IV.

Enter a Porter.

[Knocking within.

/z Porter. Here 's a knocking indeed; if a man were

porter of hell-gate, he should have old turning the key.
[Knock.] Knock, knock, knock. Who 's there, i' th' name
of Belzebug? here 's a farmer that hang'd himself /a on th'
expectation of plenty: come in time, have napkins enough
about you, here you 'll sweat for 't. [Knock.] Knock,
knock. Who 's there in th' other devil's name? Faith,
here 's an /b equivocator, that could swear in both the scales
against either scale, who committed treason enough for
God's sake, yet could not equivocate to heaven: Oh, come
in, equivocator. [Knock.] Knock, knock, knock. Who 's
there? Faith, here 's an /c English taylor come hither for
stealing out of a French hose: come in, taylor, here you
may roast your goose. [Knock.] Knock, knock. Never
at quiet! what are you? but this place is too cold for hell.

/y This is called the 3d scene in the
fo's and C.

/z This comic part is omitted in the
text of P. and H. but inserted in the
margin.

/a P. and H. in for on.

/b Meaning a Jesuit; an order so trou-
blesome to the state in Queen Elizabeth
and King James the First's times. The
inventors of the execrable doctrine of
equivocation. W.

/c The archness of _he joke consists in
this, that a French hose being very short
and straight, a taylor must be master of
his trade who could steal anything from
thence. W.

55

I'll devil-porter it no further: I had thought to have let in
some of all professions, that go the primrose way to th'
everlasting bonfire. [Knock.] Anon, anon, I pray you,
remember the porter.

Enter Macduff, and Lenox.

Macd. Was it so late, friend, ere you went to bed, that
you do lie so late?

Porter. Faith, sir, we were carousing 'till the second
cock; and drink, sir, is a great provoker of three things.

Macd. What three things does drink especially pro-
voke?

Porter. Marry, sir, nose-painting, sleep, and urine.
Lechery, sir, it provokes, and unprovokes; it provokes the
desire, but it takes away the performance. Therefore much
drink may be said to be an equivocator with lechery; it
makes him, and it mars him; it sets him on, and it takes
him off; it persuades him, and disheartens him; makes him
stand /d to, and not stand /d to; in conclusion, equivocates

him /e in a sleep, and, giving him the lie, leaves him.

Macd. I believe drink gave thee the lie last night.

Port. That it did, sir, i' the very throat on me; but I requited him for his lie; and, I think, being too strong for him, though he took /f up my legs sometime, yet I made a shift to cast him.

Macd. Is thy master stirring?
Our knocking has awak'd him; here he comes.

/d The 1st f. too.

/e R. and all after, except C, into for in.

/f W. and J. omit up.

56

Enter Macbeth.

Len. Good morrow, noble sir.

Macb. Good morrow, both.

Macd. Is the king stirring, worthy Thane?

Macb. Not yet.

Macd. He did command me to call timely on him;
I have almost slipt the hour.

Macb. I'll bring you to him.

Macd. I know this is a joyful trouble to you:
But yet 'tis one.

Macb. The labour we delight in, physicks pain.
This is the door.

Macd. I'll make so bold to call, for 'tis my limited service.

[Exit Macduff.]

Len. Goes the king hence to-day?

Macb. /g He does: he did appoint so.

Len. The night has been unruly; where we lay,
Our chimneys were blown down; and, as they say,
Lamentings heard i' th' air, strange **streams** of death,
/k And prophesying, with accents terrible,
Of dire /i combustion and confus'd events,
New hatch'd to th' woeful time: the obscure bird
Clamour'd the live-long night. Some say, the earth
Was feverous, and did shake.

Macb. 'Twas a rough night.

Len. My young remembrance cannot parallel
A fellow to it.

/g P. and all after, except C. omit He
does.

/h W. proposes, for And, Aunts, i. e.
Matrons, old women.

/i So the 1st f. T. W. and J; the
rest, combustions.

57

Enter Macduff.

Macd. O horror! horror! horror!
/k Tongue nor heart cannot conceive, nor name thee ---

Macb. and Lenox. What's the matter?

Macd. Confusion now hath made his master-piece;
Most sacrilegious murder hath broke ope
The Lord's anointed temple, and stole thence
The life o' th' building.

Macb. What is 't you say? the life? ---

Len. Mean you his Majesty?

Macd. Approach the chamber, and destroy your sight
With a new Gorgon. Do not bid me speak;
See, and then speak yourselves. Awake! awake!

[Exeunt Macbeth and Lenox.]

Ring the alarum-bell --- murder! and treason!
Banquo, and Donalbain, Malcolm, awake!
Shake off this downy sleep, death's counterfeit,
And look on death itself --- Up, up, and see
The great doom's image --- Malcolm! /l Banquo!
As from your graves rise up, and walk like sprights,
To countenance this horror. --- /m Ring the bell.

/k P. and H. Or tongue or heart, &c.
T. W. and J. Nor tongue nor heart,
&c.

/l H. reads Donalbain for Banquo.

/m T. and all after omit Ring the bell.

58

SCENE V.

Bell rings. Enter Lady /n Macbeth.

Lady. What 's the business,
That such a hideous trumpet calls to parley
The sleepers of the house? /o Speak, speak.

Macd. /p O gentle lady,
'Tis not for you to hear what I can speak:
The repetition in a woman's ear
Would murder as it fell.

Enter Banquo.

O Banquo, Banquo!
Our royal master 's murder'd.

Lady. Woe, alas!
What in our house? ---

Ban. Too cruel, any where.
/q Dear Duff, I pr'ythee, /r contradict thyself,
And say, it is not so.

Enter Macbeth, Lenox, /s and Rosse.

Macb. Had I but dy'd an hour before this chance,
I had liv'd a blessed time: for, from this instant,

/n The fo's omit Macbeth.

/o P. and all after, except C. read
speak but once.

/p P. and all after, except C. omit
O.

/q So all before P; he and all after,
except C. Macduff for Dear Duff.

/r The three last fo's, contract for con-
tradict.

/s C. omits and Rosse.

59

There 's nothing serious in mortality;
All is but toys; renown, and grace, /t is dead;
The wine of life is drawn, and the mere lees
Is left this vault to brag of.

Enter Malcolm, and Donalbain.

Don. What is amiss?

Macb. You are, and do not know 't:
The spring, the head, the fountain of your blood
Is stopt; the very source of it is stopt.

Macd. Your royal father's murther'd.

Mal. Oh, by whom?

Len. Those of his chamber, as it seem'd, had done 't;
Their hands and faces were all badg'd with blood,
So were their daggers, which unwip'd we found
Upon their pillows; they star'd, and were distracted;
/u As no man's life was to be trusted with them.

Macb. O, yet **do I** repent me of my fury,
That I did kill them.

Macd. Wherefore did you so?

Macb. Who can be wise, amaz'd, temp'rate, and furious,
Loyal, and neutral, in a moment? No man.
The expedition of my violent love
Out-run the pauser, Reason. Here lay Duncan,
His silver skin lac'd with his /w golden blood,
And his gash'd stabs look'd like a breach in nature
For ruin 's wasteful entrance; there the murtherers
Steep'd in the colours of their trade, their daggers

/t H. are for is.

/u As is here added by H. and C. which
is ia no other edition; but this emen-
dation seems necessary.

/w P. and H. read goary for golden.

60

/x Unmannerly breech'd with gore. Who could refrain,
That had a heart to love, and in that heart
Courage, to make 's love known?

Lady. Help me hence, ho! --- [/y Seeming to faint.

Macd. Look to the lady /z.

Mal. Why do we hold our tongues,
That most may claim this argument for ours?

Don. What should be spoken here,
Where our Fate, hid /a within an augre-hole,
May rush, and seize us? Let's away, our tears
Are not yet brew'd.

Mal. Nor our strong sorrow
/b Upon the foot of motion.

Ban. /c Look to the lady. [/d Lady Macbeth is carried out.
And when we have our naked frailties hid,
That suffer in exposure; let us meet,
And question this most bloody piece of work,
To know it further. Fears and scruples shake us.
In the great hand of God I stand; and thence,
Against the undivulg'd pretence I fight
Of treasonous malice.

/x W. reads, Unmanly reech'd, &c.
J. proposes, Unmanly drench'd. &c.
Heath, In a manner lay drench'd, &c.
But I would defend the old reading, by
this interpretation, their naked daggers
were covered with gore: This might be
Shakespeare's first thought; but, his po-
etic genius not suffering him to deliver
it in plain prose, Nakedness suggested to
him the word unmannerly, and covered,
the word breeches, the covering of na-
kedness; and so by a bold figure, he
turns the daggers into men.

/y This direction put in by R.

/z Here C. directs, [gather about her.

/a First f. in for withln.

/b P. and all after, except C. on for
upon.

/c H. Look there to, &c.

/d This direction put in by R.

61

Macb. And /e so do I.

All. So, all.

Macb. Let 's briefly put on manly readiness,
And meet i' th' hall together.

All. Well contented. [Exeunt all but Mal. and Don.

Mal. What will you do? Let 's not consort with them.
To shew an unfelt sorrow, is an office
Which the false man does easie. I 'll to England.

Don. To Ireland I: our separated fortune
Shall keep us both the safer; where we are,
There 's daggers in mens smiles; the near in blood,
The nearer bloody.

Mal. This murtherous shaft that 's shot,
Hath not yet lighted; and our safest way
Is to avoid the aim. Therefore to /f horse;
And let us not be dainty of leave-taking,
But shift away; there 's warrant in that theft,
Which steals itself when there 's no mercy left. [Exeunt.

/e P. and all after, except C. omit And.

/f The three last fo's, house for horse.

62

/g SCENE VI.

/h The Outside of Macbeth's Castle.

Enter Rosse with an old Man.

Old M. Threescore and ten I can remember well;
Within the volume of which time, I have seen
Hours dreadful, and things strange: but this sore night
Hath trifled former knowings.

Rosse. /i Ha, good father,
Thou seest, the heavens, as troubled with man's act,
/k Threaten /l his bloody stage. By th' clock, 'tis day;
And yet dark night strangles the travelling lamp:
Is 't night's predominance, or the day's shame,
That darkness does the face of earth intomb,
When living light /m should kiss it?

Old M. 'Tis unnatural,
Even like the deed that 's done. On Tuesday last,
A faulcon, tow'ring in her pride of place,
Was by a mousing owl hawkt at and kill'd.

Rosse. And Duncan's horses (a thing most strange and
certain!)

/g This is called the fourth scene in
the fo's and C; and the 2d in R.

/h T. first describes the scene.

/i So the fo's; the rest, Ah for Ha.

/k The fo's, Threatens.

/l So all before T. who reads this for
his; followed by W. and J.

/m The 2d f. shall for should.

Beauteous and swift, the minions of /n their race,
 Turn'd wild in nature, broke their stalls, /o flung out,
 Contending 'gainst obedience, as they would
 Make war with /p mankind.

Old M. 'Tis said, they eat each other.

Rosse. They did so, to th' amazement of mine eyes,
 That look'd upon 't. Here comes the good Macduff.

Enter Macduff.

How goes the world, Sir, now?

Macd. Why, see you not?

Rosse. Is 't known, who did this more than bloody deed?

Macd. Those that Macbeth hath slain.

Rosse. Alas the day!

What good could they pretend?

Macd. They /q were suborn'd;
 Malcolm, and Donalbain, the King's two sons,
 Are stol'n away and fled; which puts upon them
 Suspicion of the deed.

Rosse. 'Gainst nature still; ---
 Thriftless ambition! that will /r raven /s upon
 Thine own /t life's means. --- /u Then 'tis most like,
 The sovereignty will fall upon Macbeth.

Macd. He is already nam'd, and gone to Scone
 To be invested.

Rosse. Where is Duncan's body?

/n T. reads the for their, with great
 probability.

/o The two first fo's, flong for flung.

/p P. and all after, man for mankind.

/q T.'s octavo, are for were.

/r T. and all after, ravin for raven.

/s The first f. T. and all after him,
 up for upon.

/t Fo's and R. lives.

/u H. Why then it is most like, &c.

Macd. Carried to /w Colmkil,
 The sacred storehouse of his predecessors,
 And guardian of their bones.

Rosse. Will you to Scone?

Macd. No, cousin, I'll to Fife.

Rosse. Well, I will thither.

Macd. Well, may you see[] things well done there
 (adieu!)

Lest our old robes sit easier than our new.

Rosse. Farewel, Father.

Old M. God's benison go with you /x, and with those
That would make good of bad, and friends of foes!

[Exeunt.]

/w R. P. T. and W. Colmes-hill; J.
Colmes-kill.

/x After you the three last fo's, R. and
C. read Sir.

65

ACT III.

SCENE I.

/y An Apartment in the Palace.

Enter Banquo.

Ban. Thou hast it now; King, Cawdor, Glamis, all,
/z As the /a weird /b women promis'd; and I fear
Thou playd'st most foully for 't: yet it was said,
It should not stand in thy posterity;
But that myself should be the root and father
Of many kings. If there come truth from them,
(As upon thee, Macbeth, their speeches shine)
Why, by the verities on thee made good,
May they not be my oracles as well,
And set me up in hope? But, hush; no more.

/y Not described in the fo's; R. P.
and H. A roya! apartment.

/z P. and all after, except C. omit
As.

/a See note /z upon Act I. Sc. III.

/b The two last fo's, woman for wo-
men.

66

/c Trumpets sound. Enter Macbeth as King, /d Lady Macbeth,
Lenox, Rosse, Lords and Attendants.

Macb. Here 's our chief guest.

Lady. If he had been forgotten,
It had been as a gap in our great feast,
And /e all things unbecoming.

Macb. To-night we hold a solemn supper, sir,
And I'll request your presence.

Ban. /f Lay your /g Highness'
Command upon me; to the which my duties

Are with a most indissoluble tye
For ever knit.

Macb. Ride you this afternoon?

Ban. Ay, my good Lord.

Macb. We should have else desir'd your good advice
(Which still hath been both grave and prosperous)
In this day's council; but we'll take to-morrow.
Is 't far you ride?

Ban. As far, my Lord, as will fill up the time
'Twixt this and supper. Go not my horse the better,
I must become a borrower of the night
For a dark hour or twain.

Macb. Fail not our feast.

Ban. My Lord, I will not.

Macb. We hear our bloody cousins are bestow'd

/c The fo's, Senit sounded, &c.

/d The fo's, Lady Lenox, &c. But
this seems only an omission of a com-
ma; it should have been printed, Lady,
Lenox, &c. where Lady stands for Lady
Macbeth.

/e The first f. all-thing for all things.

/f The fo's, Let for Lay.

/g R. Highness's.

67

In England, and in Ireland; not confessing
Their cruel parricide, filling their hearers
With strange invention; but of that to-morrow,
When therewithal we shall have cause of state,
Craving us jointly. Hie /h you to horse. Adieu,
'Till you return at night. Goes Fleance with you?

Ban. Ay, my good Lord; our time does call /i upon 's.

Macb. I wish your horses swift, and sure of foot;
And so I do commend you to their backs.

Farewel. ---

[Exit Banquo.]

Let every man be master of his time

'Till seven at night; to make society

The sweeter welcome, we will keep ourself

'Till supper-time alone; /k while then, God be with you.

[/l Exeunt Lady Macbeth, and Lords.]

SCENE II.

Manent Macbeth and a Servant.

Sirrah, a word with you. Attend those men
Our pleasure?

Ser. They are, my Lord, without the palace gate.

Macb. Bring them before us. [Exit Serv.] To be thus
is nothing;

/h P. and all after omit you.
/i So all before P; he and all after,
upon us for upon's.
/k So all before P; he and all after,
except C. till for while.
/l The fo's, Exeunt Lords only.

68

But to be safely thus --- Our fears in Banquo
Stick deep; and in his royalty of nature
Reigns that, which would be fear'd. 'Tis much he dares,
And to that dauntless temper of his mind,
He hath a wisdom that doth guide his valour
To act in safety. There is none but he,
Whose being I do fear: and, under him,
My genius is rebuk'd; /m as, it is said,
/n Mark Antony's was by /o Cæsar. He chid the sisters,
When first they put the name of King upon me,
And bad them speak to him; then, prophet-like,
They hail'd him father to a line of kings.
Upon my head they plac'd a fruitless crown,
And put a barren scepter in my gripe,
Thence to be wrench'd with an unlineal hand,
No son of mine succeeding. /p If 't be so,
/q For Banquo's issue have I /r fil'd my mind;
For them the gracious Duncan have I murther'd;
Put rancours in the vessel of my peace
Only for them; and mine eternal jewel
Given to the common enemy of man,
To make them Kings, the /s seed of Banquo Kings.

/m J. proposes rejecting the following
words, as, it is said, Mark Anthony's
was by Cæsar.

/n P. and all after, except C. omit
Mark.

/o H. Cæsar's.

/p P. and all after, except C. If 'tis
so, &c.

/q P. makes the following sentences
interrogative, as far as --- Banquo kings?
But the words If 't be so prove them to
be affirmative.

/r The two last fo's, fill'd for fil'd;
W. 'filed, i. e. defiled.

/s The fo's and R. Seeds.

69

Rather than so, /t come Fate into the list,
And champion me to th' utterance! --- Who 's there?

Enter Servant, and two Murtherers.

/u Now go to the door, and stay there, 'till we call.

[Exit Servant.]

Was it not yesterday we spoke together?

Murth. It was, so please your Highness.

Macb. Well then, now

/w Have you consider'd of my speeches? know
That it was he, in the times past, which held you
So under fortune; which, you thought, had been
Our innocent self; this I made good to you
In our last conference, past in probation with you,
How you were born in hand; how crost; the instruments;
Who wrought with them; and all things else that might
To half a soul, and to a notion craz'd,
Say, thus did Banquo.

l Mur. /x You made it known to us.

Macb. I did so; and went further, which is now

/t This passage will be best explained
by translating it into the language from
whence the only word of difficulty in it
is borrowed. Que la destinée se rende en
lice, et qu'elle me donne un defi à l'ou-
trance. A challenge, or combat à l'ou-
trance, to extremity, was a fixed term in
the law of arms, used when the comba-
tants engaged with an odium interneci-
num, an intention to destroy each other,
in opposition to trials of skill at festi-
vals, or on other occasions, where the
contest was only for reputation or a
prize. The sense therefore is, Let fate,
that has fore-doom'd the exaltation of the
sons of Banquo, enter the lists against me,
with the utmost animosity, in defence of its
own decrees, which I will endeavour to
invalidate, whatever be the danger. J.

/u P. and all after, except C. omit
Now.

/w The two last fo's, R. P. T. H. W.
and J. You have, for Have you.

/x This speech P. alters thus, True,
you made it known; followed by all after,
except C.

70

Our point of second meeting. Do you find
Your Patience so predominant in your nature,
That you can let this go? are you so gossell'd,

To pray for this good man and for his issue,
Whose heavy hand hath bow'd you to the grave,
And beggar'd yours for ever?

1 Mur. We are men, my Liege.

Macb. Ay, in the catalogue ye go for men,
As hounds, and greyhounds, mungrels, spaniels, curs,
Showghes, water rugs, and demy-wolves are /y cleped
All by the name of dogs; the valued file
Distinguishes the swift, the slow, the subtle,
The house-keeper, the hunter; every one
According to the gift which bounteous nature
Hath in him clos'd; whereby he does receive
Particular addition, from the bill
That writes them all alike: and so of men.
Now, if you have a station in the file,
/z Not i' th' worst rank of manhood, say 't;
And I will put /a that business in your bosoms,
Whose execution takes your enemy off;
Grapples you to the heart and love of us,
Who wear our health but sickly in his life,
Which in his death were perfect.

2 Mur. I am one, /b my Liege,
Whom the vile blows and buffets of the world

/y All before T. clipt for cleped.

/z So the fo's; all after, And not in
the worst rank of manhood, say it, &c.

/a The two last fo's, R. P. and H.
the for that.

/b P. and all after, except C. omit my
Liege.

71

/c Have so incens'd, that I am reckless what
I do, to spite the world.

1 Mur. And I another,
So weary with /d disasters, tugg'd with fortune,
That I would set my life on any chance,
To mend it, or be rid on 't.

Macb. Both of you
Know, Banquo was your enemy.

Mur. True, my Lord.

Macb. So is he mine: and in such bloody distance,
That every minute of his being thrusts
Against my near'st of life; and though I could
With bare-fac'd power sweep him from my sight,
And bid my will avouch it; yet I must not,
For certain friends that are both his and mine,
Whose loves I may not drop; but wail his fall,

/e Whom I myself struck down; and thence it is,
That I to your assistance do make love,
Masking the business from the common eye
For sundry weighty reasons.

2 Mur. We shall, my Lord,
Perform what you command us.

1 Mur. Though our lives ---

Macb. Your spirits shine through you. /f Within this
hour, at most,
I will advise you where to plant yourselves;
Acquaint you with the perfect spy o' th' time,
The moment on 't; for 't must be done to-night,

/c Fo's, Hath for Have.

/d W. disastrous tuggs with, &c.

/e Fo's, R. and C. Who.

/f P. and all after, except C. In _or
Within.

72

And something from the palace: (/g always thought,
That I require a clearness) and with him,
(To leave no rubs nor botches in the work)
Fleance his son, that keeps him company,
Whose absence is no less material to me
Than is his father's, must embrace the fate
Of that dark hour. Resolve yourselves apart;
I'll come to you anon.

Mur. We are resolv'd, /h my Lord.

Macb. I'll call upon you straight. Abide within.

[Exeunt Murtherers.]

It is concluded. --- Banquo, thy soul's flight,
If it find heaven, must find it out to-night.

[Exit.]

/i SCENE III.

/k Another Apartment in the Palace.

Enter Lady Macbeth, and a Servant.

Lady. Is Banquo gone from court?

Serv. Ay, madam, but returns again to-night.

Lady. Say to the King, I would attend his leisure
For a few words.

/g Macbeth means that the murther-
ers must in every step remember, he re-
quires not to be suspected of the fact;
to stand clear from all imputations,
which might affect him in the opinions

of the people.

P. omits thi_sparenthesis.

/h H. omits, my Lord.

/i This is scene 2d, in the fo's and

C.

/k No description of the scene before

T. who gives the above.

73

Serv. Madam, I will.

[Exit.

Lady. Nought 's had, all 's spent,
Where our desire is got without content.
'Tis /m safer to be that which we destroy,
Than by destruction dwell in doubtful joy.

Enter Macbeth.

How now, my Lord, why do you keep alone,
Of sorryest fancies your companions making,
Using those thoughts, which should, indeed, have dy'd
With them they think on? Things without all remedy
Should be without regard. What 's done, is done.

Macb. We have /n scotch'd the snake, not kill'd it:
She 'll close, and be herself; whilst our poor malice
Remains in danger of her former tooth.

/o But let the frame of things disjoint, both the worlds suffer,
Ere we will eat our meal in fear, and sleep
In the affliction of these terrible dreams,
That shake us nightly. Better be with the dead,
Whom we, to gain our /p place, have sent to peace,
Than on the torture of the mind to lie
In restless ecstasy. --- Duncan is in his grave;
After life's fitful fever, he sleeps well;
Treason has done his worst; nor steel, nor poison,
Malice domestic, foreign levy, nothing
Can touch him further.

Lady. Come on;

/m H. better for safer.

/n All before T. scorch'd for scotch'd.

/o P. and all after, except C. read,
But let both worlds disjoint, and all things
suffer, &c.

/p The first f. peace for place.

74

Gentle my Lord, sleek o'er your rugged looks;
Be bright and jovial /q among your guests to-night.

Macb. So shall I, love; and so, I pray, be you;
Let your remembrance /r still apply to Banquo.
Present him eminence, both with eye and tongue:

Unsafe the while, that we must lave our honours
In these /s flattering streams, and make our faces
/t Vizards to our hearts, disguising what they are.

Lady. You must leave this.

Macb. O, full of scorpions is my mind, dear wife;
Thou know'st that Banquo, and his Fleance, /u lives.

Lady. But in them nature's copy 's not /w eterne.

Macb. There 's comfort yet, they are assailable;
Then, be thou jocund. Ere the bat hath flown
His cloyster'd flight; ere to black Hecate's summons
The /x shard-born beetle with his drowsy hums
Hath rung night's yawning peal, there shall be done
A deed of dreadful note.

Lady. What 's to be done?

Macb. Be innocent of the knowledge, dearest chuck,
'Till thou applaud the deed. Come, /y seeling night,

/q So the first f. and C; the rest,
'mong for among.

/r The first f. and C. omit still.

/s R. and all after, except C. add so
after these.

/t T. and all after, except H. and C.
vizors.

/u H. live for lives.

/w P. and all after, except C. eternal
for eterne.

/x Shards are properly rubbish. Cot-
grave. Heath.

/y R. and P. seeling. Seeling is blind-
ing; a term in falconry, when they run
a thread through the eyelids of a hawk
first taken, so that she may see very lit-
tle, or not at all, to make her the better
endure the hood. This they call seeling
a hawk. T.

75

Skarf up the tender eye of pitiful day,
And with thy bloody and invisible hand
Cancel and tear to pieces that great bond,
Which keeps me pale. /z Light thickens, and the crow
Makes wing to th' rooky wood:
Good things of day begin to droop and drowze,
Whiles night's black agents to their /a prey do rowze.
Thou marvell'st at my words; but hold thee still;
Things, bad begun, make strong themselves by ill.
So, pr'ythee go with me. [Exeunt.]

/b SCENE IV.

/c A Park, the Castle at a distance.

Enter three Murtherers.

1 Mur. But who did bid thee join with us?

3 Mur. Macbeth.

2 Mur. He needs not /d our mistrust, since he delivers
Our offices, and what we have to do,
To the direction just.

/z W. proposes Night for Light.

/a The fo's, R. and C. preys for prey.

/b This is scene 3d in the fo's and C;
in R. scene 2d.

/c The scene not described in the fo's.

/d P. to for our; whereby he supposes
He, in this speech, to refer to Machb. but
it evidently refers to the 3d murtherer,
whose account of the directions Machb.
had given regarding the murther, agreed
with those of the other two, and took
off all reason for their distrust. This was
taken notice of by T.

76

1 Mur. Then stand with us.

The west yet glimmers with some streaks of day:
Now spurs the /e lated traveller apace,
To gain the timely inn; /f and near approaches
The subject of our watch.

3 Mur. Hark, I hear horses.

Banquo within. Give /g us /h a light there, ho!

2 Mur. /i Then 'tis he: the rest
That are within the note of expectation,
Already are i' th' court.

1 Mur. His horses go about.

3 Mur. Almost a mile: but he does usually,
So all men do, from hence to th' Palace gate
Make it their walk.

Enter Banquo and Fleance with a Torch.

2 Mur. A light, a light.

3 Mur. 'Tis he.

1 Mur. Stand to 't.

Ban. It will be rain to-night.

1 Mur. Let it come down.

[/k They assault Banquo.

Ban. O, treachery! Fly /l good Fleance, fly, fly, fly,
Thou may'st revenge. --- O slave. [/k Dies. Fleance escapes.

3 Mur. Who did strike out the light?

1 Mur. Was 't not the way?

/e The three last fo's and R. latest
for lated.
/f First f. end for and.
/g H. omits us.
/h P. and all after, except C. omit a.
/i C. omits Then.
/k No direction in fo's.
/l P. and all after, except C. omit
good.

77

3 Mur. There's but one down: the son
Is fled.
2 Mur. We have lost best half of our affair.
1 Mur. Well, let's away, and say how much is done.
[Exeunt.]

/m SCENE V.

A Room of State in the Castle.

A Banquet prepared. Enter Macbeth, Lady Macbeth, Rosse,
Lenox, Lords, and Attendants.

Macb. You know your own degrees, sit down:
/n At first and last, the hearty welcome.
Lords. Thanks to your Majesty.
Macb. Ourself will mingle with society,
And play the humble host:
Our hostess keeps her state, but in best time
We will require her welcome. [/o They sit.
Lady. Pronounce it for me, Sir, to all our friends;
For my heart speaks, they are welcome.
Enter first Murtherer.
Macb. See, they encounter thee with their hearts' thanks.

/m This in the fo's and C. is scene
4; in R. scene 3. The scene not de-
scribed in fo's.
/n P. H. and C. And for At; J. pro-
poses To.
/o No direction in fo's.

78

Both sides are even: Here I 'll sit i' th' midst.
Be large in mirth, anon we 'll drink a measure
The table round. --- There 's blood upon thy face.
[/p To the Murtherer aside, at the door.
Mur. 'Tis Banquo's then.
Macb. 'Tis better thee without, than /q he within.

Is he dispatch'd?

Mur. My Lord, his throat is cut, /r that I did for him.

Macb. Thou art the best /s o' th' cut-throats; yet he 's good,

That did the like for Fleance; if thou didst it,
Thou art the non-pareil.

Mur. Most royal Sir,
Fleance is scap'd.

Macb. Then comes my fit again: I had else been perfect,
Whole as the marble, founded as the rock;
As broad, and general, as the casing air:
But now I am cabin'd, cribb'd, confin'd, bound in
To sawcy doubts and fears. --- But Banquo 's safe?

Mur. Ay, my good Lord: safe in a ditch he bides,
With twenty trenched gashes on his head;
The least a death to nature.

Macb. Thanks for that; ---
There the grown serpent lies; the worm that 's fled,
Hath nature that in time will venom breed,
No teeth for th' present. --- Get thee gone, to-morrow
We 'll /t hear ourselves again. [Exit Murderer.

/p No direction in fo's.

/q H. and C. him for he.

/r P. and H. I did that for him.

/s P. and all after, except C. of cut-throats, &c.

/t H. and C. hear thee, &c. T. W.
and J. hear't, &c.

79

Lady. My royal Lord,
You do not give the cheer; the feast is /u sold,
That is not often vouch'd (while 'tis /w a making)
'Tis given, with welcome. To feed, were best at home;
From thence, the sawce to meat is ceremony;
Meeting were bare without it.

[/x The Ghost of Banquo rises, and sits in Macbeth's place.

Macb. Sweet remembrancer! ---
Now good digestion wait on appetite,
And health on both!

Len. May 't please your Highness sit?

Macb. Here had we now our country's honour roof'd,
Were the grac'd person of our Banquo present,
/y Who may I rather challenge for unkindness,
Than pity for mischance.

Rosse. His absence, Sir,
Lays blame upon his promise. Please 't your Highness
To grace us with your royal company?

Macb. The table 's full. [/z Starting.
Len. Here is a place reserv'd, Sir.
Macb. Where?
Len. Here, my good Lord. What is 't that moves your
Highness?
Macb. Which of you have done this?
Lords. What, my good Lord?

/u P. and H. cold for sold.

/w All but the first f. and C. omit

a.

/x The fo's, Enter the ghost of Ban-
quo, and sits, &c.

/y All before P. read who; he and all
after, but C. whom; but who is fre-
quently used as an accusative by Shake-
speare.

/z No direction in the fo's.

80

Macb. Thou canst not say I did it: never shake
Thy goary locks at me.

Rosse. Gentlemen, rise; his Highness is not well.

Lady. Sit, worthy friends. My Lord is often thus,
And hath been from his youth. Pray you, keep seat.
The fit is /a momentary, /b upon a thought
He will again be well. If much you note him,
You shall offend him and extend his passion.
Feed, and regard him not. --- Are you a man?
[/c To Macbeth aside.

Macb. Ay, and a bold one, that dare look on that,
Which might appal the devil.

Lady. /d O proper stuff!
This is the very painting of your fear;
This is the air-drawn dagger, which you said
Led you to Duncan. O, these flaws and starts,
/c Impostors to true fear, would well become
A woman's story at a winter's fire
Authoriz'd by her grandam. Shame itself!
Why do you make such faces? When all 's done,
You look but on a stool.

Macb. Pr'ythee, see there!
Behold! look! lo! how say you? [/f Pointing at the Ghost.
Why, what care I! if thou canst nod, speak too. ---
If charnel-houses and our graves must send

/a The three last fo's, momentary.

/b P. and all after, except C. on for
upon.

/c No direction in the fo's.

/d P. and H. omit O.

/e J. proposes, Impostures true to fear,
&c. C. reads, Impostures of true fear
&c.
/f This direction not in fo's.

81

Those, that we bury, back; our monuments
Shall be the maws of kites. [/* The Ghost vanishes.

Lady. What? quite unmann'd in folly?

Macb. If I stand here, I saw him.

Lady. Fie, for shame!

Macb. Blood hath been shed ere now, /a i' th' olden time,
Ere human statute purg'd the /b gentle weal;
Ay, and since too, murthers /c have been perform'd
Too terrible for /d the ear; the times /e have been,
That when the brains were out, the man would die,
And there an end; but now they rise again
With twenty mortal murthers on their crowns,
And push us from our stools; this is more strange
Than such a murther is.

Lady. My worthy Lord,
Your noble friends do lack you.

Macb. I /f do forget ---
Do not muse at me, my most worthy friends;
I have a strange Infirmary, which is nothing
To those that know me. /g Come, love and health to all!
Then I'll sit down: give me some wine, fill full --- /h
I drink to th' general joy o' the whole table,
And to our dear friend Banquo, whom we miss;

/* No direction in the first f; the
other fo's, [Exit ghost.
/a R.'s octavo, i' th' old time, &c.
/b T. W. and C. gen'ral for gentle.
/c J. hath for have.
/d P. and all after, except C. th' ear
for the ear.
/e First f. has for have.
/f P. and H. forgot for do forget.
/g P. and H. omit Come.
/h The fo's and R. make the Ghost
rise again here.

82

Would he were here! to all, and him, we thirst,
/i And all to all.

Lords. Our duties and the pledge.

[/k The ghost rises again.

Macb. Avaunt, and quit my sight! /l Let the earth hide
thee!

Thy bones are marrowless, thy blood is cold;
/m Thou hast no speculation in those eyes
Which thou dost glare with.

Lady. Think of this, good Peers,
But as a thing of custom; 'tis no other;
Only it spoils the pleasure of the time.

Macb. What man dare, I dare:
Approach thou like the rugged Russian bear,
The arm'd rhinoceros, or /n th' Hyrcan tyger,
Take any shape but that, and my firm nerves
Shall never tremble: /o or be alive again,
And dare me to the desert with thy sword;
/p If trembling I in habit then, /q protest me

/i i. e. all good wishes to all: such as
he had named above, love, health and
joy. W.

/k Fo's, Enter Ghost.

/l <hon oude katthanonta gaia keuthei.> Io de
Argi Spectro, Æsch. ed. Stanl. p. 62.

/m <ho de poreuetai dolion omm' echōn.> ibid.
v. præced.

/n For th' Hyrcan, P. T. W. H. and
C. read Hyrcanian; J. Hyrcan.

/o R. reads O for or; P. and H. omit
or.

/p The first f. reads and points, If
trembling I inhabit then, protest me, &c.
the other fo's, R. and J. If trembling I
inhabit, then protest me, &c. P. and the
rest, If trembling I inhibit, then protest
me. &c. J. proposes, evade it, for in-
habit. I would read and point as in the
text above; or as follows: If trembling I,
in habit then protest me the baby of a girl,
&c.

/q The 4th f. protect for protest.

83

The baby of a girl. Hence, /r horrible shadow!
Unreal mock'ry, hence! [/s The Ghost vanishes.] Why, so ---
/t being gone,

I am a man again. Pray you sit still. [/u The Lords rise.

Lady. You have displac'd the mirth, broke the good
meeting

With most admir'd disorder.

Macb. /w Can such things be,
And /x overcome us like a summer's cloud,
Without our special wonder? You make me strange
Even to the disposition that I /y owe,
When now I think you can behold such sights,
And keep the natural ruby of your /z cheeks,

When mine is blanch'd with fear.

Rosse. What /a sights, my Lord?

Lady. I pray you, speak not; he grows worse and worse;
Question enrages him. At once, good night.

/r T.'s duodecimo, W. and J. terrible
for horrible.

/s In the three last fo's, [Exit. The
first f. has no direction.

/t The two last fo's, R. P. and H.
read be for being.

/u This direction not in the fo's.
Qu. Whether it would not be most pro-
per for the Lords to rise immediately
upon Macbeth's breaking out, Avaunt,
and quit my sight, &c. and that upon
perceiving them standing, after he had
recovered from his fright, it is, that he
says, Pray you sit still.

/w W. reads Can't for Can; and makes
this sentence down to wonder, a part of
the Lady's foregoing speech.

/x W. interprets overcome, deceive;
but overcome seems here to have the
same meaning with come over. See Dr.
Hurd's note on the Callida junctura of
Horace.

/y Owe, the same as own.

/z H. J. and C. read cheek for cheeks,
for the sake (I suppose) of the concord
with the verb is; but it is the Ruby of
the cheeks, and not the cheek, that is
blanched.

/a The three last fo's, signs for sights.

84

Stand not upon the order of your going,
But go at once.

Len. Good night, and better health
Attend his Majesty!

Lady. /b A kind good-night, to all.

[Exeunt Rosse, Lenox, Lords, and Attendants.

Macb. It will have blood, they say, blood will have blood.
Stones have been known to move, and trees to speak;

/c Augurs that /d understood relations, have

/e By maggot-pies, and choughs, and rooks brought forth
The secret'st man of blood. --- What is the night?

Lady. Almost at odds with morning, which is which.

Macb. How say'st thou, that Macduff denies his person,
At our great bidding?

Lady. Did you send to him, Sir?

Macb. I hear it by the way; but I will send.

/f There's not a one of them, but in his house

I keep a servant fee'd. I will to-morrow
(/g And betimes I will) /h to the /i weird sisters;
More shall they speak; for now I am bent to know,
By the worst means, the worst: for mine own good,
All causes shall give way; I am in blood
/k Stept in so far, that, should I wade no more.

/b P. and all after, except C. omit
A kind.

/c The fo's, Augures, and understood
relations, &c.

/d W. and J. understand for under-
stood.

/e So all before P; he and all after,
By mag-pies and by choughs &c.

/f P. There is not one, &c. T. and all
after. There's not a Thane of, &c.

/g P. and all after omit And.

/h P. and all after, unto for to.

/i The three last fo's and R. wizard
for weird.

/k The three last fo's and R. Spent
for Stept.

85

Returning were as tedious as /l go o'er.
Strange things I have in head, that will to hand;
Which must be acted, ere they may be scann'd.

Lady. You lack the season of all natures, sleep.

Macb. Come, we'll /m to sleep; my strange and self-abuse
Is the initiate fear that wants hard use:
We are yet but young /n in deed. [Exeunt.

/o SCENE VI.

/p The Heath.

Thunder. Enter the three Witches, meeting Hecate.

1 Witch. Why, how now, Hecat? you look angerly.

Hec. Have I not reason, Beldams, as you are?
Saucy and over-bold, how did you dare
To trade and traffic with Macbeth,
In riddles and affairs of death;
And I, the mistress of your charms,
The close contriver of all harms,
Was never call'd to bear my part,
Or shew the glory of our art?

/l H. going for go.

/m W. too for to.

/n So T. W. J. and C; H. in deeds;
the rest, indeed.

/o In the fo's and C. scene 5; in R.
scene 4.

/p No description in fo's.

86

And, which is worse, all you have done
Hath been but for a /q wayward son,
Spightful and wrathful; who, as others do,
Loves for his own ends, not for you.
But make amends now; get you gone,
And at the pit of Acheron
Meet me i' th' morning; thither he
Will come, to know his destiny;
Your vessels and your spells provide,
Your charms, and every thing beside
I am for th' air; this night I'll spend
Unto a dismal, /r and a fatal end.
Great business must be wrought ere noon:
Upon the corner of the moon
There hangs a vap'rous drop, profound;
I'll catch it ere it come to ground;
And that, distill'd by magic slights,
Shall raise such artificial sprights,
As, by the strength of their illusion,
Shall draw him on to his confusion.
He shall spurn fate, scorn death, and bear
His hopes 'bove wisdom, grace, and fear;
And you all know, security
Is mortals' chiefest enemy. [Music and a song.
Hark, I am call'd; my little spirit, see,
Sits in /s a foggy cloud, and stays for me.

[Sing within. Come away, come away, &c.

1 Witch. Come, let 's make haste, she 'll soon be back
again.

[Exeunt.

/q P. T. W. J. and C. read wey-
ward.

/r P. and all after omit and a.

/s R. and all after, except C. the for a.

87

/t SCENE VII.

/u A Chamber.

Enter Lenox, and another Lord.

Len. My former speeches have but hit your thoughts,
Which can interpret farther. Only I say,
Things have been strangely born. The gracious Duncan
Was pitied of Macbeth --- marry, he was dead:
And the right-valiant Banquo walk'd too late.
Whom you may say, if 't please you, Fleance kill'd,
For Fleance fled. Men must not walk too late.
/w Who cannot want the thought, how monstrous /x
It was for Malcolm and for Donalbain
To kill their gracious father? damned fact!
How /y it did grieve Macbeth! did he not straight
In pious rage, the two delinquents tear,
That were the slaves of drink, and thralls of sleep?
Was not that nobly done? ay, /z and wisely too:

/t In the fo's and C. scene 6; in R.
scene 5.

/u No description in the fo's, R. P.
and H.

/w The meaning here should seem to
be, Who can want the thought, &c. or,
Who cannot have the thought, &c. H.
reads, You cannot want, &c.

/x P. and all after, except C. add too
after monstrous.

/y P. and all after, except C. did it for
it did.

/z P. and all after, except C. omit
and.

88

For 'twould have anger'd any heart alive
To hear the men deny 't. So that, I say,
He has born all things well; and I do think,
That had he Duncan's sons under /* his key,
(As, an 't please heaven, he shall not) they /a should find
What 'twere to kill a father: so should Fleance.
But peace! for from broad words, and 'cause he fail'd
His presence at the tyrant's feast, I hear,
Macduff lives in disgrace. Sir, can you tell
Where he bestows himself?

Lord. The /b son of Duncan,
From whom this tyrant holds the due of birth,
/c Lives in the English court, and /d is receiv'd
Of the most pious Edward with such grace,
That the malevolence of fortune nothing
Takes from his high respect. Thither Macduff

Is gone to pray the /e holy King, /f upon his aid
To wake Northumberland, and warlike /g Seyward;
That by the help of these (with Him above
To ratify the work) we may again
Give to our tables meat, sleep to our nights,
Free from our feasts and banquets bloody knives;

/* The three last fo's and R. the for
his.

/a The three last fo's, shall for should.

/b All before T. sons for son; but this
appears to have been only an error of
the press in the first f. by the two fol-
lowing notes.

/c So the first f; the other fo's, R.
and P. Live for Lives; the rest read as
the first f.

/d So the fo's; R. and P. are for is;
the rest as in fo's.

/e P. and all after, except C. omit
holy.

/f C. on for upon.

/g T.'s duodecimo, and all after, ex-
cept C. Siward.

89

Do faithful homage, and receive free honours,
All which we pine for now. And this report
Hath so /h exasperated /i the king, that he
Prepares for some attempt /k of war.

Len. Sent he to Macduff?

Lord. He did; and with an absolute, Sir, not I,
The cloudy messenger turns me his back,
And hums, as who should say, You 'll rue the time,
That clogs me with this answer.

Len. And that well might
Advise him to /l a caution, t' hold what distance
His wisdom can provide. Some holy angel
Fly to the court of England, and unfold
His message ere he come; that a swift blessing
May soon return to this our suffering country,
Under a hand accurst!

Lord. I'll send my prayers with him.

[Exeunt.]

/h The fo's, R.'s octavo and C. read
exasperate.

/i So H. and C; the rest, their for
the.

/k P. H. and C. omit of war.

/l P. and all after, except C. a care to
hold, &c.

ACT IV.

SCENE I.

/m A dark Cave; in the middle, a great Cauldron /n boiling.

Thunder. Enter the three Witches.

1 Witch. Thrice the brinded cat hath mew'd.

2 Witch. /o Thrice and once the /p hedge-
pig whin'd.

3 Witch. /q Harpier cries, 'tis time, 'tis time.

1 Witch. Round about the cauldron go,
In the poison'd /r entrails throw.

[/s They march round the cauldron, and throw in the several
ingredients as for the preparation of their charm.

/m This description of the scene first
put in by R.

/n boiling an emendation of C; R. had
put burning.

/o T. and all after, except C. Twice
for Thrice.

/p The three last fo's and R.'s octavo,
hedges pig, &c.

/q P. and all after, Harper.

/r W. proposes for entrails, entremes,
an old word, (says he) used for ingre-
dients. See Skinner's Etymologicon,
where Entremesse is explained a mix-
ture.

/s This direction first put in by R.

Toad, that /t under cold stone,
Days and nights has, thirty one,
Swelter'd venom sleeping got;
Boil thou first i' th' charmed pot.

All. Double, double, toil and trouble;
Fire burn, and cauldron bubble.

/u 2 Witch. Fillet of a fenny snake,
In the cauldron boil and bake;
Eye of newt, and toe of frog,
Wool of bat, and tongue of dog,
Adder's fork, and blind-worm's sting,
Lizard's leg, and /w howlet's wing,
For a charm of powerful trouble,
Like a hell-broth, boil and bubble.

All. Double, double, toil and trouble,

Fire burn, and cauldron bubble.

3 Witch. Scale of dragon, tooth of wolf,
Witches' mummy; maw, and gulph
Of the /x ravening salt sea shark;
Root of hemlock, digg'd i' th' dark;
Liver of blaspheming Jew;
Gall of goat; and slips of yew,
/y Sliver'd in the moon's eclipse;
Nose of Turk, and Tartar's lips;
Finger of birth-strangled babe,
Ditch-deliver'd by a drab;
Make the gruel thick, and slab.

/t R.'s duodecimo and all after, under
the cold stone, &c.

/u P.'s duodecimo, T. W. and J. give
this speech to the first Witch.

/w P. and all after, owlet's.

/x All before P. ravin'd for raven-
ing.

/y R. silver'd for sliver'd.

92

Add thereto a tiger's chawdron,
For /z th' ingredients of our /a cauldron.

All. Double, double, toil and trouble,
Fire burn, and cauldron bubble.

2 Witch. Cool it with a baboon's blood,
Then the charm is firm and good.

Enter Hecate, /b and other three Witches.

Hec. O well done! I commend your pains,
And every one shall share i' th' gains.
And now about the cauldron sing,
Like elves and fairies in a ring,
Inchanting all that you put in.

Music and a Song.

/c Black spirits and white,
Blue spirits and grey,
Mingle, mingle, mingle,
You that mingle may.

2 Witch. By the pricking of my thumbs
Something wicked this way comes:
Open locks, whoever knocks.

/z The fo's and C. ingredience.

/a The two first fo's, cawdron.

/b The fo's, and the other, &c.

/c Only the two first words of this song are inserted in the fo's, whence R. got the remaining words we are not informed.

93

SCENE II.

Enter Macbeth.

Macb. How now, you secret, black, and midnight hags?
What is 't you do?

All. A deed without a name.

Macb. I conjure you, by that which you profess,
(Howe'er you come to know it) answer me.
Though you untie the winds, and let them fight
Against the churches; though the yesty waves
Confound and swallow navigation up;
Though bladed corn be lodg'd, and trees blown down;
Though castles topple on their warders' heads;
Though palaces and pyramids do slope
Their heads to their foundations; though the treasure
Of nature's /d germins tumble /e all together,
Even till destruction sicken: answer me
To what I ask you.

1 Witch. Speak.

2 Witch. Demand.

3 Witch. We 'll answer.

1 Witch. Say, if th' hadst rather hear it from our mouths,
Or from our masters?

/d The fo's and R. Germain; P. Germain. Germins, i. e. seeds, is T.'s emendation.

/e The fo's and R. altogether.

94

Macb. Call 'em: let me see 'em.

1 Witch. Pour in sow's blood, that hath eaten
Her nine farrow; grease, that's sweaten
From the murderer's gibbet, throw
Into the flame:

All. Come high or low:
Thyself and office /f deftly show.

[Thunder.]

Apparition of an armed head rises.

Macb. Tell me, thou unknown power ---

1 Witch. He knows thy thought:
Hear his speech, but say thou nought.

App. Macbeth! Macbeth! Macbeth! beware Macduff!

Beware the Thane of Fife --- dismiss me --- enough.

[Descends.]

Macb. Whate'er thou art, for thy good caution, thanks.
Thou hast harp'd my fear aright. But one word more ---
1 Witch. He will not be commanded. Here's another
More potent than the first. [Thunder.]

Apparition of a bloody child rises.

App. Macbeth! Macbeth! Macbeth!

Macb. Had I three ears, I'd hear thee.

App. Be bloody, bold, and resolute; laugh to scorn
The pow'r of man; for none of woman born
Shall harm Macbeth. [Descends.]

Macb. Then live, Macduff; what need I fear of thee?
But yet I'll make assurance double sure,
And take a bond of fate; thou shalt not live,
That I may tell pale-hearted fear, it lies;
And sleep in spite of thunder. [Thunders.]

/f The two first fo's, deaftly.

95

Apparition of a child crowned, with a tree in his hand, rises.
What is this,
That rises like the issue of a king,
And wears upon his baby brow the round
And top of sovereignty?

All. Listen, but speak not /g to 't.

App. Be lion-mettled, proud, and take no care
Who chafes, who frets, or where conspirers are:
Macbeth shall never vanquish'd be, until
Great Birnam wood /h to high /i Dunsinane hill
Shall come against him. [Descends.]

Macb. That will never be:
Who can impress the forest, bid the tree
Unfix his earth-bound root? Sweet boadments! good!
/k Rebellious /l head, rise never, 'till the wood
Of Birnam rise, and our high-plac'd Macbeth
Shall live the lease of nature, pay his breath
To time and mortal custom. --- Yet my heart
Throbs to know one thing; tell me, (if your art
Can tell so much) shall Banquo's issue ever
Reign in this kingdom?

All. Seek to know no more.

[/m The cauldron sinks into the ground.]

Macb. I will be satisfy'd. Deny me this,
And an eternal curse fall on you! Let me know*,
Why sinks that cauldron, and what noise is this? [/n Hautboys.]

/g P. and all after omit to't.

/h P. and all after, to Dunsinane's
(C. Dunsinane) high hill, &c.
/i First f. Dunsmane.
/k H. Rebellion's head, &c.
/l All before T. dead for head.
/m This direction not in the fo's.
/n C. [Horrid music.

96

1 Witch. Shew!
2 Witch. Shew!
3 Witch. Shew!

All. Shew his eyes, and grieve his heart;
Come like shadows, so depart.

[/o Eight kings appear and pass over in order, the last
with a glass in his hand; Banquo following.

Macb. Thou art too like the spirit of Banquo: Down!
Thy crown does sear mine eye-balls. --- And thy /p hair,
Thou other gold-bound brow, is like the first ---
A third is like the former --- Filthy hags!
Why do you shew me this? --- A fourth? --- Start, /q eyes!
What, will the line stretch out to th' crack of doom? ---
Another yet? --- A seventh! --- I'll see no more ---
And yet the eighth appears, who bears a glass,
Which shews me many more; and some I see,
That twofold balls and treble scepters carry.
Horrible sight! /r now I see 'tis true;
For the blood-bolter'd Banquo smiles upon me,
And points at them for his. --- What? is this so?

1 Witch. Ay, Sir, all this is so. But why
Stands Macbeth thus amazedly?

/o The fo's, A shew of eight kings, and
Banquo last, with a glass in his hand.
The eighth line of the following speech
will shew the necessity of the above
emendation, which was aim'd to be
made by T. But he unfortunately puts
the glass into the hand of Banquo still,
though he meant that the eighth king
should hold it: For he directs [Eight
kings appear and pass over in order, and
Banquo; the last, with a glass in his
hand.

/p W. and J. air for hair.
/q So the first f. and C; the rest, eye.
/r P. and all after insert nay before
now.

97

Come, sisters, cheer we up his sprights,

And shew the best of our delights;
I 'll charm the air to give a sound,
While you perform your /s antick round,
That this great king may kindly say,
Our duties did his welcome pay.

[Music.

[The witches dance and vanish.

Macb. Where are they? gone? --- Let this pernicious hour
Stand ay accursed in the kalendar.
Come in, without there!

Enter Lenox.

Len. What 's your Grace's will?

Macb. Saw you the /t weïrd sisters?

Len. No, my Lord.

Macb. Came they not by you?

Len. No indeed, my Lord.

Macb. Infected be the air whereon they ride,
And damn'd all those that trust them! I did hear
The galloping of horse. Who was 't came by?

Len. 'Tis two or three, my Lord, that bring you word,
Macduff is fled to England.

Macb. Fled to England?

Len. Ay, my good Lord.

Macb. /u Time, thou anticipat'st my dread exploits:
The flighty purpose never is o'er-took,
Unless the deed go with it. From this moment,
The very /w firstlings of my heart shall be

/s All before T. antique.

/t The 2d and 3d fo's and R. wizard;
the 4th f. wizards.

/u J. here directs, [Aside.

/w The three last fo's and R. firstling.

98

The /x firstlings of my hand. And even now
To crown my thoughts with acts, be it thought and done:
The castle of Macduff I will surprise,
Seize upon Fife, give to the edge o' th' sword
His wife, his babes, and all unfortunate souls
That trace him in his line. No boasting like a fool,
This deed I 'll do before /y this purpose cool.
But no more sights. --- Where are these gentlemen?
Come bring me where they are. [Exeunt.

/z SCENE III.

Macduff's Castle, at Fife.

Enter Lady Macduff, her Son, and Rosse.

L. Macd. What had he done, to make him fly the Land?

Rosse. You must have patience, Madam.

L. Macd. He had none;

His flight was madness; when our actions do not,
Our fears do make us traitors.

Rosse. You know not,
Whether it was his wisdom, or his fear.

/x R. firstling.

/y H. the for this.

/z This called the second scene in the
fo's, R. and C. No description of scene
in the fo's. C. A room in Macduff's
castle.

99

L. Macd. Wisdom? to leave his wife, to leave his babes,
His mansion, and his titles, in a place
From whence himself does fly? He loves us not,
He wants the natural touch; for the poor wren,
The most diminutive of birds, will fight,
Her young ones in her nest, against the owl:
All is the fear, and nothing is the love;
As little is the wisdom, where the flight
So runs against all reason.

Rosse. /a My dearest /b couz,
I pray you, school yourself; but for your husband,
He is noble, wise, judicious, and best knows
The fits o' th' /c season. I dare not speak much further,
But cruel are the times, when we are traitors,
And do not /d know ourselves: when we hold rumour
From what we fear, yet know not what we fear;
But float upon a wild and violent sea
/e Each way, and move. I take my leave of you;
/f Shall not be long but I'll be here again:
Things at the worst will cease, or else climb upward
To what they were before: My pretty cousin,
Blessing upon you!

L. Macd. Father'd he is, and yet he 's fatherless.

Rosse. I am so much a fool, should I stay longer,
It would be my disgrace, and your discomfort.
I take my leave at once. [Exit Rosse.]

/a P. and H. omit My.

/b P. and all after, except C. cousin for
couz.

/c P. and H. time for season.

/d H. know't for know.

/c C. and move each way.

/f H. 'T shall for Shall.

100

L. Macd. Sirrah, your father's dead,
And what will you do now? how will you live?

Son. As birds do, mother.

L. Macd. What, /g with worms and flies?

Son. /g With what I get, /h I meaa; and so do they.

L. Macd. Poor bird! thou 'dst never fear the net, nor
/i lime,

The pit-fall nor the gin.

Son. Why should I, mother? poor birds they are not set
for.

/k My father is not dead for all your saying.

L. Macd. Yes, he is dead; how wilt thou do /l for a fa-
ther?

Son. Nay, how will you do for a husband?

L. Macd. Why, I can buy me twenty at any market.

Son. Then you 'll /m buy 'em to sell again.

L. Macd. Thou speak'st with all thy wit,
And yet i'faith with wit enough for thee.

Son. Was my father a traitor, mother?

L. Macd. Ay, that he was.

Son. What is a traitor?

L. Macd. Why, one that swears and lies.

Son. And be all traitors that do so?

L. Macd. Every one that does so, is a traitor, and must
be hang'd.

/g P. and all after, except C. on for
with. With has here the same mean-
ing.

/h The three last fo's, R. P. and H.
omit I mean.

/i The three last fo's, R. P. and C.
line.

/k C. adds But before My.

/l After do C. inserts now.

/m The two first fo's, by for buy.

101

Son. And must they all be hang'd that swear and lie?

L. Macd. Every one.

Son. Who must hang them?

L. Macd. Why, /n the honest men.

Son. Then the liars and swearers are fools; for there are
liars and swearers enow to beat the honest men, and hang
up them.

L. Macd. /o Now God help thee, poor monkey! but how

wilt thou do for a father?

Son. If he were dead, you'd weep for him: if you would not, it were a good sign that I should quickly have a new father.

L. Macd. Poor prattler, how thou talk'st!

Enter a Messenger.

Mes. Bless you, fair dame! I am not to you known,
Though in your state of honour I am perfect;
I doubt, some danger does approach you nearly.
If you will take a homely man's advice,
Be not found here; hence with your little ones.
To fright you thus, methinks, I am too savage;
To do /p worse to you were fell cruelty,
Which is too nigh your person. Heaven preserve you!
I dare abide no longer. [Exit Messenger.]

L. Macd. Whither should I fly?
I have done no harm. But I remember now,
I am in this earthly world, where to do harm
Is often laudable; to do good, sometime

/n The two last fo's, R. P. and H.
omit the.

/o The last f. and all after, except C.
omit Now.

/p H. and C. less for worse; W. wor-
ship, i. e. pay observance.

102

Accounted dangerous folly. Why then, alas!
Do I put up that womanly defence,
To say, I /q have done no harm? --- What are these faces?
Enter Murtherers.

Mur. Where is your husband?

L. Macd. I hope, in no place so unsanctified,
Where such as thou may'st find him.

Mur. He 's a traitor.

Son. Thou ly'st, thou shag-ear'd villain.

Mur. What, you egg? [/r Stabbing him.
Young fry of treachery?

Son. He has kill'd me, mother.
Run away, /s I pray you.

/t [Exit L. Macduff, crying Murther; Mur-
therers pursue her.]

/u SCENE IV.

The King of England's Palace.

Enter Malcolm and Macduff.

Malc. Let us seek out some desolate shade, and there
Weep our sad bosoms empty.

Macd. Let us rather

/q So the first f. and C; the rest, had
for have.

/r No direction in the fo's.

/s P. and all after, except C. omit
I.

/t So T. and all after; all before di-
rect thus, Exit, crying Murther. But
by placing this direction after the son's
speech, it would seem as if he (who is
slain) was to go out, crying Murther,
which is absurd.

/u This is the third scene in the fo's,
R. and C. No description of the scene
in the fo's. C. calls it a room in the
palace.

103

Hold fast the mortal sword; and, like good men,
Bestride our /w downfaln /x birthdom. Each new morn,
New widows howl, new orphans cry; new sorrows
Strike heaven on the face, that it resounds
As if it felt with Scotland, and yell'd out
Like /y syllable of dolour.

Mal. What I believe, I 'll wail;
What know, believe; and, what I can redress,
As I shall find the time to friend, I will.
What you have spoke, it may be so perchance;
This tyrant, whose sole name blisters our tongues,
Was once thought honest: you have lov'd him well,
He hath not touch'd you yet. I am young; but something
You may /z deserve of him through me, /a and wisdom
To offer up a weak, poor, innocent lamb,
T' appease an angry God.

Macd. I am not treacherous.

Mal. But Macbeth is,
A good and virtuous nature may recoil
In an imperial charge. /b But I /b I crave your pardon:
That which you are, my thoughts cannot transpose;
Angels are bright still, though the brightest fell:
Though all things foul would /c wear the brows of grace,
Yet Grace must /d still look so.

/w All before W. downfal for down-
faln; C. down-fall.

/x The fo's and R. birthdome; P. and
all after, but J. and C. birth-doom.

/y P. and all after, syllables.
/z All before T. read discern for de-
serve; C. discern.
/a H. 'tis for and.
/b P. and all after, except C. omit but
and shall.
/c The last f. W. and J. hear for
wear.
/d T.'s duodecimo, W. and J. look still
for still look.

104

Macd. I have lost my hopes.
Mal. Perchance, even there, where I did find my doubts.
Why in that rawness left you wife and /e children,
Those precious motives, those strong knots of love,
Without leave-taking? --- /f I pray you,
Let not my jealousies be your dishonours,
But mine own safeties. You may be rightly just,
Whatever I shall think.

Macd. Bleed, bleed, poor country!
Great tyranny, lay thou thy basis sure,
For goodness /g dares not check thee: Wear /h thou thy wrongs,
/i The title is /k affear'd. --- Fare thee well, Lord:
I would not be the villain that thou think'st,
For the whole space that 's in the Tyrant's grasp,
And the rich East to boot.

Mal. Be not offended:
I speak not as in absolute fear of you:
I think our country sinks beneath the yolk;
It weeps, it bleeds, and each new day a gash
Is added to her wounds. I think withal,
There would be hands uplifted in my right:

/e The first f. childe for children.
/f P. and H. omit I pray you.
/g The two first fo's and C. dare for
dares.
/h The two first fo's, y/u for thou.
/i P. and all after, except C. His for
The.
/k P. explains affear'd a law term for
confirm'd; which (after having altered
The to His, as in note above) interprets
the passage thus, Macbeth's title is con-
firmed. Heath denies that affear'd (or
affeer'd which is H.'s reading) signifies
confirm'd; but tells us its signification is,
estimated, proportioned, adjusted. But af-
fear'd or afear'd has here the same
meaning with afraid (which is R.'s
reading) and the passage explains itself
thus, The title (which is put for him

to whom the title of King belongs) is
afraid to assert itself.

105

And here from gracious England have I offer
Of goodly thousands. But /l for all this,
When I shall tread upon the Tyrant's head,
Or wear it on my sword, yet my poor country
Shall have more vices than it had before;
More suffer, and more sundry ways than ever,
By him that shall succeed.

Macd. What should he be?

Mal. /m It is myself I mean, in whom I know
All the particulars of vice so grafted,
That when they shall be open'd, black Macbeth
Will seem as pure as snow, and the poor State
Esteem him as a lamb, being compar'd
With my confineless harms.

Macd. Not in the legions
Of horrid hell, can come a devil more damn'd,
In /n evils to top Macbeth.

Mal. I grant him bloody,
Luxurious, avaritious, false, deceitful,
Sudden, malicious, /o smacking of /p every sin
That has a name. But there 's no bottom, none,
In my voluptuousness: your wives, your daughters,
Your matrons, and your maids, could not fill up
The cistern of my lust; and my desire
All continent impediments would o'erbear,
That did oppose my will. Better Macbeth,
Th[a]n such an one to reign.

/l H. after But adds yet.

/m This conference of Malcolm with
Macduff is taken out of the chronicles
of Scotland. P.

/n P. H. and C. ill's for evils.

/o The three last fo's and R. smacking
for smacking.

/p P. and H. each for every.

106

Macd. Boundless intemperance
In nature is a tyranny; it hath been
Th' untimely emptying of the happy throne,
And fall of many kings. But fear not yet
To take upon you what is yours: you may
Convey your pleasures in a spacious plenty,
And yet seem cold, the time you may so hood-wink.

We have willing dames enough; there cannot be
That vulture in you to devour so many,
As will to greatness dedicate themselves,
Finding it so inclin'd.

Mal. With this, there grows,
In my most ill-compos'd affection, such
A stanchless avarice, that, were I king,
I should cut off the nobles for their lands;
Desire his jewels, and this other's house;
And my more having would be as a sauce
To make me hunger more; that I should forge
Quarrels unjust against the good and /q loyal,
Destroying them for wealth.

Macd. This avarice
/r Sticks deeper; grows with more pernicious root
Than /s summer-seeming lust; and it hath been
The sword of our slain kings: yet do not fear_
Scotland hath /t foysons, to fill up your will.
Of your mere own. All these are portable,
With other graces weigh'd.

/q Both P.'s editions, royal for loyal.

/r H. and W. strikes for sticks.

/s T. H. W. and C. summsr-teeming;
Heath proposes, summer-seeding.

/t The two last fo's, poisons for foy-
sons.

107

Mal. But I have none: the king-becoming graces,
As justice, verity, temp'rance, stableness,
Bounty, perseverance, mercy, lowliness,
Devotion, patience, courage, fortitude;
I have no relish of them, but abound
In the division of each several crime,
Acting it many ways. Nay, had I power, I should
/u Pour the sweet milk of concord into hell,
Uproar the universal peace, confound
All unity on earth.

Macd. O Scotland! Scotland!

Mal. If such a one be fit to govern, speak:
I am as I have spoken.

Macd. Fit to govern?
No, not to live. O nation miserable,
With an untitled tyrant, bloody-scepter'd,
When shalt thou see thy wholesome days again?
Since that the truest issue of thy Tthrone
By his own interdiction stands accurst,
And does blaspheme his breed. Thy Royal father

Was a most sainted king; the queen that bore thee,
Oftner upon her knees than on her feet,
Dy'd every day she liv'd. /w Fare thee well!
These evils thou repeat'st upon thyself,
/x Have banish'd me from Scotland. O my breast!
Thy hope ends here.

/u H. alters this line thus, Sow'r the
sweet milk of concord into hate.

/w P. and all after but C. Oh fare the_
well.

/x The fo's, Hath for Have.

108

Mal. Macduff, this noble passion,
Child of integrity, hath from my soul
Wip'd the black scruples; reconcil'd my thoughts
To thy good truth and honour. Devilish Macbeth
By many of these trains hath sought to win me
Into his power; and modest wisdom plucks me
From over-credulous haste; but God above
Deal between thee and me! for even now
I put myself to thy direction, and
Unspeak mine own detraction; here abjure
The taints and blames I laid upon myself,
For strangers to my nature. I am yet
Unknown to /y woman, never was /z forsworn,
Scarcely have coveted what was mine own,
At no time broke my faith, would not betray
The devil to his fellow, and delight
No less in truth, than life. My first false speaking
Was this upon myself. What I am truly,
Is thine and my poor country's to command;
Whither, indeed, before /a thy here-approach,
Old Seyward with ten thousand warlike men,
/b All ready at /c a point, was setting forth.
Now we 'll together, and /d the chance /e of goodness
Be like our warranted quarrel! Why are you silent?

Macd. Such welcome, and unwelcome things at once,
'Tis hard to reconcile.

/y The three last fo's, R. P. and H.
women for woman.

/z The three last fo's, forswore.

/a First f. they for thy.

/b The fo's, Already.

/c W. says, Shakespeare certainly wrote
appoint, i. e. at the place appointed, at
the rendezvous.

/d H. our for the.

SCENE V.

Enter a Doctor.

Mal. Well; more anon. Comes the King forth, I pray
you?

Doct. Ay, Sir; there are a crew of wretched souls,
That stay his cure; their malady /f convinces
The great assay of art. But, at his touch,
Such sanctity hath heav[e]n given his hand,
They presently amend. [Exit.

Mal. I thank you, Doctor.

Macd. What 's the disease he means?

Mal. 'Tis call'd the Evil;
A most miraculous work in this good King,
Which often since my here-remain in England
I have seen him do. How he sollicit heaven,
Himself best knows; but strangely visited people,
All swoln and ulcerous, pitiful to the eye,
The mere despair of surgery, he cures,
Hanging a golden stamp about their necks,
Put on with holy prayers. And 'tis spoken,
To the succeeding Royalty he leaves
The healing Benediction. With this strange virtue,
He hath a heavenly gift of prophecy;
And sundry blessings hang about his throne,
That speak him full of grace.

/e H. in for of.

/f convinces for defeats, overcomes.

W.

SCENE VI.

Enter Rosse.

Macd. See, who comes here?

Mal. My countryman; but yet I know him not.

Macd. My ever-gentle cousin, welcome hither.

Mal. I know him now. Good God betimes remove
/g The means that /h makes us strangers!

Rosse. Sir, Amen.

Macd. Stands Scotland where it did?

Rosse. Alas, poor country,
Almost afraid to know itself. It cannot

Be call'd our mother, but our grave; where nothing,
But who knows nothing is once seen to smile:
Where sighs and groans, and shrieks that /i rend the air
Are made, not mark'd; where violent sorrow seems
A modern ecstasy; the dead man's knell
Is there scarce ask'd, for /k who; and good men's lives
Expire before the flowers in their caps;
Dying, or ere they sicken.

Macd. /l Oh relation
Too nice, and yet too true!

Mal. What's the newest grief?

/g The three last fo's and R. The
means, the means that, &c.

/h H. and J. make for makes.

/i The fo's and C. rent for rend.

/k P. and all after, except C. whom for
who.

111

Rosse. That of an hour's age doth hiss the speaker:
Each minute teems a new one.

Macd. How does my wife?

Rosse. Why, well.

Macd. And all my children?

Rosse. Well too.

Macd. The tyrant has not batter'd at their peace?

Rosse. No; they were well at peace when I did leave 'em.

Macd. Be not a niggard of your speech: How goes 't?

Rosse. When I came hither to transport the tidings,
Which I have heavily born, there ran a rumour
Of many worthy fellows that were out,
Which was to my belief witness'd the rather,
For that I saw the tyrant's power a-foot.
Now is the time of help; your eye in Scotland
Would create soldiers, /m make our women fight,
To doff their dire distresses.

Mal. Be 't their comfort,
We are coming thither. Gracious England hath
Lent us good Seyward, and ten thousand men,
An older, and a better soldier, none
That Christendom gives out.

Rosse. Would I could answer
This comfort with the like! But I have words,
That would be howl'd out in the desert air,
Where Hearing should not /n catch them.

Macd. What concern they?
The general cause? or is it a fee-grief,
Due to some single breast?

/l H. Relation, oh! too nice, &c.
/m P. and all after, except C. and
make women, &c.
/n The fo's and C. latch for catch.

112

Rosse. No mind, that 's honest,
But in it shares some woe; though the main part
Pertains to you alone.

Macd. If it be mine,
Keep it not from me, quickly let me have it.

Rosse. Let not your ears despise my tongue for ever,
Which shall possess them with the heaviest sound,
That ever yet they heard.

Macd. Humh! I guess at it.

Rosse. Your castle is surpriz'd; your wife and babes
Savagely slaughter'd; to relate the manner,
Were on the quarry of these murther'd deer
To add the death of you.

Mal. Merciful heaven!
What, man! ne'er pull your hat upon your brows;
Give sorrow words; the grief that does not speak,
Whispers the o'er-fraught heart, and bids it break.

Macd. My children too?

Rosse. Wife, children, servants, all that could be found.

Macd. And I must be from thence! --- my wife kill'd too!

Rosse. I have said.

Mal. Be comforted.
Let 's make us med'cines of our great revenge,
To cure this deadly grief.

Macd. He has no children. --- /o All my pretty ones?
Did you say all? /p O hell-kite! all?

/o H. inserts What before All.
/p After all, P. T. H. W. and J. add,
what, all? P. and H. omit in their
text, O hell-kite all, &c. to the end of
the speech.

113

What, all my pretty chickens, and their dam,
At one fell swoop?

Mal. /q Dispute it like a man.

Macd. I shall /r do so:
But I must also feel it as a man.
I cannot but remember such things were,
That were most precious to me. Did heaven look on,
And would not take their part? Sinful Macduff,

They were all struck for thee! Naught that I am,
Not for their own demerits, but for mine!
Fell slaughter on their souls: Heaven rest them now!

Mal. Be this the whet-stone of your sword; let grief
Convert to /s anger: blunt not the heart, enrage it.

Macd. O, I could play the woman with mine eyes,
And braggart with my tongue. But, gentle /t heavens!
Cut short all intermission; front to front,
Bring thou this fiend of Scotland and myself;
Within my sword's length set him; if he 'scape,
/u Heaven forgive him too!

Mal. This /w tune goes manly.
Come, go we to the King, our power is ready;
Our lack is nothing but our leave. Macbeth
Is ripe for shaking, and the powers above
Put on their instruments. Receive what cheer you may;
The night is long that never finds the day. [Exeunt.]

/q P. and H. Endure for Dispute.

/r P. and H. omit do so.

/s P. and all after, except C. wrath
for anger.

/t P. and all after, heaven for hea-
vens.

/u P. and all after, except C. add
Then before heaven.

/w The fo's read time; tune is R.'s
emendation.

114

ACT V.

SCENE I.

/x An Anti-chamber in Macbeth's Castle.

Enter a Doctor of Physick, and a /y waiting Gentlewoman.

Doct. I have two nights watch'd with you, but can per-
ceive no truth in your report. When was it she
last walk'd?

Gent. Since his Majesty went into the field, I have seen
her rise from her bed, throw her night-gown upon her,
unlock her closet, take forth paper, fold it, write upon 't,
read it, afterwards seal it, and again return to bed; yet
all this while in a most fast sleep.

Doct. A great perturbation in nature! to receive at once
the benefit of sleep, and do the effects of watching. In
this slumbry agitation, besides her walking, and other ac-
tual performances, what (at any time) have you heard her

say?

/x No description in fo's.

/y All but the fo's and C. omit waiting.

115

Gent. That, Sir, which I will not /z report after her.

Doct. You may to me, and 'tis most meet you should.

Gent. Neither to you, nor any one; having no witness to confirm my speech.

Enter Lady Macbeth with a taper.

Lo you! here she comes. This is her very guise; and, upon my life, fast asleep. Observe her; stand close.

Doct. How came she by that light?

Gent. Why, it stood by her: she has light by her continually, 'tis her command.

Doct. You see, her eyes are open.

Gent. Ay, but their sense /a is shut.

Doct. What is it she does now? Look how she rubs her hands.

Gent. It is an accustom'd action with her, to seem thus washing her hands; I have known her continue in this a quarter of an hour.

Lady. Yet here 's a spot.

Doct. Hark, she speaks. I will set down what comes from her, to /b satisfy my remembrance the more strongly.

Lady. Out, damned spot; out, I say --- One, two; why then 'tis time to do 't --- Hell is murky. Fie, my Lord, fie! a soldier, and /c afear'd? What need we fear who knows it, when none can call our power to account? --- Yet who would have thought the old man to have had so much blood in him?

/z W. thinks it should rather be repeat than report.

/a The fo's, are for is.

/b W. fortify for satisfy.

/c So the fo's and C; the rest, afraid.

116

Doct. Do you mark that?

Lady. The Thane of Fife had a wife; where is she now? What will these hands ne'er be clean? --- No more o' that, my Lord, no more o' that: you mar all with /d this starting.

Doct. Go to, go to; you have known what you should not.

Gent. She has spoke what she should not, I am sure of

that:

Heaven knows what she has known.

Lady. Here 's the smell of /e the blood still: all the perfumes of Arabia will not sweeten this little hand. Oh, oh, oh!

Doct. What a sigh is there? the /f heart is sorely charg'd.

Gent. I would not have such a heart in my bosom for the dignity of the whole body.

Doct. Well, well, well ---

Gent. Pray God it be, Sir.

Doct. This disease is beyond my practice: yet I have known those which have walk'd in their sleep, who have died holily in their beds.

Lady. Wash your hands, put on your night-gown, look not so pale --- I tell you yet again, Banquo 's buried; he cannot come out /g on 's grave.

Doct. Even so?

Lady. To bed, to bed; there 's knocking at the gate.

/d The three last fo's, R. P. and H. omit this.

/e The last fo's, R. P. and H. omit <r "The two last"> the.

/f The first f. hart.

/g P. and all after, of his for on 's; except C. who reads of 's.

117

Come, come, come, come, give me your hand: what 's done cannot be undone. To bed, to bed, to bed.

[Exit Lady.]

Doct. Will she **now go** to bed?

Gent. Directly.

Doct. Foul whisp'rings are abroad; unnatural deeds
Do breed unnatural troubles: infected minds
To their deaf pillows will discharge their secrets.
More needs she the Divine than the Physician.
/* God, God, forgive us all! Look after her;
Remove from her the means of all annoyance,
And still keep eyes upon her: so good night!
My mind she has mated, and amaz'd my sight.
I think, but dare not speak.

Gent. Good night, good Doctor.

[Exeunt.]

SCENE II.

/h A Field, with a Wood at distance.

/i Drum and colours. Enter Menteth, Cathness, Angus, Lenox, and soldiers.

Ment. The English power is near, led on by Malcolm,
His uncle Seyward, and the good Macduff.
Revenge burn in them: for their dear causes
/k Would to the bleeding and the grim alarm
Excite the mortified man.

/* P. and H. Good God, forgive, &c.
/h C. Country near Dunsinane. No
description in the fo's.
/i Drum and colours omitted by all but
the fo's and C.
/k The three last fo's and R. omit
this line.

118

Ang. Near Birnam-wood
Shall we well meet them; that way are they coming.
Cath. Who knows if Donalbain be with his brother?
Len. For certain, Sir, he is not: I have a file
Of all the gentry; there is Seyward's son
And many /l unrough youths, that even now
Protest their first of manhood.
Ment. What does the Tyrant?
Cath. Great Dunsinane he strongly fortifies;
Some say he 's mad: others, that lesser /m hate him,
Do call it valiant fury; but, for certain,
He cannot buckle his distemper'd cause
Within the belt of rule.
Ang. Now does he feel
His secret murders sticking on his hands;
Now minutely revolts upbraid his faith-breach;
Those he commands move only in command,
Nothing in love: now does he feel his title
Hang loose about him, like a giant's robe
Upon a dwarfish thief.
Ment. Who then shall blame
His pester'd senses to recoil, and start,
When all that is within him does condemn
Itself, for being there?
Cath. Well, march we on,
To give obedience where 'tis truly ow'd.
Meet we the /n med'cine of the sickly weal,

/l The two first fo's, unruffe; the two
last and R. unruff; P. unruff'd. T. ex-
plains unrough by unbearded.
/m The two last fo's, hates for hate.

/n W. says we should read medicin, i. e.
physician.

119

And with him pour we, in our country's purge,
Each drop of us.

Len. Or so much as it needs,
To dew the sovereign flower, and drown the weeds.
Make /o we our march towards Birnam. [Exeunt /p marching.

SCENE III.

/q The Castle of Dunsinane.

Enter Macbeth, Doctor, and Attendants.

Macb. Bring me no more reports; let them fly all:
'Till Birnam-wood remove to Dunsinane,
I cannot taint with fear. What 's the boy Malcolm?
Was he not born of woman? /r The spirits, that know
All mortal consequences, have pronounc'd /s me thus;
Fear not, Macbeth; no man that 's born of woman
Shall e'er have power upon thee. --- Then fly, false Thanes,
And mingle with the English epicures.
The mind I sway by, and the heart I bear,
Shall never sag with doubt, nor shake with fear.

Enter a Servant.

The devil damn thee black, thou cream-fac'd /t loon!
Where got'st thou that goose-look?

/o T.'s octavo reads me for we; his
duodecimo, W. and J. up for we.

/p All but fo's and C. omit marching.

/q No description in fo's. C. A room
in the castle.

/r P. and all after omit The.

/s P. and all after, it for me thus;
except C. who reads me, omitting thus.

/t The last f. and all after, except C.
lown for loon.

120

Ser. There /u are ten thousand ---

Macb. Geese, villain?

Ser. Soldiers, Sir.

Macb. Go, prick thy face, and over-red thy fear,
Thou lily-liver'd boy. What soldiers, patch?
Death of thy soul! those linen cheeks of thine
Are counsellors to fear. What soldiers, /w whey-face?

Ser. The English force, so please you.

Macb. Take thy face hence. --- Seyton! --- I am sick at heart,

When I behold --- Seyton, I say! --- This push
Will chear me ever, or /x disease me now.
I have liv'd long enough: my /y way of life
Is fall'n into the Sear, the yellow leaf:
And that which should accompany old age,
As honour, love, obedience, troops of friends,
I must not look to have; but in their stead,
Curses not loud but deep, mouth-honour, breath,
Which the poor heart would fain deny, and dare not.
/z Seyton! ---

Enter Seyton.

Sey. What 's your gracious pleasure?

Macb. What news more?

Sey. All is confirm'd, my Lord, which was reported.

/u Fo's and C. is for are.

/w The fo's and R. whay-face.

/x The first f. dis-eate for disease.

Shakespeare might write disseat.

/y An Anonymus would have it --- my
May of life. Way is used for course,
progress. W.

The Anonymus appears to be J.

/z R. P. and H. omit Seyton!

121

Macb. I 'll fight 'till from my bones my flesh /a be hackt;
Give me my armour.

Sey. 'Tis not needed yet.

Macb. I 'll put it on.

Send out /b more horses, skirre the country round;
Hang those /c that talk of fear. Give me mine armour.
How does your patient, Doctor?

Doct. Not so sick, my Lord,
As she is troubled with thick-coming fancies,
That keep her from her rest.

Macb. Cure /d her /e of that.

Canst thou not minister /f to a mind diseas'd,
Pluck from the memory a rooted sorrow,
/g Raze out the written troubles of the brain,
And, with some sweet oblivious antidote,
Cleanse the /h stuff bosome of that perilous stuff,
Which weighs upon the heart?

Doct. Therein the patient
Must minister /i to himself.

Macb. Throw physic to the dogs, I 'll none of it.
Come, put mine armour on; give me my staff.

Seyton, send out --- Doctor, the Thanes fly from me ---
Come, Sir, dispatch --- If thou couldst, Doctor, cast
The water of my land, find her disease,

/a The three last fo's, R. P. and H.
is for be.
/b The two first fo's, moe for more.
/c The three last fo's and R. that stand
in fear, &c.
/d First f. omits her.
/e The two last fo's and R. from for
of.
/f P. and H. read to minds diseas'd,
&c.
/g The third f. raise for raze.
/h P. and H. full for stuff.
/i So the first f; the rest, except C.
unto for to.

122

And purge it to a sound and /k pristine health;
I would applaud thee to the very echo,
That should applaud again. --- Pull 't off, I say ---
What rhubarb, /l senna, or what purgative drug,
Would scour these English hence? Hear'st /m thou of them?

Doct. Ay, my good Lord; your Royal preparation
Makes us hear something.

Macb. Bring it after me.
I will not be afraid of death and bane,
'Till Birnam forest come to Dunsinane.

Doct. Were I from Dunsinane away and clear,
Profit again should hardly draw me here. [Exeunt.]

SCENE IV.

/n Birnam wood.

/o Drum and Colours. Enter Malcolm, Seyward, Macduff,
Seyward's Son, Menteth, Cathness, Angus, and Soldiers
marching.

Mal. /p Cousins, I hope the days are near at hand,
That chambers will be safe.

Ment. We doubt it nothing.

Sey. What wood is this before us?

/k The first f. pristieue.
/l The first f. cyme for senna; the 2d
and 3d, cæny.
/m First f. y/u for thou.
/n C. Plains leading to Dunsinane; a

wood adjacent. No description in fo's.

/o All but the fo's and C. omit, Drum and Colours.

/p The two last fo's, R. P. and H. Cousin for Cousins.

123

Ment. The wood of /q Birnam.

Mal. Let ev'ry soldier hew him down a bough,
And bear 't before him; thereby shall we shadow
The numbers of our host, and make discovery
Err in report of us.

Sold. It shall be done.

Sey. We learn no other, but the /r confident tyrant
Keeps still in Dunsinane, and will endure
Our setting down before 't.

Mal. 'Tis his main hope:
For where there is /s advantage to be given,
Both more and less have given him the revolt;
And none serve with him but constrained things,
Whose hearts are absent too.

Macd. /t Let our /u just censures
/w Attend the true event, and put we on
Industrious soldiership.

Sey. The time approaches,
That will with due decision make us know
What we shall say we have, and what we owe;
Thoughts speculative their unsure hopes relate,
But certain issue strokes must arbitrate;
Towards which advance the war. [Exeunt marching.

/q The first f. Birnane.

/r W. confin'd for confident.

/s J. proposes, a 'vantage to be gone,
&c. C. reads advantage to be gone,
&c.

/t R. Set for Let.

/u The three last fo's and R. best for
just.

/w The three last fo's and R. Before
for Attend.

124

SCENE V. /x The Castle of Dunsinane.

Enter Macbeth, Seyton, and Soldiers with drum and colours.

Macb. Hang out our banners on the outward walls;
The cry is still, They come: Our castle's strength
Will laugh a siege to scorn. Here let them lie,

'Till famine and the ague eat them up;
Were they not /y forc'd with those that should be ours,
We might have met them d careful, beard to beard,
And beat them backward home. What is that noise?

[A cry within of women.]

Sey. It is the cry of women, my good Lord.

Macb. I have almost forgot the taste of fears;
The time has been, my senses would have cool'd
To hear a night-shriek; and my /z fell of hair
Would at a dismal treatise rouze and stir,
As life were in 't. I have /a supt full with horrors;
Direness, familiar to my slaughterous thoughts,
Cannot /b once start me. Wherefore was that cry?

Sey. The queen, my Lord, is dead.

/x C. Dunsinane. A plat-form within
the castle. No description in fo's.

/y forc'd for reinforc'd. P.

/z fell is skin. J.

/a H. surfeited for supt full.

/b H. now for once.

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Macb. She should have dy'd hereafter;
/c There would have been a time for such a word.
To-morrow, and to-morrow, and to-morrow,
Creeps in this petty pace from day to day,
To the last syllable of recorded time;
And all our yesterdays have lighted fools
The way to /d dusty death. Out, out, brief candle!
Life 's but a walking shadow, a poor Player,
That struts and frets his hour upon the stage,
And then is heard no more. It is a tale
Told by an idiot, full of sound and fury,
Signifying nothing.

Enter a Messenger.

Thou com'st to use thy tongue: Thy story quickly.

Mes. /e Gracious my Lord,
I should report that which /f I say I saw,
But know not how to do 't.

Macb. Well, say /g, sir.

Mes. As I did stand my watch upon the hill,
I look'd toward Birnam, and anon, methought,
The wood began to move.

Macb. Liar, and slave! [/h Striking him.]

Mes. Let me endure your wrath if 't be not so.
Within this three mile may you see it coming;
I say, a moving grove.

/c J. proposes to read, --- There would
have been a time for --- Such a world! ---
Tomorrow, &c.

/d The three last fo's, R. P. and C.
study for dusty; H. and W. dusty. This
emendation was hinted by T. though
not put in his text.

/e So the first f. and C; the rest,
My gracious Lord, &c.

/f H. and C. I'd for I.

/g P. and all after add it after say.

/h This direction not in the fo's.

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Macb. If thou speak'st false,
Upon the next tree shalt thou hang alive,
'Till famine cling thee: if thy speech be sooth,
I care not if thou dost for me as much. ---
I /i pull in resolution, and begin
To doubt th' equivocation of the fiend,
That lies like truth. "Fear not, till /k Birnam-wood
Do come to Dunsinane" --- and now a wood
Comes /l toward Dunsinane. Arm, arm, and out!
If this which he avouches does appear,
There is /m no flying hence, nor tarrying here;
I 'gin to be /n a weary of the sun
And wish /o th' estate o' th' world were now undone.
Ring the alarum bell. Blow, wind! come, wrack!
At least we 'll die with harness on our back. [Exeunt.]

/i J. proposes pall for pull.

/k First f. Byrnane-wood. In this
edition it is in different places variously
spelt, viz. Byrnam, Byrnan, Birnane and
Byrnane.

/l W. and J. towards.

/m The two first fo's, T. W. J. and
C. nor for no.

/n J. omits a.

/o So all before P; he and all after,
except C. the state for th' estate.

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SCENE VI.

/p Before Dunsinane.

/q Drum and Colours. Enter Malcolm, Seyward, Macduff,
and their Army with Boughs.

Mal. Now, near enough. Your leavy screens throw down,

And shew like those you are. You, worthy uncle,
Shall with my cousin, your right noble son,
Lead our first battle. /r Worthy Macduff and we
Shall take upon 's what else remains to do,
According to our order.

Sey. Fare you well.

/s Do we but find the Tyrant's power to-night,
Let us be beaten if we cannot fight.

Macd. Make all our trumpets speak, give them all breath,
Those clamorous harbingers of blood and death. [Exeunt.

[Alarums continued.

/t Enter Macbeth.

Macb. They have tied me to a stake, I cannot fly,
But, bear-like, I must fight the course. What 's he,
That was not born of woman? such a one
Am I to fear, or none.

/p This description not in fo's.

/q All but fo's and C. omit Drum and
colours.

/r P. and all after, except C. brave
for worthy.

/s P. and H. Let us but find, &c.

/t The fo's and C. here begin the 7th
scene, which they make the last.

128

Enter young Seyward.

Y. Sey. What is thy name?

Macb. Thou 'lt be afraid to hear it.

Y. Sey. No, though thou call'st thyself a hotter name
Than any is in hell.

Macb. My name 's Macbeth.

Y. Sey. The devil himself could not pronounce a title
More hateful to mine ear.

Macb. No, nor more fearful.

Y. Sey. /u Thou liest, abhorred Tyrant; with my sword
I 'll prove the lie thou speak'st.

[Fight, and young Seyward is slain.

Macb. Thou wast born of woman. ---
But swords I smile at, weapons laugh to scorn,
Brandish'd by man that 's of a woman born.

[Exit.

Alarums. Enter Macduff.

Macd. That way the noise is. Tyrant, shew thy face;
If thou be'st slain, and with no stroke of mine,
My wife and children's ghosts will haunt me still.
I cannot strike at wretched Kernes, whose arms
Are hir'd to bear their staves; /w either thou, Macbeth,
Or else my sword with an unbatter'd edge
I sheath again undeeded. There thou should'st be ---

By this great clatter, one of greatest note
Seems bruited. Let me find him, fortune,
And more I beg not.

[Exit. Alarum.

/u The three last fo's and R. Thou
liest, thou abhorred, &c.

/w P. and all after, except C. or for
either.

129

Enter Malcolm and Seyward.

Sey. This way, my Lord; the castle 's gently render'd;
The Tyrant's people on both sides do fight;
The noble Thanes do bravely in the war;
The day almost /x itself professes yours,
And little is to do.

Mal. We have met with foes,
That strike beside us.

Sey. Enter, Sir, the castle. [Exeunt. Alarum.

Enter Macbeth.

Macb. Why should I play the Roman fool, and die
On mine own sword? /y whiles I see lives, the gashes
Do better upon them.

To him, enter Macduff.

Macd. Turn, hell-hound, turn.

Macb. Of all men else I have avoided thee.
But get thee back, my soul is too much charg'd
With blood of thine already.

Macd. I have no words;
My voice is in my sword! Thou bloodier villain,
Than terms can give thee out. [Fight. Alarum.

Macb. Thou lovest labour;
As easy may'st thou the intrenchant air
With thy keen sword impress, as make me bleed:
Let fall thy blade on vulnerable crests,
I bear a charmed life, which must not yield
To one of woman born.

Macd. Despair thy charm,

/x J. professes itself yours, &c.

/y R. and all after, except C. Whilst.

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And let the Angel, whom thou still hast serv'd,
Tell thee, Macduff was from his mother's womb
Untimely ript.

Macb. Accursed be that tongue that tells me so,
For it hath cow'd my better part of man;

And be these juggling fiends no more believ'd,
That palter with us in a double sense;
That keep the word of promise to our ear,
And break it to our hope. I 'll not fight with thee.

Macd. Then yield thee, Coward,
And live to be the shew and gaze o' th' time.
We 'll have thee, as our rarer monsters are,
Painted upon a pole, and underwrit,
"Here may you see the Tyrant.

Macb. I *[wi]ll not yield,
To kiss the ground before young Malcolm's feet,
And to be baited with the rabble's curse.
Though Birnam wood be come to Dunsinane,
And thou oppos'd, /z being of no woman born,
Yet I will try the last. Before my body
I throw my warlike shield. Lay on, Macduff;
And damn'd be /a he, that first cries, "Hold, enough."
[Exeunt fighting. Alarums.]

/z T. W. and J. be for being.
/a The fo's, R. and C. him for he.

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SCENE VII /b.

Retreat and flourish. Enter, with Drum and Colours, Mallcolm,
Seyward, Rosse, Thanes, and Soldiers.

Mal. I would the friends we miss were safe arriv'd.
Sey. Some must go off; and yet, by these I see,
So great a day as this is cheaply bought.
Mal. Macduff is missing, and your noble son.
Rosse. Your son, my Lord, has paid a soldier's debt;
He only liv'd but 'till he was a man,
The which no sooner had his prowess confirm'd,
In the unshrinking station where he fought,
But like a man he dy'd.

Sey. Then /c he is dead?

Rosse. Ay, and brought off the field. Your cause of
sorrow
Must not be measur'd by his worth, for then
It hath no end.

Sey. Had he his hurts before?

Rosse. Ay, on the front.

Sey. Why then, God's soldier be he!
Had I as many sons as I have hairs,

/b The fo's and R. here insert the
following direction, Enter fighting, and

Macbeth slain; which supposes Macbeth and Macduff to re-enter, and end their duel upon the stage. If we allow this direction, we must also put in another; and either make the curtain fall, or exit Macduff, and the body of Macbeth carried off, before Malcolm, &c. enter.

/c P. and all after, except C. is he for he is.

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I would not wish them to a fairer death.
And so his knell is knoll'd.

Mal. He 's worth more sorrow,
And that I 'll spend for him.

Sey. He 's worth no more;
They say, he parted well, and paid his score.
/d And so God be with him! --- Here comes newer comfort.

Enter Macduff, with Macbeth's head.

Macd. Hail, King! for so thou art. Behold, where
stands

Th' Usurper's cursed head. The time is free;
I see thee compast with thy kingdom's /e pearl,
That speak my salutation in their minds,
Whose voices I desire aloud with mine; ---
Hail, King of Scotland!

All. Hail, King of Scotland! [Flourish.]

Mal. We shall not spend a large expence of time,
Before we reckon with your several loves,
And make us even with you. /f My Thanes and kinsmen,
Henceforth be Earls, the first that ever Scotland
In such an honour nam'd. What 's more to do,
Which would be planted newly with the time,
As calling home our exil'd friends abroad,
That fled the snares of watchful tyranny,
Producing forth the cruel ministers
Of this dead butcher, and his fiend-like Queen,

/d P. and all after, except C, omit
And.

/e So the 3d and 4th fo's and C; the
1st and 2d, pearle; the rest, peers for
pearl.

/f P. and all after, except C. omit
My.

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(Who, as 'tis thought, by self and violent hands
Took off her life;) this, and what needful else
That calls upon us, by the grace of /g Grace,

We will perform in measure, time and place.
So thanks to all at once, and to each one,
Whom we invite to see us crown'd at Scone.

[Flourish. Exeunt omnes.]

/g For Grace, P. and H. read heaven; W. God.