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Nobody and Somebody 3 1924 013 127 133



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NOBODY

SOMEBODY



Clow. But Maister, why doe you goe thus out of fashion; you are euen a very hoddy doddy, all breech,

Nobod. And no body. (Sig. C.)

PRINTED FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION

1877 E.V.



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NOTE.

THIS exceedingly clever and interesting Play is of fusficient intrinsic worth to justify its reproduction.

Excepting the exemplar in the British Museum, all the known copies of the original are more or less imperfect: the two in the Dyce Collection, South Kensington Museum, would, however, make a perfect copy between them. This Reprint has been made, as nearly as possible, a typographical facsimile—page for page, and line for line, with the peculiarities of type and spelling carefully preserved.

Ludwig Tieck, the diffinguished Anglo-German scholar, in a list of Old English Plays which he sent to Mr. J. Payne Collier (inserted by the latter gentleman in his privately-printed "Old Man's Diary," Part IV., p. 91) includes "Nobody and Somebody," adding his opinion of it in these words—

"Excellent, and one I copied."

And whether we regard it as furnishing curious illustrations of early habits of life and manners, or as a dramatic composition, there can be no doubt that Tieck's eulogistic ascription is well deserved.

A notable allusion in the Play is that referring to the treatment of thieves taken in the theatres of that day:—

"somebody once pickt a pocket in this Play-house yard, Was hoysted on the stage, and shamd about it." (Sig. I b.)

The only other reference to this peculiar custom is in Kemp's "Nine Daies Wonder," 1600, reprinted by the Camden Society in 1840.

In anticipation of the modern practice of photographing criminals, the following passage may be quoted:—

"Somb. What has he fcapt vs. Const. He is gone my Lord.

NOTE.

Somb. It shall be thus, now you have seene his shape, Let him be straight imprinted to the life:
His picture shall be set on every stall,
And proclamation made, that he that takes him,
Shall have a hundred pounds of Sombody." (Sig. D 4.)

So also in Shakespeare's "King Lear" (Ac. ii., fc. 1):—

"Glo. the villain shall not scape; The duke must grant me that: besides, his picture I will send far and near, that all the kingdom May have due note of him."

Nobody himself is thus referred to in "The Tempest" (Ac. iii., sc. 2):—

"Trin. This is the tune of our catch, played by the picture of No-body."

On Sig. F 4 we have a Shakespearian allusion:—
"It shal go hard, but I the shrew will tame."

"Nobody and Somebody" was described by the present writer in "Notes and Queries" for June 6, 1874 (5th S., vol. i., p. 441); and as the Play is without date, it was there conjecturally stated to have appeared sometime between 1604 and 1614. Since then, however, the "Stationers' Registers" have been referred to, with the following conclusive result (Mr. Arber's *Transcript*, vol. iii., pp. 308-316):—

"8° Januarij 1606.

"John Trundell Entred for his copie by directon from Master ffield warden The picture of No bodye| vjd"

"12° Martij 1606.

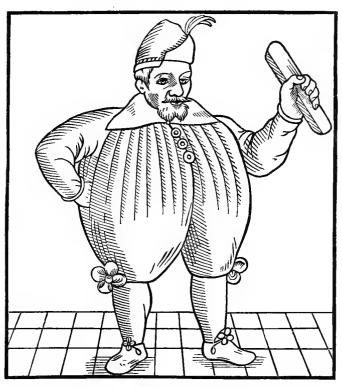
"John Trundell Entred for his Copie vnder the handes of Master Wilson and the Wardens A Booke called no bodie and somme bodie &c. vjd"

The prefent impression has been limited to fifty copies for private circulation.

NO-BODY, SOME-BODY.

With the true Chronicle Historie of Elydure, who was fortunately three feuerall times crowned King of England.

The true Coppy thereof, as it hath beene acted by the Queens Maiesties Servants.



Printed for Iohn Trundle and are tobe fold at his shop in Barbican, at the signe of No-body.



The Prologue.

A fubiect, of no fubiect, we prefent, for No-body, is Nothing:

Who of nothing can fomething make? It is a worke beyond the power of wit, And yet inuention is ripe:

A morrall meaning you must then expect, grounded on lesser then a shadowes shadow:

Promifing nothing wher there wants a toong; And deeds as few, be done by No-bodie:

Yet fomething, out of nothing, we will fhew, To gaine your loues, to whome our felues we owe.

NO-BODY, SOME-BODY.

Enter Cornewell and Martianus.

Corn. Mar. Y Lord Martianus.
My Lord of Cornwell.
Morrow.

Corn. Mor

Mar. Morrow,

Corn. You are fad my Lord.

Mar. You melancholy.

Corne. So,

The ftate it felfe mournes in a robe of Wo.

Mar, For the decease of Archigalloes vertues,
I vnderstand you Noble minded Cornwell,
What generous spirit drawes this Brittish ayre,
But droops at Archigalloes gouernement.

corn. And reason Martianus, when the Sunne Struggles to be deliuered from the wombe Of an obscure Eclipse, doth not the earth Mourne to behold his shine envelloped, O Corbonon when I did close thine eyes, I gaue release to Britaines miseries.

Enter Elydure.

Mar. Good morrow to Prince Elydure.

Elid. The fame to you, and you, you are fad my Lordes, your harts I thinke are frofty, for your blood Seemes cryfted in your faces, like the dew In a September morne, how fares the king, Haue you yet bid good morrow to his highnes.

Corn. The kings not stirring yet.

Enter Vigenius and Peridure.

Perid Yonders old Cornwell, come Vigenius, Weele haue fome fport with him.

1 3

Vig.

Vig. Brother content.

Perid. Good morrow to you brother Elydure.

Cornwel, God morrow to Cornwell.

Vig. Morrow old gray-beard.

Corn. My beards not fo gray as your wits greene.

Vig. And why fo.

Perid. We shall ha you come out now with some reason that was borne in my great grandsires time.

Corn. Would you would proue as honest princes as your great graundsire was, or halfe so wise as your elder brother was, theres a Couple of you, Stoote I am ashamed you should be of the blood royall.

Perid. And why father vvinter.

Corn. You doe not know your state, theres Elydure Your elder brother next vnto the King, He plies his booke, when shall you see him trace Lasciuious Archigallo through the streets, And sight with common hacksters hand to hand, To wrest from them their goods and dignityes.

Perid. You are to faucy Cornwell.

Vig. Bridle your spirit.

Elyd. Your words are dangerous, good honest subject Old reuerent states-man, faithful servitor, Doe not traduce the King, hees vertuous Or say he tread somewhat besides the line Of vertuous gouernment, his regality Brookes not taxation, kings greatest royalties Are that their subjects must aplaud their deedes, As well as beare them their prerogatives. Are murall interponents twixt the world, And their proceedings.

Corn. Well, well, I have ferued foure kings, And none of all those foure but would have ventured Their faseties on old Cornwels constancy, But thats all one, now I am cald a dotard, Go to, though now my limbes be starke and stiffe, When Cornwels dead Brittayne I know will want

So strong a prop, Alasse I needs must weepe, And shed teares in abundance, when I thinke How Archigallo wrongs his gouernment.

Vig. Nay, now youle fall into your techy humor.

Enter Lord Sicophant.

Sicoph. My Lords, Princes I should have said, and after Lord, I am the Vsher and Harbinger vnto the kings most Excellent person and his Maiesty.

Vig. Is fourth comming.

Sicoph. Or comming fourth, hard by or at hand, will you Put your gestures of attendaunce on, to give his Maiestie the Bon-ioure.

Enter Archigallo and two Lords. Morgan Malgo.

All. Good morrow to our foueraigne Archigallo. Arch. Morrow.

Corn. Why do you frowne vpon your feruants king, We loue you, and you ought to fauor vs: Will you to Counfel. Heeres petitions, Complaints and controuerfies twixt your fubiects, Appealing all to you.

Arch. Lets fee those papers. A controuersie betwixt the Lord Morgan and the Lord Malgo, concerning their Tytles to the Southerne Island. We know this cause and what their titles be. You claime it by inheritance.

Morg. My liege I do.

Arch. You by the marriage of Lord Morgans mother, To whom it was left ioynture.

Malgo. True gratious Soueraigne.

Arch. Whose euidence is strongest, to which part Inclines the censures of our learned Iudges.

Morgan. We come not heer to plead before your grace, But humblie to intreat your Maiestie,
Peruse our euidence and censure it,

According to your wifedome.

Arch. What I determine then youle yeeld vnto.

Both. We will my Soueraigne.

Arch. Then that Southerne Ile we take to our protection, and make y

we take to our protection, and make you Lord gouernor thereof.

Sicoph. I humblie thanke your highnesse.

Mal. I hope your Maiesty.

Arch. Replie not, I but take it to my felfe Because I would not have diffention betwixt two peeres, I loue to see you friends, And now the Islands mine, your quarrell ends. Whats next. A poore Nothern mans humble petition. Which is the plaintiue?

Enter clowne, Wench, and Rafe.

Rafe. I if it please your Maiestie I was betrothed to this Arch. Is this true my Wench. (maid.

Wench. Tis verie true and like your maiestie, but this tempting fellow after that, most felloniously stole my hart awaie fro me, caried it into the church, and I running after him to get my hart againe, was there married to this other man.

clown. Tis verie true and like your maiesty, though Raphe were once tooke for a propper man, yet when I came in place it appeared otherwise: if your highnesse note his leg and mine, there is ods, and for a foot, I dare compare, I have a wast to, and though I say it, that shoulde not saye it there are faces in place of Gods making.

Arch. Thou art a proper fellow, and this wench is thine by lawfull marriage.

clown. Rafe you have your answer, you may be gon, your onely way to saue charges, is to buy a halpenniwoorth of Hob-nailes for your shooes: Alasse you might have looked into this before, go silly Rafe go, away, vanish.

Arch. Is not this Lasse a pretty Neat browne Wench? Sicoph. She is my liege, and mettell I dare warrant.

Arch.

Arch. Fellow, how long hast thou been married?

Clown. I was as they fay coupled the fame day that my country man Raphe begunne the law: for to tell your Maiestie the truth, we are yet both virgins, it did neuer freese betwixt vs two in a bed I assure your grace.

Arch. Didst neuer lie with thy wife?

Clown. Neuer yet, but nowe your Maiestie hath ended the matter Ile be so bold as take possession.

Arch. Harke my wench, wilt leaue these rusticke sellowes & stay with me?

Wench. What will your highnes doe with me?

Arch. Why Ile make thee a Lady.

Wench. And shall I goe in fine clothes like a Lady.

Arch. Thou shalt.

Wench. Ile be a Lady then, thats flat, fweet heart farewell, I must be a Lady, so I must.

Clow. How now, how now, but heare you Sis.

Wench. Away you Clowne, away.

Clown. But will your highnes rob me of my spouse.

Arch. What we will, we will, away with those flaues.

Clown. Zounds, if euer I take you in Yorkshire for this.

Sicoph. Away you flaues.

Corn. My Lord, these generall wrongs will draw your highnesse into the common hatred of your subjects.

Arch. Whats that to thee, old doting Lord forbeare.

Whats heere? complaints against one *Nobody*,

For ouermuch releeuing of the poore,

Helping distressed prisoners, entertayning

Extrauagants and vagabonds, what fellowes this?

Corn. My liedge I know him, he's an honest subject

That hates extortion, viury, and fuch finnes

As are too common in this Land of Brittaine.

Arch. Ile haue none fuch as he within my kingdome, Hee shall be banisht.

Sicoph. Heare my aduife my liedge: I know a fellow

В.

Thats

Thats opposite to *Nobody* in all thinges: As he affects the poore, this other hates them, Loues vsurie and extortion. Send him straight Into the Country, and vpon my life, Ere many monthes he will deuise some meanes To make that *Nobody* bankrout, make him slie His Country, and be neuer heard of more.

Arch. VVhat doost thou call his name. Sicoph. His name is Sombody my liedge.

Arch. Seeke out that Sombody, wele fend him straight, VVhat other matters stay to be decided Determine you, and you, the rest may follow To give attendance.

Execut all but the Lords.

Manent Cornwell and Martianus.

Mart. Alls nought already, yet these vnripe ills Haue not their full growth, and their next degree Must needes be worse then nought, and by what name Doe you call that?

Cornw. I know none bad enough:
Bafe, vild, notorious, vgly monftrous, flauish,
Intollerable, abhorred, damnable;
Tis worse then bad; Ile be no longer vassaile
To such a tirannous rule, nor accessarie
To the base sufferance of such out-rages.

Mart. Youle not indure it, how can you remedie A mayme fo dangerous and incurable?

Corn. There is a way; but walls have eares and eyes, Your eare my Lord, and counfell.

Mart. I haue eares

Open to fuch discourse, and counsell apt: And to the full recovery of these wounds Made in the sicke state, most effectuall; A word in private.

Enter

Enter Peridure and Vigenius.

Perid. Come brother, I am tyrde with reuelling, My last Caranta made me almost breathlesse, Doth not the Kings last wench foote it with art? Vige. Oh rarely, rarely, and beyond opinion. I like this state where all are Libertines But by ambitions, pleasure and large will: See, see, two of our strict liu'd Counsellors In secret conference; they cannot indure This freedome.

Perid. Nor the rule of Archigallo, Because tis subject to his libertie. Are they not plotting now for some installement And change of state: old gallants if you be Twill cost your heads.

Vige. Bodies and all for me.

Lift them, fuch ftrict reproduers fhould not liue,
Their auftere cenfures on their kings to giue.

Corn. He must be then deposd.

Perid. Ey, are you there, that word founds treason.

Vig. Nay, but farther heare.

Mart. The King deposd, how must it be effected, What strengths and powers can sodenly be leuied, VVho will assist this busines, to reduce The state to better forme and gouernment?

Vig. Ey mary, more of that.

Vnto this happie change.

Corn. All Cornwells at my becke, Deuonshire our neighbour Is one with vs, you in the North commaund. The oppressed, wrongd, deiected and suppress, Will flocke on all sides to this innovation: The Clergie late despisd, the Nobles scornd, The Commons trode on, and the Law contemnd, Will lend a mutuall and combyned power

B 2 Perid.

Peri. Oh monstrous treason!

Mart. My Lord, we are betraide, and ouer-heard By the two princes.

Corn. How, betraide.

Mart. Our plots discouered.

Corn. Ile helpe it all; doe you but footh me vp, Wele catch them in the trap they lay for vs.

Mart. Ile doot.

Corn. Now fir, the king depofd

Who shall succeede?

Mart. Some would fay Elidure.

Corn. Tush, he's too milde to rule.

But there are two young princes, hopefull youths

And of rare expectation in the Land,

Oh would they daigne to beare this weightie charge Betwixt them, and support the regall scepter

With ioynt assistance, all our hopes were full.

Vig. A Scepter.

Perid. And a Crowne.

Mart. What if we made the motion? we have wills

To effect it, we have power to compasse it.

Vig. And if I make refusall, heaven refuse me.

Perid. These Counsellors are wife, and see in vs

More vertue then we in our felues discerne.

Would it were come to fuch election.

Corn. My honord Lord, wele breake it to those princes,

Those hopefull youths, at our conuenient leasure.

Mart. With all my hart.

Corn. You that our footsteps watcht,

Shall in the depth of your owne wiles be catcht. Exeunt.

Vig. A King.

Perid. And were a crowne, a crowne imperiall.

Vig. And fit in state.

Perid. Commaund.

Vig. And be obeyed.

Perid. Our Nobles kneeling.

Vig. Seruants homaging, and crying Aue.

Perid. Oh brother, shall we through nice folly

Despise the profferd bountie of these Lords?

Vig. Not for the world, I long to fit in state,

To purse the bountie of our gracious fate.

Perid. To entertaine forreine Embassadors.

Vig. And have our names ranckt in the course of kings.

Perid. Shadow vs State with thy maiefticke wings.

Enter King, Cornwell, Martianus, and Elidure.

Vige. Now fir, my brother Archigall deposde Corn. Deposd! did you heare that my Lord.

Vig. For his licenflous rule, and fuch abuses

As wele pretend gainst him in parliament.

Arch. Oh monstrous brothers.

Elidu. Oh ambitious youthes.

Vig. Thus wele deuide the Land, all beyond Trent

And Humber, shall suffise one moitie:

The fouthpart of the Land shall make the tother,
Where we will keepe two Courts, and raigne deuided,

Yet as deere louing brothers.

Arch. As vild traitors.

Perid. Then Archigall, thou that hast sat in pompe And seene me vassaile, shalt behold me crownd, Whilst thou with humble knees vailst to my state.

Arch. And when must this be doone, when shall my crowne Be parted and deuided into halfes.

You raigne on this fide Humber, you beyond The riuer Trent, when doe you take your states, Sit crownd and scepterd to receive our homage, Our dutie, and our humble vassalage.

Perid. I know not when.

B 3 Arch.

Nobody.

Arch. Nor you? Vige. Nor I.

Arch But I know when you shall repent your pride:

Nor will we vse delayes in our reuenge, Ambitious boyes, we doome you prisonment, Your Pallace royall shall a Iaile be made, Your thrones a dungeon, and your fcepters Irons, In which wele bound your proude aspiring thoughts: Away with them, we will not mount our chayre Till their best hopes be changed to blacke despaire.

Perid. Heare vs excuse our selues.

Vige. Or lets discouer

Who drew vs to this hope of foueraigntie.

Arch. That shall our further levsures arbitrate, Our eares are deafe to all excusive pleas, Come vnambitious brother *Elidurus*, Helpe vs to lauish our abundant treasures. In masks, fports, reuells, riots, and ftrange pleasures. Exeunt.

Enter Sombody with two or three seruaunts.

Somb. But is it true the fame of Nobody. For vertue, almes-deedes, and for charitie, Is fo renownd and famous in the Country?

Seru. Oh Lord fir ey, hes talkt of farre and neere, Fills all the boundlesse country with aplause, There lives not in all Britaine one fo fpoke of, For pittie, good mind, and true charitie.

Somb. Which Sombody shall alter ert be long. Seru. You may my Lord beeing in grace at Court, And the high fauours of King Archigallo Exile this petty fellow from the Land, That so obscures the beautie of your deedes.

Sombod. VVhat doth this Nobody? Seru. You shall heare my Lord,

Come twentie poore men to his gate at once, *Nobody* gives them mony, meate and drinke, If they be naked, clothes, then come poore fouldiers, Sick, maymd, and fhot, from any forraine warres, Nobody takes them in, prouides them harbor, Maintaines their ruind fortunes at his charge, He gives to orphants, and for widdowes buildes Almes-houses, Spittles, and large Hospitals, And when it comes in question, who is apt For fuch good deedes, tis answerd Nobody. Now *Nobodie* hath entertaind againe Long banisht Hospitalitie, and at his boord A hundred lustie yeomen daily waites, Whose long backs bend with weightie chynes of biefe, And choise of cheere, whose fragments at his gate Suffice the generall poore of the whole shire. Nobodies table's free for trauellers, His buttry and his feller ope to all That starue with drought, or thirst vpon the way, Somb. His fame is great, how should we helpe it? Seru. My Lord, tis past my reach, tis you must doe it, Or't must be left vndone.

Somb. What deedes of note is he els famous for? Seru. My Lord Ile tell you.

His Barnes are full, and when the Cormorants And welthy Farmers hoord vp all the graine, He empties all his Garners to the poore Vnder the stretcht prise that the Market yeelds, Nobody racks no rents, doth not oppresse His tenants with extortions. When the King Knighted the lustie gallants of the Land, Nobody then made daintie to be knighted, And indeede kept him in his knowne estate.

Somb. The slaues ambitious, and his life I hate.

Somo. The liques ambitious, and his life I nate.

Seru. How shall we bring his name in publick scandall?

Sombo.

Sombo. Thus it shall be, vse my direction. In Court and country I am Sombody, And therefore apt and fit to be employed: Goe thou in fecrete beeing a fubtile knaue, And fowe feditious flaunders through the Land. Oppresse the poore, suppresse the fatherlesse, Deny the widdowes foode, the staru'd releefe. And when the wretches shall complaine their wrongs, Beeing cald in question, sweare twas Nobody. Racke rents, raise prises, Buy vp the best and choise commodities At the best hand, then keepe them till their prises Be lifted to their height, and double rate, And when the raifers of this dearth are fought Though Sombody doe this, protest and sweare Twas Nobody fore Iudge and Magistrate: Bring fcandalls on the rich, raife mutinous lyes Vpon the state, and rumors in the Court, Backbite and fow diffention amongst freends, Quarrels mongst neighbors, & debate mongst strangers, Set man and wife at ods, kindred at strife. And when it comes in questiou, to cleere vs, Let euery one protest and fweare for one, And so the blame will fall on Nobody. About it then, if these things well succeede. You shall preuaile, and we applaude your speede.

Enter Nobody and the Clowne.

See where he comes, I will withdraw and fee, The euent and fortunes of our last pollicie.

Nobod. Come on myne owne feruaunt, fome newes, fome newes, what report haue I in the country? how am I talkt on in the Citty, and what fame beare I in the Court?

Clowne. Oh Maister you are halfe hangd.

Nobod.

Nobod. Hangd, why man?

Clowne. Because you have an ill name: a man had as good almost ferue no Maister as serve you, I was carried afore the Constable but yesterday, and they tooke mee vp for a strauagant; they askt mee whom I ferued, I told them Nobody, they presently drew mee to the post, and there gave me the law of armes.

Nobody. The law of armes.

Clow. Ey, as much lawe as their armes were able to lay on, they tickled my Collifodium, I rid post for a quarter of an houre, with switch though not with spurre.

Nobod. Sure Sombody was the cause of all.

Clow. Ile be fworne of that, Sombody tickled me a heate, and that I felt, but Maister, why doe you goe thus out of fashion; you are euen a very hoddy doddy, all breech,

Nobod. And no body. But if my breeches had as much cloth in them, as euer was drawne betwixt Kendall and Canning street, they were scarce great enough to hold all the wrongs that I must pocket: Fie, fie, how I am slaunderd through the world.

Nobody keepes tall fellowes at his heeles.

Yet if you meete a crew of rogues and beggars,

Aske who they ferue, theile aunswere *Nobody*.

Your Caualiers and fwaggerers bout the towne.

That dominere in Tauerns, fweare and stare,

Vrge them vpon some termes, theile turne their malice

To me, and fay theile fight with Nobody,

Or if they fight, and Nobody by chaunce

Come in to part them, I am fure to pay for it,

And Nobody be hurt when they scape scotfree:

And not the dastardst coward in the world

But dares about with me. What shall I doe?

Somb. Doe what thou wilt, before we end this strife,

Ile make thee tenne times weary of thy life.

Clown. But doe you heare Maister, when I haue seru'd you a yere or two, who shall pay me my wages?

Nobo. Why Nobody.

C.

Clowne. Indeede if I ferue Nobody, Nobody must pay me my wages, therefore Ile euen feeke out Sombody or other, to get me a newe feruice; but the best is Maister if you runne away, you are easie to be found againe.

Nobod. Why fo fir?

Clowne. Mary aske a deafe man whom hee heares, heele straight fay Nobody, aske the blindest beetle that is whom hee sees, and heele aunswere, Nobodie, hee that neuer saw in his life can see you, though you were as little as a moate, and hee that neuer heard, can heare you, though you treade as softlie as a Mouse, therefore I shall be sure neuer to loose you. Besides, you have one commoditie Maister, which none hath besides you, if you should love the most sickle & inconstants wench that is in the world, sheele be true to Nobody, therefore constant to you.

Nobod. And thou fayeft true in that my honest feruaunt, Besides, I am in great especiall grace With the King Archigallo that now raignes In tiranny, and strange misgouerment, Nobody loues him, and he loues Nobody. But that which most torments my troubled foule, My name is made mere opposite to vertue, For he is onely held peacefull and quiet, That quarrels, brawles, and fights with *Nobody*, He's honest held that lies with Nobodies wife, And he that hurts and iniures Nobody, All the world faies, ey thats a vertuous man. And though a man have doone a thousand mischiefes, And come to proue the forfeit made to law, If he can proue he hath wrong'd Nobody, No man can touch his life. This makes me mad. This makes me leave the place where I was bred, And thousand times a day to wish me dead. Somb. And Ile pursue thee where so ere thou fliest, Nor shalt thou rest in England till thou diest.

Clowne. Maister, I would wish you to leaue the Country, and see what good entertainement you wil haue in the Cittie, I do not think but there you will be most kindly respected, I haue been there in my youth, there's Hospitalitie, & you talke of Hospitalitie, and they talke of you bomination to see: for there Maister come to them as often as you will, soure times a day, and theyle make Nobody drinke, they loue to haue Nobody trouble them, and without good securitie they will lend Nobody mony. Come into Birchin Lane, theyle giue Nobody a sute, chuse where hee list; goe into Cheapeside, and Nobody may take vp as much plate as he can carrie.

Nobod. Then Ile to London, for the Country tires me With exclamations, and with open wrongs, Sith in the Cittie they affect me fo.

Clowne. O Maister, there I am sure Nobody may have anie thing without mony, Nobody may come out of the Tauerne without paying his reckoning at his pleasure.

Enter a man meeting his wife.

Nobody. Thats better then the Country. Who comes heere?

Man Minion, where have you been all this night?

Wife VVhy doe you aske husband?

Man Because I would know wife.

Wife. I have beene with Nobody.

Nobod. Tis a lie good man, believe her not, shee was not with mee.

Man And who hath layne with you to night?

Wife Lye with mee, why Nobody.

Nobod. Oh monstrous, they would make me a whore-maister.

Man Well, I doe not thinke but Sombody hath been with you. Sombo. Sombody was indeed.

Wife. Gods life husband, you doe me wrong, I lay with Nobody. Man. Well minion, though Nobody beare the blame.

Vie it no more, least Sombody bide the shame.

Nobod. I will endure no longer in this Clymate

 C_2

It is fo full of flaunders, Ile to the Cittie, And there performe the deedes of charitie.

Enter the 2 man and a prentice.

2 Man. Now you rascall, who have you beene withall at the ale-Prent. Sooth I was with Nobody. (house?

Nobod. Not with me.

2 Man. And who was drunke there with you?

Prent. Sooth Nobody was drunke with me.

Nobod. O intollerable! they would make me a drunkard to, I cannot indure any longer, I must hence, No patience with such scandals can dispense.

- 2 Man. Well firra, if I take you fo againe, Ile fo belabour you: O neighbour good morrow.
 - I Man. Good morrow,
 - 2 Man You are fad me thinkes,
- I Man Faith fir I have cause, I have lent a friend of mine a hundred pounde, and have Nobodyes worde for the payment, bill, nor bond, nor any thing to shew.
 - 2 Man. Haue you Nobodies worde, Ile assure you that Nobodie is a good man, a good man I assure you neighbor, Nobodie will keepe his worde, Nobodies worde is as good as his bond.
- I Man Ey, fay you fo, nay then lets drinke downe forrow, If none would lend, then Nobody should borrow.

Nobody Yet there's one keepes a good tongue in his head, That can giue Nobody a good report, I am beholding to him for his praise:
But since my man so much commends the Cittie, Ile thether, and to purchase me a name, Take a large house of infinite receipt, There keepe a table for all good spirits, And all the chimneyes shall cast smoake at once: There Ile giue schollers pensions, Poets gold, Arts their deserts, Philosophy due praise,

Lear-

Learning his merrit, and all worth his meede.

There Ile release poore prisoners from their dungeons, Pay Creditors the debts of other men. And get my selfe a name mongst Cittizens, That after times pertakers of all bliffe, May thus record, Nobody did all this. Country farewell, whose flaunderous tongues I flie, The Cittie now shall lift my name on hie. Sombody Whether Ile follow thee with Swallowes wings, And nimble expedition, there to raife New brawles and rumors to eclipfe thy praise. Those subtile, slie infinuating fellowes Whom Sombody hath fent into the country, To rack, transport, extort, and to oppresse, VVill I call home, and all their wits employ Against this publique Benefactor, knowne Honest, for all the rumors by vs sowne. But howfoeuer, I am fworne his foe, And opposite to all his meriting deedes, This way must doe, though my deuining thoughts This augurie amidsts their changes haue, That Sombody will at length be proou'd a knaue.

Exeunt.

Enter Queene, Sicophant, and Lady Elidure seuerallie.

Sicoph. Good day to you both faire Ladies, But fairest of them both my gratious Queene, Good day to your high Maiestie, and madam The royall Lady of great *Elidure*, My Soueraignes brother, vnto you I wish This morning prooue as gracious and as good. Queene Those greetings from the Lady Elidure VVould pleafingly found in our princely eares. Lady Such greetings from great Archigalloes queene

Would

VVould be most gratious to our princely eare.

Queene. What no good morrow and our grace fo neere.

Reach me my gloue.

Lady. VVhom speakes this woman to?

Queene. Why to my fubiect, to my waiting maid,

Am not I mightie Archigalloes queene?

Is not my Lord the royall English King,

Thy husband and thy felfe my feruitors?

Lady Is my Coach ready, where are all my men

That should attend vpon our awfull frowne,

VVhat not one neere?

Queen. Minion, my gloue.

Sicoph. Madam, her highnes gloue.

Lady. My scarfe is falne, one of you reach it vp.

Queene. You heare me.

Lady Painted Maiestie be gone,

I am not to be countercheckt by any.

Quee. Shall I beare this?

Sicoph. Be patient, I will schoole her.

Your excellence greatly forgets your felfe

To be fo dutilesse vnto the Queene,

I have feene the world, I know what tis to obey.

And to commaund. What if it please the Queene

That you her fubiect should attend on her,

And take her gloue vp, is it meete that I

Should stoope for yours? You're proud, fie, fie, you're proud.

This must not be twixt such two royall sisters

As you by marriage are; goe to fubmit,

Her Maiestie is easie to forgiue.

Lady. Sawcie Lord forbeare, there's for your exhortation.

Queene. I cannot beare this, tis insufferable,

Ile to the King, and if he faue thy life

He shall have mine: madnes and wrath attend,

My thoughts are leueld at a bloody end. Exit.

Lady. Shee's shadow,

We the true substance are: follow her those That to our greatnesse dare themselues oppose.

Enter Cornwell, Martianus, Morgan and Malgo.

Cornw. Helth to your Ladiship, I would say Queene

If I might have my minde, bir lady Ladie.

Mart. I had a fute vnto the King with this Lord For the great office of high Seneshall, Because of our good service to the state, But he in scorne, as he doth every thing, Hath tane it from vs both, and gin't a foole.

Morg. To a Sicophant, a courtly parafite. Sicoph. Beare witnes Madam, Ile goe tell the King That they fpeake treason.

Malgo. Passe vpon our swords, You old exchecker of all flatterie, I tell thee Archigallo shall be deposd, And thou disroab'd of all thy dignitie.

Sicoph. I hope not fo.

Cornw. See heere the Counsels hands,
Subscrib'd to Archigallos ouerthrow.

The names of fixteene royall English Peeres,
Ioynd in a league that is inviolate,
And nothing wants but Elidurus grant
To accept the kingdome when the deede is done.
Sicoph. Nay then Ile take your parts, and ioyne with you.
Mart. We will not have a Clawbacks hand comixt

With fuch heroick peeres.

Sicoph. I hope my Lady
Is not of their minds. My most gratious Queene,
What I did speake in reprehensive fort,
Was more because her Maiestie was present
Then any offence of yours, and so esteeme it,
God knowes I loue your highnes, and these Lords.

Lady VVhich of you will perfwade my Elidure To take vpon him Englands royaltie.

Mart. Madam, we all haue so importund him, Laying vnto his iudgement euery thing That might attract his sences to the crowne, But he frost braind will not be obtaind To take vpon him this Realmes gouernment.

Malg. Hee is the verie foule of lenitie, If euer moderation liu'd in any, Your Lord with that rich vertue is possess.

Lady This mildnes in him makes me fo despised By the proude Queene, and by her fauourits.

Enter Elidure.

Cornw. See maddam where he comes reading a booke.

Lady My Lord and husband, with your leave this booke
Is fitter for an Vniuerlitie
Then to be lookt on, and the Crowne fo neere:
You know these Lords for tyrannie have sworne
To banish Archigallo from the throne,
And to invest you in the royaltie:
VVill you not thanke them, and with bounteous hands
Sprinckle their greatnes with the names of Earles,
Dukes, Marquesses, and other higher termes.

Elid. My deerest loue, the essence of my soule,

And you my honord Lords, the fute you make,
Though it be iust for many wrongs imposd,
Yet vnto me it seemes an iniurie.
VVhat is my greatnes by my brothers fall,
But like a starued body nourished
With the destruction of the other lymbes.
Innumerable are the griefes that waite
On horded treasures, then much more on Crownes:
The middle path, the golden meane for me,
Leaue me obedience, take you Maiestie.

Lady. Why this is worfer to my lofty minde, Then the late checks given by the angry Queene. Corn. If you refuse it, know we are determined

To lay it elfewhere.

Lady. On your younger brother,
And then no doubt we shall be awde indeed,
When the ambition of the elders wife,
Can scarsly giue our patience any bounds:
England is sicke of pride and tirrany,
And in thy goodnes only to be curde.
Thou art cald foorth amongst a thousand men,
To minister this soueraigne Ancidote,
To amend thy brothers crueltie with loue,
And if thou wilt not from oppression free

Elid. I had rather stay his leasure to amend.

Lady. Men, heauen, gods, deuills, what power should I invoke.

To fashion him a new: thunder come downe,

Thy natiue Country, thou art vilde as he.

Crowne me with ruine, fince not with a Crowne.

Cornw. Long life vnto the Kingly Elidure,

Trumpets proclaime it whether he will or no.

Lady. For that conceit Lords, you have wonne my hart,

In his despight let him be straight waies Crownd,

That I may triumphe whilft the trumpets found.

Elid. Carry me to my graue, not to a Throne.

Lady. Helpe Lords to feate him, nay helpe euery one:

So should the Maiestie of England sit,

Whilst we in like state doe associate him.

Elid. Neuer did any lesse desire to raigne

Then I, heauen knowes this greatnes is my paine.

Lady. Paine me in this fort great Lords euery day,

Tis fweete to rule.

Elid. Tis fweeter to obay.

Cornw. Liue King of England long and happily,

As long and happily your Highnes liue.

D.

Lady. We thanke you Lords, now call in the deposd, Him and his proud Queene, bring vnto our sight, That in her wrongs we may have our delight.

Enter Archigallo, and his Queene bound.

Archi. Betrayd, tane prisoner, and by those that owe To me their duty, and allegiance:
My brother the vsurper of the Crowne,
Oh this is monstrous, most insufferable.

Elid. Good brother grieue not, tis against my will, That I am made a King, pray take my place, I had rather be your subject then your Lord.

Lady. So had not I, fit still my gracious Lord, Whilst I looke through this Tyrant with a frowne, Minion reach vp my gloue.

Queene. Thinkst thou because
Thy husband can dissemble piety,
And therein hath deposd my royall Lord,
That I am lesser in estate then Queene?
No thine owne answere lately given to me,
I thus revet, stoope thou proud Queene for me.

Sicoph Nay then as I did lately to her Highnes.

Sicoph. Nay, then as I did lately to her Highnes, I must admonish you, diected Lady
You doe forget your selfe, and where you are,
Duty is debt, and it is fit since now
You are a subject, to beare humble thoughts:
Follow my counsell Lady and submit,
Her Maiestie no doubt will pardon it.

Queene. Theres for your paines. Sicoph. Which way fo ere I goe,

I have it heere, whether it ebbe or flowe.

Lady. That pride of thine shall be thy ouerthrowe, And thus I sentence them.

Elid. Leaue that to me?

Lady. No your are too mild, iudgment belongs to me:

Thou

Thou Archigallo for thy tirranie, For euer be excluded from all rule,

And from thy life.

Elid. Not from his life I pray.

Lady. He vnto whom the greatest wrongs are done, Dispatch him quickly.

Morg. That will I.

Maglo. Or I.

Elid, And therein Lords effect my tragedie.

Lady. Why strike you not, oh tis a dangerous thing, To have a living subject of a King:

Much treason may be wrought, when in his death, Our fasty is secur'd.

Elid. Banish him rather, oh sweete spare his life, He is my brother.

Archi. Crownd, and pray thy wife.

Elid. Oh brother, if you roughly speake, I knowe

There is no hope but your fure ouerthrowe, Pray be not angry with me for my loue:

To banishment since it must needes be so,

His life I giue him whosoere faies no.

Lady. What and his Ladies to.

Elid. I hers and all.

Lady. But Ile not have you banisht with the King, No Minion no, since you must live, be assur'd Ile make thee meanest of my waiting Maides.

Queene. I fcorne thy pride.

Archi. Farewell deceiving state,

Pride making Crowne, my deerest wife farewell:

I have beene a Tyrant, and Ile be fo still. Exit.

Elid. Alas my brother.

Lady. Dry vp childish teares,

And to these Lords that have invested you, Give gracious lookes, and honorable deedes.

Elid. Giue them my Crowne, oh giue them all I haue,

D 2

Thy Throne I reckon but a glorious graue.

Lady. Then from my felfe these dignities receive,
The Iland wrested from you I restore,
See it be given them backe Lord Sicophant.
The office of hie Seneschall bereft you,
My Lord of Cornwell to your grace we give.
You Martianus be our Treasurer,
And if we find you faithfull, be assured as You shall not want preferent at our hands.
Meane time this office we impose on you,
Be Tutor to this Lady, and her pride
With your learnd principles whereof you are full
Turne to humility, or vex her soule,
Queene. Torment on torment, tutord by a soole.

Queene. Torment on torment, tutord by a foole. Sicoph. Madam, it is her Highnes will be pleaf'd. Lady. Young Peridurus and Vigenius, Lords Releafe from prifon, and because your King, Is mightely affected vnto Yorke,

Thether difmisse the Court incontinent.

Sicoph. Shall it be fo my Liedge.

Lady. Are not we King.

His filence faies it, and what we ordaine, Who dares make question of: this day for euer Thorough our raigne beheld a festiuall: And tryumphe Lords that England is set free,

From a vild tyrant and his crueltie?

Elid. On to our funerall, tis no matter where, I finne I knowe in fuffering pride fo neere.

Exeunt.

Enter Nobody, and the Clowne.

Nobody. Ahem boy, Nobody is found yet for all his troubles. Clow. And so is Nobodies man for all his whipping, but Maister we are nowe in the Citty, wald about from flaunder, there cannot a lie come in but it must runne thorough bricke, or get the goodwill of the warders, whose browne bills looke blew vppon

all passengers.

Nobody. O this Citty, if Nobody liue to be as old againe, be it fpoken in fecret, Ile haue fenst about with a wall of braffe.

Clowne. Of Nobodies making, that will be rare.

Nobody. Ile bring the Tems through the middle of it, empty Moore-ditch at my owne charge, and build vp Paules-steple without a collection. I see not what becomes of these collections.

Clowne. Why Nobody receaues them.

Nobody. I knaue?

Clowne. You knaue: or as the world goes, Somebody receives all, and Nobody is blamd for it.

Nobody. But is it rumord fo thorough out the Citty.

Clowne. Doe not you knowe that? theres not an orphants portion loft out of the Chamber, but Nobody has got it, no Corne transported without warrant, but Nobody has donne it, no goods stolne but by Nobody, no extortion without Nobody: and but that truth will come to light, sewe wenches got with child, but with Nobody.

Nobody. Nay thats by Somebody.

Clowne. I thinke Somebody had a hand in't, but Nobody fometimes paies for the nurfing of it.

Nobody. Indeede I haue taken into my charge many a poore infant left to the almes of the wideworld, I haue helpt many a vertuous maide to a good husband, & nere defird her maiden-head: redeemed many Gentlemens lands, that haue thankt Nobody for it, built Pest-houses, and other places of retirement in the sicknes time for the good of the Cittie, and yet Nobody cannot get a good word for his labor.

Clowne. Tis a mad world Maister.

Nobody. Yet this mad world shall not make me mad, I am All spirit, Nobody let them grieue,

That scrape for wealth I will the poore relieue, Where are the Maisters of the seuerall prisons:

Within and neere adioyning to the Citty,

That I may fpred my charity abroad.

· Clowne. Heere they be Sir.

D 3

Enter three or foure.

Nobody. Welcome Gentlemen:

You are they that make poore men housholders Against their wills, and yet doe them no wrong: You have the actions, and the cases of your sides, Whilst your Tenants in comon, want money to fill them. How many Gentlemen of lesse revenues then *Nobody*, Lie in your Knights ward, for want of maintenance.

I I am Sir a Keeper of the Counter, and there are in our wards aboue a hundred poore prisoners, that are like nere to come foorth without satisfaction.

Nobody. But Nobody will be their benefactor. What in yours.

2 As many as in the other prison.

Nobody. Theres to release them. What in yours.

3 Double the number, and in the Gayle.

Nobody. Talke not of the Gayle, tis full of limetwigs, lifts, and pickpockets.

I Is it your pleafure Sir to free them all.

Nobody. All that lie in for debt.

2 Ten thousand pound, and ten to that will not doe it.

Nobody. Nobody Sir will give a hundred thousand,

Ten hundred thouland, *Nobody* will not have a prisoner, Because they all shall pray for *Nobody*.

Clowne. Tis great pitty my Maister has Nobody, and so kind a hart.

A noise within. Follow, follow, follow. Nobody. What outcries that?

Enter Somebody, with two or three.
Somebody. That is the gallant, apprehend him straight,
Tis he that sowes sedition in the Land,
Vnder the couler of being charitable,
When search is made for such in euery Inne,
Though I have seene them housd, the Chamberlaine

For gold will answere there is *Nobody*:
He for all bankrouts is a common baile,
And when the execution should be ferud
Vpon the fureties, they find *Nobody*:
In private houses who so apt to lie,
As those that have beene taught by *Nobody*,
Servants forgetfull of their Maisters friends,
Being askt how many were to speake with him
Whilst he was absent, they say *Nobody*, *Nobody* breakes more glasses in a house,
Then all his wealth hath power to satisfie:
If you will free this Citty then from shame,
Sease *Nobody*, and let him beare the blame.

Const. Lay hold vpon him.

Nobody. What on Nobody, give me my fword, my morglay, My friends, you that doe know how innocent I am, Draw in my quarrell, fuccor Nobody, What Nobody, but Nobody remaining.

Clowne. Yes Maister, I Nobodies man.

Nobody. Stand to me nobly then, and feare them not, Thy Maister Nobody, can take no wounds, Nobody is no coward, Nobody

Dares fight withall the world. Somb. Vpon them then.

A fight betwixt Somebody and Nobody, Nobody escapes.

What has he fcapt vs.

Const. He is gone my Lord.

Somb. It shall be thus, now you have seene his shape, Let him be straight imprinted to the life: His picture shall be set on every stall, And proclamation made, that he that takes him, Shall have a hundred pounds of Sombody, Country and Citty, I shall thus set free,

And

And haue more roome to worke my villanie. Exeunt.

Nobody. What are they gonne, then Citty now adew,
Since I haue taken fuch great iniury,
For my good life within thy gouernment:
No more will Nobody be charitable,
No more will Nobody relieue the poore,
Honor your Lord, and Maister Somebody,
For Somebody is he that wrongs you all.
Ile to the Court the changing of the ayre,
May peraduenture change my iniuries;
And if I speede no better being there,
Yet say that Nobody liu'd euery where. Exit.

Enter Archigallo.

Archi. I was a King, but now I am flaue, How happie were I in this base estate, If I had neuer tasted royaltie:
But the remembrance that I was a King, Vnseasons the Content of pouertie, I heare the hunters musicke, heere Ile lie, To keepe me out of sight till they passe by.

Enter Morgan, and Malgo.

Morgan. The stag is hearded, come my Lord
Shall we to horse and single him againe.

Malgo. Content, the King will chase, the day is spent
And we have kild no game, to horse, away.

Exeunt.

Enter Elidure.

Elid. Hearded, goe fingle him, or couple straight,
He will not fall to day, what fellowes this.
Archi. I am a man.
Elid. A banisht man I thinke,
My brother Archigallo, ist not so.
Archi. Tis so, I am thy brother Elidure,

All that thou hast is mine, the Crowne is mine, Thy royaltie is mine; these hunting pleasures Thou doost vsurpe: ambitious *Elidure* I was a King.

Elidu. And I may be a wretch: poore Archigallo, The fight of thee that wert my Soueraigne, In this estate, drawes rivers from mine eyes. VVill you be king againe? if they agree Ile redeliuer all my royaltie, Saue what a second brother and a subject Keepes in an humble bosome, for I sweare The Crowne is yours that Elidure doth weare.

Arch. Then giue it me; vse not the common sleights, To pittie one, and keepe away his right.

Seest thou these ragges, doe they become my person?

O Elidure, take pittie on my state,

Let me not still liue thus infortunate.

Elidu. Alas, if pittie could procure your good, Insteed of water, Ide weepe teares of blood To expresse both loue and pittie: say deere brother I should vncrowne my selfe, the angry Peeres VVill neuer let me reach the imperial wreathe To Archigalloes head. There's ancient Cornwell, Stout Martianus, Morgan, and bold Malgo, From whom you tooke the pleasant Southerne Ile, VVill neuer kneele to you: what should I say, Your tirannie was cause of your decay.

Arch. What shall I die then? welcome be that fate Rather then still live in this wretched state.

Enter Cornwell, Martianus, Morgan and Malgo.

Corn. Yonders the King; my foueraigne you haue lost The fall of a braue stagge, he's dead my liedge. VVhat fellowes this?

E. Elidu.

Elidu. Knowest him not Cornwell?

Corn. No my liedge not I.

Arch. I am thy King.

Elid. Tis Archigallo man.

Corn. Thou art no king of mine, thou art a traytor, Thy life is forfeit by thy stay in Brittaine.

VVert thou not banisht?

Elidu. Noble Cornwell speake

More gently, or my piteous hart will breake,

Lord Martianus, Morgan, and the rest,

I am a wearie of my gouernment,

And willinglie refigne it to my brother.

Mart. Your brother was a tyrant, and my knee

Shall neuer bow to wrong and tirannie.

Elid. Yet looke vpon his mifery, his teares Argue repentance; thinke not honourd Lords The feare of dangers waiting on my Crowne Makes me fo willing to refigne the fame, For I am lou'd I know, but iuftice bids I make a refignation, tis his right, My calls but vfurpation.

Corn. Elidure,

If you are wearie of your gouernment, Wele fet the Crowne vpon a ftrangers head Rather then *Archigallo*. Harke ye Lords, Shall we make him our King we did depofe, So might our heads be chopt of, Ile loofe mine Ere my poore Country shall endure such wrongs, As that iniurious tyrant plagues her with,

Mor. Keepe still your Crowne my Liedge, happy is Brittaine Vnder the gouernment of Elidure.

Arch. Let it be fo,

Death is the happy period of all woe.

The wretch thats torne vpon the torturing wrack,

Feeles not more deuilish torment then my hart.

When

When I but call to minde my tirannie, I record heauen my Lords, my brothers fight, The pittie that he takes of my distresse, Your loue and true allegiance vnto him, Hath wrought in me a reconciled spirit, I doe confesse my sinne, and freely say, I did deserve to be deposed.

Elidu. Alas good Prince, my honorable Lords, Be not flint-harted, pitty Archigallo,
I know his penitentiall words proceede
From a remorcefull spirit, Ile ingage
My life vpon his righteous gouernment.
Good Cornwell, gentle Martianus, speake,
Shall Archigallo be your king againe?

Arch. By heaven I not defire it.

Elidu. See my Lords,

Hee's not ambitious, as thou lou'ft me Cornwell, As thou didft loue our Father, let his fonne Be righted, giue him backe the gouernment You tooke from him.

Corn. VVhat should I say? faith I shall fall a weeping: Therefore speake you.

Elid. Lord Martianus speake.

Mart. What fay these Lords that have been wrongd by him.

Elidu. Morgan and Malgo, all I haue in Brittaine Shall be ingag'd to you, that Archigallo

Will neuer more oppresse you, nor impose Wrong on the meanest subject in the Land.

Morg. Then weele embrace his gouernment.

Elidu. Saies Malgo fo?

Malg. I doe my Lord.

Elidu. What faies Martianus?

Mart. Faith as my Lord of Cornwell.

Corn. I fay that I am forry he was bad,

And now am glad hee's chang'd; his wickednes

We punisht, and his goodnes there's great reason Should be rewarded; therefore Lords set on To Yorke then, to his Coronation.

Elidu. Then happie Elidurus, happie day That takes from me a kingdomes cares away.

Arch. And happie Archigallo that haue rangd From fin, to fin, and now at last am changd. My Lords and friends, the wrongs that you haue seene In me, my future vertues shall redeeme. Come gentle brother, pittie that should rest In women most, is harbor'd in thy brest.

Exeunt.

Enter Queene, Lady Elidure, and Flatterer.

Lady Come haue you done your taske, now doe you fee What tis to be fo proude of Maiestie, We must take vp your gloue, and not be thought Worthy the name of Sister, thus you minx Ile teach you ply your worke, and thanke me to, This paines will be your owne another day.

Queene. Infulting, ouer-proude, ambitious woman, Queene I disdaine to call thee, thou doost wrong Thy brothers wife, indeede thy Kings espousd, And mauger all thy tyrannie I sweare, Rather then still liue thus, Ile perrish heere.

Sicoph. You are not wife, deiected as you are To bandie braues against her Maiestie, You must consider you are now her subject, Your tongue is bounded by the awe of dutie, Fie, sie, I needes must chide you, since I see You are so sawcie with her soueraigntie.

Queene. Time was base spaniell thou didst sawne as much On me, as now thou striuest to flatter her:
O God, that one borne noble should be so base,
His generous blood to scandall all his race.

Lady My Lord, if the continue these proude termes,

I giue you libertie to punish her. Ile not maintaine my prisoner and my slaue To raile gainst any one that honours me.

Enter Morgan and Malgo.

Morg. Health to the Queene, and happines to her That must change states with you, and once more raigne Queene of this Land.

Queene Speake that againe, ô I will bleffe my fate, If once more I fupply my former state.

Malgo. Long may your highnes liue, your banisht Lord Is by his brother Elidurus seated Once more in Britaines throne.

Lady O I could teare my haire, base Elidure To wrong himselfe, and make a slaue of me.

Queene Now minion, Ile cry quittance with your pride, And make you stoope at our imperiall side. But tell me Morgan by what accident

You met with my beloued Archigallo?

Morg. Euen in the woods where we did hunt the stagge, There did the tender harted Elidure

Meete his distressed Brother, and so wrought
By his importunate speech with all his Peeres,
That after much deniall, yet at last
They yeelded their allegiance to your Lord,
Whom now we must acknowledge our dread King,
And you our princelie Queene.

Lady Thou Screchowle, Rauen, vglie throated flaue, Theres for thy newes.

Queene Restraine her good my Lord.

Sicoph. Fie madam fie, fore God you are too blame In presence of my soueraigne ladie Queene To be thus rude, it would become you better To shew more dutie to her Maiestie.

Lady. O monstrous, was not I thy Queene but now.

E 3.

Sicoph. Yes, when your husband was my King you were. But now the streame is turnd, and the States currant, Runnes all to Archigallo, blame not mee, Wisedome nere lou'd declined Maiestie.

Enter Archigallo crownd, Elidure, Peridure, Vigenius, Cornwell, Martianus, and others.

Queene. VVelcome from banishment my louing Lord, Your kinglie presence wraps my soule to heauen.

Arch. To heaven, and my kind brother Elidure, Faire Queene we owe chiefe thanks for this our greatnes, Next them, these honourable Lords.

Corn. Great Queene,

Once more the tribute of our bended knees We pay to you, and humbly kiffe your hand.

Mart. So doth Martianus.

Perid. And I.

Vige. And I.

Queene. Our brothers, by how much that name exceedes The name of Lord, so much the more this dutie Deferues requitall, thanks both, and thanks to all.

Arch. Set on there. Exeunt all but Lady & Sicophant

Sicoph. Madam, you are not wife to grieue at that Heauen hath decreed, and the state yeelded to,

No doubt her Maiestie will vse you well.

Lady VVell faieft thou: no I looke that she should treble All the difgraces I have layd on her.

I shall turne Laundresse now, and learne to starch,

And fet and poke, and pocket vp fuch basenes

As neuer princesse did: did you obserue

What lookes I cast at Elidure my husband?

Sicoph. Your lookes declard the passion of your hart, They were all fire.

Lady

Lady. Would they had burnt his eyes out That hath eclipfd our state and Maiestie.

Enter Queene, Morgan, and Malgo.

Queene. Bring hether the proude wife of Elidure, Sicop. It shall be done.

Queene Our shoe string is vntied, stoope minion, stoope.

Lady Ile rather stoope to death thou moone-like Queene, New changd, and yet so proude: theres those are made For flexure, let them stoope, thus much Ile doe,

You are my Queene, tis but a debt I owe.

Queene Bring me the worke there, I will taske you to, That by the howre spin it, I charge you doe.

Lady A distaffe and a spindle, so indeed

I told you this, Diana be my speede.

Morg. Yet for his Princelie worth that made you Queene Refpect her as the wife of Elidure.

Enter Cornwell.

Cornw. VVheres the Oueene?

Queene What newes with Cornwell, why fo fad my Lord? Corn. Your husband on the fuddaine is falne ficke.

Queene. How; sicke.

Lady Now if it be thy will, fweet bleffed heaven Take him to mercie.

Quee. Doe not heare her prayers heauen I befeech thee.

Enter Martianus.

Mart. Madam, his highnes.

Queen. Is he aliue, or dead.

Mart. Dead madam.

Queene O my hart.

Corn. Looke to the Queene, let vs not loofe her to; She breathes, stand of, where be those wemen there, Good Queene that shall be, lends a helping hand,

Helpe to vnlace her.

Lady. Ile see her burst first.

Queene Now as you loue me let no helping hand Preferue life in me, I had rather die Then loofe the title of my foueraigntie.

Lady Take backe your Distasse yet, wele stay our rage, We will sorbeare our spleene for charitie And loue vnto the dead, till you have hearsd Your husbands bones, conduct her Lords away, Our pride though eager, yet for soode shall stay.

Sicoph. Wilt please your high imperial Maiestie Commaund my service, I am humbly yours.

Lady We doe commaund what we well know youle doe, Follow the stronger part, and cleaue thereto. Exeunt.

Enter Elidure crownd, all the Lords and Ladies attendants.

Elidu. Once more our royall temples are ingirt VVith Brittaines golden wreath, all feeing heauen Witnes I not defire this foueraigntie, But fince this kingdoms good, and your Decrees, Haue laid this heauen loade of common care On Elidure, we shall discharge the same To your content, I hope, and this Lands same: Our brother once interd, we will not stay, But then to Troynovant weele speede, away. Exeunt.

Enter two Porters.

I Porter Come fellow Porter, now the Court is heere Our gaines will flie vpon vs like a tide,
Let vs make vfe of time, and whilft theres plentie
Stirring in Court, ftill labour to increase
The wealth which by our office we have got.

2 Porter. Out of our large allowance we must saue Of thousands that passe by vs, and our office,

we will giue entertainment to No-body.

Enter No-body.

No-body. My name is No-body,

I. Port. You are welcome fir, ere you peruse the court, Tast the kings beere, heere at the Porters lodge, A dish of beere for maister No-body.

Nobody. I thanke you fir.

2. Port. Heere maifter No-body, withall my hart,

A full Carouse, and welcome to our Office.

Nobo. I thanke you fir, and were your beere tems water, Yet No-body would pledge you, to you fir.

I. Port. You are a stranger here, how in the Citty, Haue you bin long in towne.

Nobo. I fir, too long, vnlesse my entertaine Had bin more pleasing, for my life is sought, I am a harmelesse well dispos'd plaine man, That iniure none, yet what so ere is done Amisse in London, is impos'd on me, Be it lying, secret thest, or any thing They call abuse, tis done by No-body, I am pursued by all, and now am come, To see what safety is within the Court For a plaine sellow.

2. Por. You are welcome hether fir. Methinkes you do looke wilde, as if you wanted fufficient Sleepe.

Nobo. O do not blame me fir,
Being pursued I fled, comming through Poules,
There No-body kneeld downe to fay his prayers,
And was deuout I wis, comming through Fleetstreet,
There at a tauern doore two swaggerers
Were fighting, being attacht, twas askt who gaue
The first occasion, twas answered nobody,
The guilt was laid on me, which made me fly
To the Thems side, desired a Waterman,

F

To row me thence away to Charing-croffe, He askt me for his fare, I answered him I had no money, whats your name quoth he, I told him No-body, then he bad me welcome, Said he would carry No-body for nothing. From thence I went To fee the law Courts held at Westminster, There meeting vvith a friend, I straight vvas askt If I had any fute, I answered, yes, Marry I vvanted money, fir quoth he, For you, because your name is No-body I will follicit law, and no-body Affure your felfe, shall thriue by futes in Lavv. I thankt him, and so came to see the court, Where I am very much beholding to your kindnesse. 1. Port. And Maister no-body you are very vvelcome,

Good fellow lead him to the Hall, Will you vyalke neare the court. Exeunt nobody and Porters. nobo. I thanke you fir.

Enter Some-body and a Bragart. Som. Fie vyhat a toile it is to find out nobody. I have dogd him very close, yet he is got into the court before me.

Sir you have fworne to fight with nobody, Do you ftay heere, and watch at the court gate, And when you meet him challenge him the field, Whilst I set Lime-twigs for him in all Offices, If either you or I, but prosper right, He needs must fall by policy or slight. Exit.

Brag: I would this roundman nobody would come, I that professe much valor yet have none, Cannot but be too hard for nobody, For what can be in nobody, vnlesse He be fo cald because he is al spirit, Or fay he be all spirit, wanting limbes,

How can this fpirit hurt me, fure he dies, And by his death, my fame shall mount the skies.

Enter nobody.

nobody. By thy leave my fweet friend, Theres for thy farewell.

Brag. Stay.

nobo. Thats but one word, let two go to the bargaine if it please you, why should I stay.

Brag. I challenge thee.

(leaue.

no. I may chuse whither ile answer your chalenge by your Bra. Ile haue thee picturd as thy picture, vnles thou answer no. For what sir, pray why wold you haue me printed. (me Brag. For cowardice.

nobo. Methinkes your picture woulde doe better for the picture of cowardice then mine fir, but pray whats your

Brag. Thou hast abused one Some-body, (will with me.

nobo. So haue my betters abused Som-body in their time

Brag. Ile fight with thee for that.

no. Alas fir I am nobody at fighting, yet thus much let mee tell you, nobody cannot run away, I cannot budge.

Brag. Prepare thee then, for I will fpit thy body vppon this weapon.

nobo. nay by faith that you cannot, for I have no bodye.

Brag. Thy bowels then.

no. They are the fairer mark a great deal, com on fir, come on Brag. Haue at thy bellie.

nobo. You must either hit that or nothing.

Brag. Ile kill and quarter thee.

nobo. Youle hardly find my ioynts I think to quarter me, I am so well fed, come on fir.

Fight nobody is downe,

Brag. now thou art at my mercie.

no. What are you the better to haue nobody at your mercy Brag. Ile kill thee novv.

F2.

nobody.

Nobo. I thinke youle fooner kill me then any body, But let me rife againe.

Brag. No I will let No-body rife.

Nobo. Why then let me fir, I am No-body.

Enter Clowne.

Clown. How now, O fates, O heauens, is not that my M. what shall I do, be valiant. and reskue my sweet maister, Auant thou Pagan, Pug, what ere thou be, Behold I come to set thy prisoner free.

Brag. Fortune that giddy Goddesse hath turnd her wheel, I shall be matcht, thus will I gore you both. Hold captains, not *Hercules* himselse would fight with two, I yeeld.

Clown. Twas your best course, down vassall down, and kisse My pumpe.

Brag. Tis base, O base.

Clow. Zounds, ile naile thy lips to limbo vnlesse thou kis.

Brag. Tis done.

Nobo. Thanks honest servant.

Clow. Zounds if I say ile doet, ile doet indeed.

Nobo. For this ile carry thee into the Court, Where thou shalt see thy Maister No-body Hath friends will bid him welcome, so farewell,

Clown. Farewell maister Braggart, farewell, farewell.

Exeunt.

Brag. Ile follow, I shall meet with Some-body, That will reuenge, ile plot and ert be long Ile be reuengd on No-body for this wrong.

Exit.

Enter Vigenius Peridure and the Queene.

Queene. Your hopes are great faire brothers, and your names, shall if in this you be aduifd by vs, Be rankt in scroule of all the Brittish kings, Oh take vpon you this so weighty charge, To great to be discharged by Elidure.

Vig. Deere fifter Q. how are we bound to you, In neerer bonds then a fraternall league,

For this your royall practife to raife vs, Vnto the height of honor and eftate, Let me no longer breath a prince on earth, Or thinke me woorthy of your regall blood, If we imbrace not this high motion.

Perid. Imbrace it brother, we are all on speed, My princely thought inflam'd with Ardency Of this imperiall state, and Scepterd rule, My kinglie browes, itch for a stately Crowne, This hand to beare a round Monarchall Globe, This the bright sword of Iustice, and stern aw, Deere sister you have made me all on sire, My kingly thoughts, beyond their bounds aspire.

Vig. How shall we quit your loue, when we ascend The state of *Elvdure*.

Queen. All that I craue.

Is but to make the imperious Queene my flaue, That she that aboue Iustice now commands, May tast new thraldome at our royall hands.

Perid. The Queene is yours, the king shalbe depostd, And she disgraded from all Soueraignty.

Queen. That I might live to fee that happy houre, To have that sterne commandresse in my power.

Vig. Shees doomd alreadie, and at your difpose, And we prepard for speedy execution, Of any plot that may availe our pompe, Or throne vs in the state of Brittany.

Enter Morgan and Mallgo.

Perid. Heere comes the Lords of this pretended league, How goes our hope, speake valiant English Peeres, Are we in way of Soueraignty, or still stand we Subjects vnto the aw of Elidure.

Mor. Long live the valiant brothers of the King, With mutual love to weare the Brittish Crowne,

No-body

Two thousand Souldiors have I brought from Wales, to wait vpon the princely *Perydure*.

Malg. As many of my bold confederates Haue I drawne from the South to fweare allegiance, to young Vigenius.

Vig. Do but call me king,

the charming Spheres fo sweetly cannot sing.

Malg, To king Vigenius.

Vig. Oh but wheres our Crowne,

that make knees humble, when their foueraignes frowne.

Mal. King Eliduras shall his state resigne.

Perid. Say Morgan fo, and Britains rule is mine.

Mor. king Peridure shall raigne.

Perid. And fit in state.

Mor. And thousand subjects on his glory waite.

Perid. Then they that lifts vs to the imperial feate, Our powers and will shall study to make great.

Vig. And thou that raisest vs, as our best friend, Shall as we mount the like degrees ascend.

Queen. When will you give the attempt.

Perid. Now royall fifter.

Before the king haue notice of our plot, Before the Lords that loue his gouernment, Prepare their opposition.

Vig. Well determined,

And like a king in Esse, now this night, Lets make a hostile vprore in the Court, Surprize the king, make ceazure of the Crowne, Lay hands vpon the Counsell, least they scape to leuy forces, those Lords that serue the king, and with austere reproofes, punish the hatefull vices of the Land, Must not awe vs, they shall not raigne, we wil, those that applaud vs, raise, despise vs, kill,

Perid. I fee a kind of state appeare already. In thy maiestick brow, cal in the souldiors,

andSome body

Man the Court gates, barricade al the streets, Defend the waies, the lands and passages, And girt the pallace with a treble wall Of armed souldiors, and in dead of night, When all the peeres ly drownd in golden sleepe, Sound out a sodaine and a shrill Alarum, to maze them in the midst of horrid dreames.

Vig. The king and Crowne is ours.

Q. The Queen I claime.

Perid. It shal go hard, but I the shrew will tame, trumpets and drums, your dreadfull clamors sound.

Vig. Proclaime me captiue, or a king new crownd.

Alarum, they watche the doores, Enter at one doore Cornwell.

Corn. Treason, treason.

Perid. thou art mine what ere thou be.

Corn. Prince Peridure.

Perid. I Cornwell and thy king.

Corn. He discords taught, that taught thee so to sing.

Alarum Enter at another doore Martianus.

Mar. Who stops this passage.

Vig. Martianus we.

Mar. Vigenius.

Vig. Vnto whom thou owest thy knee.

Mar. My knee to none, but Elidure shall bend.

Vig. Our raign beginning hath when his lines end.

Alarum, Enter at another doore Elydure, stopt by the Queene.

Lady What traitrous hand dares interdict our way? Queene. Why that dare ours, tis we command thee staie.

Lady.

No-body

Lady. Are we not Queene?

Queene. Ist you, then happily met,

I haue owed you long, and now Ile pay that dept.

Lady. Vild traitresse, darest, thou lay a violent hand on vs thy Queene?

Queene. We dare commaund thee stand,
Thou wast a Queene, but now thou art a slaue.

Lady. Before such bondage, graunt me heauen a graue.

Alarum Enter Elidure.

Elidure. What feeke ye Lords? What meane these loud Alarums, in the still silence of this hunnied night?

Perid. King we feeke thee.

Vig. And more we feeke thy Crowne.

Elidure. Why Princely brothers is it not our owne, That tis ours we plead the law of kings, The guift of heauen, and the antiquety on earth, Election from them both.

Vig. We plead our powers & strength, we two must raign. Perid. We were borne to rule, and homage we disdaine.

Corn. Doe not refigne, good King.

Perid. How faucy Lord?

Corn. Ile keepe still thy Crowne.

Perid. I fay that word shall cost old Cornwels life.

Corn. Tush this for care.

Tirants good fubiects kills and traitors spare.

Vig. Wilt thou fubmit thy Crowne?

Mar. Dread foueraigne, no.

Vig. He hates his owne life that adulfeth fo.

Mar. I hate all traitors, and had rather die,

Then fee fuch wrong done to his foueraignty.

Queen. Give vp thy state to these two princely youthes, and thy resigment shal preserve thy life.

Lady. Wilt thou so much wrong both thy selfe and wise? Hast lived a king, and canst thou die a slave,

A royal feat, doth aske a royall graue,

Though

aud Nobody.

Though thousand swords thy present safety ring, Thou that hast bin a Monarche, dye a king.

Queen. Whether he liue or dye, thou sure shalt be no longer Queene, but Vassalle vnto me, Ile make ye now my drudge.

Lady. How mynion, thine?

Queene. Thart no more Queen, thy husband must resigne.

Corn. Refigne, to whom?

Perid. I am one.

Vig. And I another.

Lady. Canst be so base to see a younger brother, Nay two young Boyes plast in thy throne of state, And thou their sodaine in their traines to waite, Ile dye before I endure it.

Perid. So shall all,

that doe not proftrate to our homage fall.

Shall they not brother king?

Vig. They shall by heauen.

Mar. Come kill me first.

Corn. Nay make the number euen, And kill me to, for I am pleafd to dye,

Rather then this indure.

Lady. The third am I. Queene. Nay strike her first.

Perid. Rage giue my fury way.

Vig. Strike valiant brother king.

Elid. Yet heare me, stay.

Perid. Be briefe for Gods fake then.

Elidure. O heaven, that men fo much should couet care,

Septers are golden baites, the outfides faire:

But he that fwallowes this fweete fugred pill,

Twill make him ficke with troubles that grow stil:

Alasse you seeke to ease me being wearied

And lay my burthen on your able loines, My vnambitious thoughts haue bin long tird,

G

With

With this great charge, and now they rest desird, And see the kinde youths coueting my peace, Bring me of all these turmoiles free release. Heere take my Crown.

Lady Wilt thou be made a stale, Shall this proud Woman, and these boyes preuaile? Shal I for them be made a publike scorne, Oh hadst thou buried bin, assoone as borne, How happy had I bin.

Elid. Patienc fweete wife,
Thinkst thou I praise my Crowne aboue thy life,
No take it Lords, it hath my trouble bin,
And for this Crowne, oh giue me backe my Queene.

Queene. Nay shes bestowed on me. Elydure. Then what you please,

Heere take my trouble, and refigne your eafe.

Sicoph. My Lords receive the crowne of Elydure, Faire hopefull blossoms of our future peace, Happy am I, that I but live to see, the Land ruld by your dubble Soueraignty.

Vig. Now let the king discend to be disposed of At our high pleasure, come give me the Crowne.

perid. Why you the Crown, good brother more then we. vig. Weele proue it how it fits our kingly temples,

And how our brow becomes a wreath so faire.

perid. Shall I fee you crownd, and my felfe ftand bare, Rather this wreath maiestick let me try,

And fit inthrond, in pompious Maiesty.

vig. And I attend, whilst you ascend the throne, Where had we right, we should fit crownd alone. perid. Alone, darst thou vsurpe vpon my right. vig. I durst do much, had I but power and might,

But wanting that, come let vs raigne togither, both kings, and yet the rich crowne worne by neither. perid. Content, the king doth on our fentence waite,

To doome him, come lets take our dubble state, What shall he liue, or dye?

Elid. I know not how I should deserve to dye.

Lady. Yes to let two fuch vsurpers liue.

Sicoph. Nay Madam, now I needes must tell your grace,

You wrong these kings, forget both time and place,

It is not as it was, now you must bowe,

Vnto this dubble state, ile shew you how.

Lady. Base flattring groome slauish parasite,

Vig. Shall I pronounce his fentence.

Perid. Brother doe.

Vig. Thy life we graunt thee and that Womans to, But liue deuided you within the tower,

You prisoner to that princesse.

Lady. In her power,

Oh dubble flauery.

Perid. Conuay both hence.

Elid. My doomes seuerer then my small offence.

Queene. Come Minion, will you goe.

Lady. To death, to hel,

Rather then in thy base subjection dwell.

Vig. Cornwell and Martianus you both see,

We are possest of this imperial feate,

And you that were fworne liedgemen to the Crowne,

Should now submit to vs that owe the same,

We know without your grave directions,

We cannot with experience guide the land,

Therefore weele study to deserve your loues.

Perid. Twas not ambition, or the loue of flate, that drew vs to this bufinesse, but the seare, Of Elidurus weakenesse whom in zeale, To the whole land we have deposed this day.

fpeake, fhall we have your loues?

corn. My lords, and Kings,

Tis bootlesse to contend gainst heaven and you,

G 2

Since

Some-body

Since without our confent the kings defpoid, And we vnable to support his fall, Rather then the whole land should shrinke, You shall have my assyrtance in the state.

Mar. Cornwell and I will beare the felfe fame state. Perid. We now are Kings indeede and Brittaine sway.

When Cornwell and his brother Viue fay

Vig. Receive our grace, keepe still your offyces, Imbrace these peeres that raisd vs to the throne, Brittaine reioice, and Crowne this happy yeare, Two sonnes at once shine in thy royall sphere.

Corn. And thats prodigious, I but waite the time

To fee their fodaine fall that fwiftly clime.

Mar. My Lord much honor might you win your land To giue release vnto your sister Queene, Being a Lady in the land beloud.

Vig. You have aduifd vs well, it shall be fo.

Corn. Shold you fet free the Princesse might not she Make vprors in the land, and raise the Commons. In the releasment of the Captiue King.

Perid. Well counseld Cornwell, she shall live in bondage.

Mar. Renowne your felfe by being kind to her. Corn. Secure your state by her imprisonment.

Vig. Weele haue the Queene set free.

Perid. Weele haue her guarded,

With stricter keeping and seuerer charge.

Mar. Will you be braued by one thats but your equall, Hauing no more then party gouernment.

Corn. Or you be found by one to you inferior, In generall estimation of the land.

vig. Set free the Princesse, say the king commaunds. Perid. Keepe her in thraldome still, and captiue bands. vig. Weele not be contermaunded.

perid. Sir nor we.

vig. Before Ile be halfe a king and contrould

and No-body.

In any regality, ile hazard all, Ile be compleat or none.

Perid. Before ile stand,

Thus for a Cipher with my halfe command, Ile venture all my fortunes, how now pride, Percht on my vpperhand.

Corn. By heauen well fpyed.

vig. Tis ours by right, and right we will inioy.

perid. Claimst thou preheminence, com down proud boy vig. Then lets try maistries, and one conquer all,

We climd at once, and we at once will fall,

They wrastle and are parted

peri. They that loue Peridure deuide themselues vppon their part.

Corn. That am I.

Mor. and I.

vig. They that love vs on this fide.

Mar. I.

Mal. And I.

vig. Then to the field, to fet our fifter free.

perid. By all my hopes with her ile captiue thee.

vig. Trumpets and Drums, triumphant musick fing. perid. this day a captiue, or a compleat king. Exeunt.

Alarum, Enter Some-body and Sicophant.

Somb. Sir you have fworne to manage these affaires, Euen with your best of iudgement.

Enter Clowne.

Sicoph. I have provided, you will let me share, Of the Grand-benefit you get by dice, Deceitfull Cards, and other cozening games you bring into the Court.

G 3 Clown.

No-body

C. O rare, now shall I find out crab, fom notable knauery Somb. You shall have equal share with Somebody, Prouided, you will help to apprehend that Nobody, On whom the guilt shall lye, Of all those cheting tricks I have deuisd. C. O the fates, treason against my m. person, but I believe Somb. wil pay fort, ile tickle your long wast for this isaith. Sico. Giue me fome bales of dice. What are these? som. Those are called high Fulloms. Clo. Ile Fullom you for this. som. Those low Fulloms. C. They may chance bring you as hie as the Gallowes. som. Those Demi-bars. the gallows. clow. Great reason you should come to the barre before som. Those bar Sizeaces. Clo. A couple of Affes indeed. som. Those Brisle dice. clo. Tis like they brifle, for I am fure theile breed anger *hcop.* Now fir, as you have compast all the Dice. So I for cards. These for the game at maw, All faving one, are Cut next vnder that, Lay me the Ace of Harts, then cut the Cards, O your fellow must needs have it in his first tricke. clow. Ile teach you a trick for this yfaith. ficop. these for Premero cut vpon the sides, As the other on the ends. clow. Marke the end of all this. ficop. these are for post and paire, these for faunt, these for new cut. clown. theile make you cut a fether one day, fico. Well, these disperst, and No-body Attacht for all these crimes, shalbe hangd. clow. I or els you shall hange for him, fico. Come, shals about our busines. som. Content, lets straight about it.

clow. O my hart, that it was my fortune to heare all thys,

but

but beware a lucky man whilft you liue, Alasse if I had not refcued my maister, the swaggering fellowe woulde haue made No-body of him. Againe if I had not ouerheard this treason to his person, these Cunnicatching knaues, woulde haue made lesse then Nobody of him. For indeed they wold haue hangd him, but heeres my maister, O sweet maister how cheere you?

Enter No-body.

Nobo. O excellent, admirable, and beyond comparison, I thinke my shape inchants them.

clo. I think not fo, for if I wer a Lady, I should neuer abide you: but Maister, I can tell you rare newes, you must be apprehended, for a Cheater, a Cozener, a Libiller, and I know not what.

Nobo. Not I, I am an innocent, no Cheater, no Cozener, but a fimple honest man, hunted from place to place by fome-body.

clo. tis true fir, it is one som. that would attach you, therfore Looke to your felfe, but Mai. if you be tooke neuer feare, I heard all their knauery, and I can cleare you I warrant.

Enter Some-body and officers.

Som. O haue I found you, this is he my frends, We haue long fought, you know when twas inquird, Who brought the false Dice, and the cheating cards Into the court, twas answered *No-body*.

Clo. No. (qd. tha) I am affraid youle proue the knaue som. som. Lay hold vpon him, beare him to the prison.

No. To prison, fay you well, if I be guilty, this fellow is my partner take him to.

som. Are you confederate in this treason sirra? clo. If I be not sir some-body is, but if I be guilty I must be are If off with head and shoulders.

som. To prison with them, now the bird is caught,

Somebody and

For whom fo long, through Britane haue I fought.

Clow. I beleeue I haue a bird in a box, shal catcht you

for all this,

Someb. Away with them I fay.

Exeunt.

Enter seuerally Peridure, Vigenius, Cornewell, Martianus, Morgan, Malgo, with drum and Coulors.

Vig. In Armes well met, ambitious Peridure, Perid. Vigenius thou falutes me with a title, Most proper to thy selfe,

Vig. Art thou not proud.

Perid. Onely to meet thee on this bed of death, Wherein the Title to the English Crowne, Shall perish with thy selfe.

Vig. Faire is the end

Of fuch as die in honourable warre,

Oh far more faire, then on a bed of downe.

Mar. Warre is the fouldiors haruest it cuts downe.

Perid. The liues of fuch as hinder our renowne.

Vig. Such as are apt for tumult.

Perid. Such as you,

That to our lawfull Soueraigne are vntrue.

Vig. Blushes not Peridure to braue vs so.

Perid. Blushes Vigenius at thy ouerthrow,

Who wast that told me he would submit.

Sicoph. Twas I my Lord.

Vig. Peace foole thou doest forget,

Tis not an hower fince, to our princely eare,

Thou faidst thou did desire vs to forbeare.

Sicoph. True my good Lord.

Perid. True that I fought to stay.

vig. That I would basely my ritcht hopes betray.

Sico. I did it of mine owne head to make you friends.

Perid. Still playing of the Sicophant.

and Nobody.

Vig. What still.

Perid. A glose I see to infinuate our goodwill.

Vig. That whofoeuer conquerd, he might gaine.

Perid. the fauour of vs both, that was his trayne.

Vig. But henceforth we cashiere thee from the filde.

Perid Neuer heereafter beare a fouldiers shield,

A fouldiers fword, nor any other grace,

But what is like thine owne, a doubble face.

sicoph. Now I befeech Ioue heare my praier, let them bee both flaine in the battell. Exit.

Perid. If there be any other of his hart,

We give them free licence to depart.

corn. Cornwell hates flattery.

Mar. So does Martianus.

Malg. Malgo is resolute for all affaires.

Morg. And so is Morgan, for he scornes delayes.

Vig. then where the fielde confifts of such a spirit, He that subdues conquers the Crowne by merit.

perid. thats I.

Vig. tis I.

Perid. Ryuers in blood declare it.

Vig. Graffe turne to Crimfon if vigenius spare it.

Elid. Aire be made purple with our reaking gore.

vige. Follow my frends.

Perid. Conquer or neare giue ore.

Alarum, Excursious, periduras, and vigenius fight, and both slaine.

Enter cornwell, Martianus, Morgan, and Malgo.

Mar. this way I faw vigenius on the spur.

corn. I periduras, this way.

Morg. A strang fight, my Lord is breathlesse.

Malg. My deare Lord is dead

H

Mar

Some-body

Mar. True Brothers in ambition, and in death. Corn. Yet we are enemies, why fight we not With one another, for our generals losse.

Mar. To much blood already hath beene fpent,
Now therefore fince the difference in themselues,
Is reconsiled in eithers ouerthrow,
Let vs be as we were before this Iar,
And ioyning hands like honorable frends,
Inter their bodyes as becomes their state,
And which is rare once more to Elidure,
Who now in prison leades a wearied life,
With true submission offer Englands Crowne.
Of all the charges of tumultuous fate,
This is most strange three times to flow in state.

Exeunt.

Enter Queene and Sicophant.

Sico. Madam.

Queene. You are welcome, what new flatteries, Are a coyning in the mint of that fmoth face?

Sicoph. Where is the Lady Elidor I pray.

Q. Amongst my other waiting maides at worke. sicoph. Tis well, yet Madam with your gratious leaue I wish it better.

Queene. What in loue with her, Canst thou affect such a deiected wretch, Then I perceive thy flattery is folly, Or thout prove honest, louing one so poore.

Sico. I know not *Madam* what your highnesse gathers Out of my troubled words, I loue you well, And though the time should alter, as I am sure, It is impossible, yet I would follow All your misfortunes with a patient hart.

Queene. I have seene too much of thee to credit thee. Sico. Now in your height of glory vse your servant,

Now

aud Nobody.

now Madam, whilft the noble Peridure
That loues you dearer then the Brittish Crowne,
Whilst hees conqueror, vse me to destroy
Your greatest enemy, and I will doe it.

Queene. Thou wilt not.

ficoph. Be it Elidure the king, The prisoner I should say, Ide murder him, To shew how much I loue your maiesty.

Q. Thou wouldst not poyson for me his base Queene, Whom I so often haue triumphed ore, That torment now is her beatitude, And tedious vnto me.

fico. no more, shes dead.

Enter Lady Elidure.

queene. See where she comes, dispatch her presently, For though the Princely Peridure be king, His brothers death in time will make him odious Vnto his subjects, and they may restore Mild Elidure againe, and then I dye,

fico. Withdraw, shes dead, as surely as you line.

Lady. What shall I neuer from this seruitude Receiue releasant euermore be plagud, With this insulting Queen? Is there no change, no other alteration in the state

I know there is not, I am borne to be

a slaue, to one baser then slauery

sioo. I will release you by a speedy death.

Lady. By death, alasse, what tongue pronounst that word? What my Lord weather-cocke? nay then I see,

Death in thy mouth is but base flattery.

fico. By heauen I am fent to kill you. Lady. By whose meanes.

sico. By one that will anouch it when tis done.

Lady. not the proud queene.

H 2

sicoph.

Some-body

fico. Yes, but I am determined in full amends for all my flattery, to faue your life, and kill her inftantly.

La. Oh if a Divell would vndertake that deed, I card not though she heard me, I would fay, He were a starre more glorious then the day.

sicoph. And would you for that good deed pardon me.

Lady. And quite all former iniury.

sicoph. But let me tell your highnes by the way,

the Queene is not so hasty of your death.

Lady. no, for the had rather have my life prolongd. sicoph. I do affure your highnes on mine honor,

When I did say she fent me to destroy you, I slaunderd her great mercy towards you, For she had given me order to release you.

Lady Oh monstrous lie.

sicoph. beleeue it, for tis true:

And this moreouer, she fomuch repents Her former pride and hardnes towards you, that she could wish it neuer had bin done.

Lady. then I repent me of my wrongs towards her, And in the stead of a reward proposed to him that should destroy her, I do wish, Death be his death, that vndertakes the deed.

sicoph. but will you not forget these princelie words, if any alteration should ensue.

Lady. not I, I in my oths am true.

sicoph. Except once more the Lords crowne Elydure.

Lady. though that should chance, ile hold my promise sicoph. And you too Madam. fure.

Q. So thou muderst hir.

sico. Know that Lord periduras and his brother, are in the battell flaine, and by the nobles, her husband Elidure raifd to the state, setting aside all iesting, Queene beleeue it.

And

and No-body.

And truce with her, least she triumph againe.

Queen. For Gods fake make vs friends.

sicoph. Good Lord how strange this reconciled foes behold each other.

Lady. Sifter.

Queen. Kind fifter.

sicoph. Then make me your brother, say are you friends.

Both. We are.

sicoph. Then chance what can,

in this I have prooud my felfe an honest man.

Enter Malgo.

Malgo. The king your husband, madam new releaft, Defires your prefence at his Coronation.

Lady. My Elydure a third time to be crownd.

Mal. True Madam, and expects your company.

Lady. And you knew this before.

sicoph. No on mine honor.

Lady. Neither you Sifter.

Queene, neither.

Lady. If you did

My oath is paft, and what I have lately fworne ile hold inuiolate, here all stryfe ends, thy wit has made two proude shrewes perfect friends. *Exeunt*.

Enter in state, Elidure, Cornwell, Martianus, Morgan, and all the

Corn. A third time liue our gratious foueraigne Monarch of England, crowned by these hands.

Elid. A third time Lords, I do returne your loue, And wish it with my soule, so heaven were pleased, My ambitious Brothers had not died for this, But we have given them honorable graves.

H 3

Enter

Somebody and

Enter Queen and Lady.

And mournd their most vntimely funerall, My loued Queen, come seat thee by my side, Partner in all my forrowes and my ioyes, And you her reconciled Sister sit, By her in second place of maiesty, It ioyes me that you have outworne your pride.

Lady. Methinks my gratious husband and my King, I neuer tooke more pleasure in my glasse,

Then I receive in her fociety.

Queen. Nor I in all my ftate as in her loue.

Elid. My Lord of Cornwell, whose that whispers to you?

Or whats the newes?

Corn. My liege, he tels me heeres a great contention betwixt two noted persons of the Land much spoke of by all states, one some-body Hath brought before your highnes and this presence, An infamous and strange opiniond fellow, Cald No-body, they would intreat your highnes, To heare their matters scand.

Elid. Weele fit in person on their controuersies, Admit them Cornwell.

Lady. Is that strange monster tooke, somuch renownd, In Citty, Court, and Country, for lewd prancks. Tis well, weel heare how he can purge himselfe.

Enter some-body, bringing in No-body and his man, with Billes and flaues.

Som. now firrha we have brought you before the king, Wheres your hart now?

Nob. My harts in my hose, but my face was neuer ashamed to shew it selfe, yet before king or Keyser.

som. And wheres your hart firrha?

Clow.

and No-body.

Clowne. My harts lower then my hofe, for mine it at my heel, but wherfoeuer it is, it is a true hart, and fo is not somb. som. Health to your Maiestie, and to the Queene, With a hart lower then this humble earth whereon I kneele. I beg against this fellow, Iustice my liege.

Eli. Against whom. som. Against No-body.

No. My liege, his words wel fute vnto his thoughts, He wishes no man Iustice, being composed Of all deceit, of subtilty and slight, For mine own part, if in this royall presence, And before all these true iudiciall Lords, I cannot with sincerenes cleare my selfe, Of all suggestions falsy coynd against me, Let me be hanged vp sunning in the ayre, And made a scar-crow.

Mar. Lets heare his accusations,
And then how well thou canst aquit thy selfe.
som. First, when this monster made his residence
Within the country, and disperst his shape
Through euery shire and country of the Land,
Where plenty had before a quiet seat,
And the poore commons of the Land were full,
With rich abundance and saciety,
At his ariue, great dearths and scarsity,
By ingrosing corne, and racking poore mens rents.
This makes so many poore and honest Farmers,
to sell their leases, and to beg their bread,
this makes so many beggers in the Land.

Corn. I but what proofe or lawfull euidence
Can you bring forth, that this was done by him.
som. My Lord I traf't him, and fo found him out,
But should your Lordship not beleeue my proofe,
Examine all the rich and wealthy chuffes,

Whofe

Somebody and

Whose full cramd Garners to the roofes are fild, In euery dearth who makes this fcarfitye, And euery man will clearely quit himfelfe, Then confequently, it must be Nobody. Base copper money is stampt, the mint disgrast, Make fearch who doth this, euery man cleares one, So consequently it must be Nobody. Besides, whereas the nobles of the land, And Gentlemen built goodly manner houses. Fit to receive a King, and all his traine. And there kept royall hospitality, Since this intestine monster Nobody. Dwels in these goodly houses keepes no traine, A hundred Chimnies, and not one cast smoke, And now the cause of these, mock-begger Hal, Is this they, are dwelt in by No-body, For this out of the countrey he was chaft.

No. My royall liedge whie am I thus difgraft, Ile proue that flandrous wretch hath this al done.

Elid. Tis good you can aquit you, fuch abuses, Growe in the countrey, and vnknowne to vs: nay then no maruell that so manie poore, starue in the streets and beg from doore, to doore. Then sirha purge you from this countrey blame, Or we will make thee the worlds publike shame.

Corn. now No-body, vvhat can you fay to this. Clo. My M. hath good cards, on his fide Ile vvarrant him. No. my Lord, you knovy that flanders are no proofes,

nor vvords without their present euidence, If things were done, they must be done by some-body, Else could they have no being. Is come hoorded, some-body hords it, else it would be delt, In mutuall plentie throughout all the land, Are their rents raisd, if No-body should doe it, then should it be vndone. Is

and Somebody,

Base money stampt, and the kings letters forgd,
Some-body needes must doe it, therefore not I,
And where he saies, great houses long since built,
Lye destitute, and wast because inhabited,
By No-body my liedge, I answer thus,
If Some-body dwelt therein, I would give place.
Or wold he but alow those chimnies fire,
They would cast cloudes to heaven, the Kitchin-soode
It would releeve the poore, the sellers beere,
It would make strangers drinke, but he commits
These outragies then laies the blame on me,
And for my good deeds I am made a scorne.
I onely give the tired a refuge seat,
The vnclothd garments, and the starved meate.

Close How say you by this maister Some-body. I beleen

Clow. How fay you by this maister Some-body. I beleeue you will be found out by and by.

Corn. If this be true my liedge, as true it is, Some-body will be found an arrant cheater, Vnlesse he better can acquit himselse.

Sich. Touch him with the citty, fince you have taken the foile in the Countrey.

Mar. Sirha, what can you fay to this?

Someb. What should I faie my Lord, see heare complaints, Made in the citty against no-body,

Aswell as in the country. See their bils,

Heeres one complaines his wise hath bin abroad,

And asking where she reuels night, by night,

She answers she hath bin with no-body.

Heares queanes maintaind in euery suburb streete,

Aske who maintaines them, and tis no-body.

Watches are beaten, and Constables are scott,

In dead of night men are made drunke in tauernes,

Girles loose their maiden heads at thirteene yeares,

Pockets pickt, and purses cut in throngs.

Queene. Inough, inough, doth no-body all this?

Nobody,

Though he hath cleard himselfe from country crimes, He cannot scape the citty.

No. Yes dread Queene,

I must confesse these things are daily done,

For which I heere accuse this Some-body,

That every where with slaunders dogs my steps,

And cunningly assumes my borrowed shape,

Women lie out, if they be tooke and found

with somebody, then No-body goes cleere,

Else the blames mine, he doth these faults vnknowne,
then slanders my chast innocence for proofe.

somebody doth maintaine a common strumpet
ith Garden-allies, and vndid himselse.

somebody swaggered with the watch last night,
was carried to the counter.

somebody once pickt a pocket in this Play-house yard, Was hoysted on the stage, and shamd about it.

Clow. Ha, ha, hath my maister met with you.

no. Alasse my liege, your honest No-bodie
Builds Churches in these dayes, and Hospitals,
Releeues the seuerall prisons in the Citty,
Redeemes the needy debtor from the hole,
And when this somebody brings infant children,
And leaues them in the night at strangers doores,
Nobody sathers them, provides them nurses,
What should I say, your highnes love I crave,
That am all inst.

corn. Then somebodies a knaue.

sicoph. If neyther citty nor countrie wil preuaile to him, with the court ma. somebody, and there you will match him.

som. Then touching his abuses in the court.

corn. I marrie Nobody what fay you to this, See, heere are dangerous Libils gainst the state, And no name to them, therefore nobodies.

Mar. Besides strange rumors and false buzzing tales,

and Somebody,

Of mutinous leefings raifd by No-body.

Malg. False dice and Cheating brought even to the prefence, and who dares be fo impudently knauish,

Vnlesse some fellow of your name and garbe.

Morg. Cards of advantage with fuch cheating tricks, Brought euen amongst the noblest of the land, And when these cosening shifts are once discouered, There is no cheater found faue No-body.

som. How canst thou answer these.

nobo. Euen as the rest.

Are libels cast, if nobody did make them. And no-bodies name to them, they are no libels, For he that fets his name to any flander. Makes it by that no libell, this aproues He forgd those flanderous writs to scandall me. And for false cards, and dice, let my great slops And his big bellied dublet both be fercht, And fee which harbors most hipocrifie.

queene. Let them both be fercht. fico. Ile take my leaue of the prefence.

Clow. nay M. sicophant weele have the infide of your pockets translated to, weele fee what stuffyng they haue, I le take a little paines with you.

Elid. What have you there in nobodyes pockets.

Corn. Here are my liedge bonds forfeit by poore men, Which he releast out of the vsurers hands. And canceld. Leases likewise forfeited. By him repurchaft. These peticions, Of many poore men to preferre their futes, Vnto your highnesse.

Elid. Thou arte Iust we know, All great mens pockets should be lined fo. queene. What bumbast beares his gorge. Mar. False Cards, false Dice;

The kings hand counterfeit,

Nobody,

Bonds put in fute to gaine the forfitures, forgd deedes to cheate men of their ancient land, And thousand such like trashe.

Ch. Nay looke you heere, heares one that for his bones is pretily stuft. Heares fulloms and gourds: heeres tall-men & low-men. Heere trayduce ace, passedge comes a pace.

som. Mercy great King.

Sicoph. Mercy my Soueraigne.

Corn. My liedge you cannot to be seuere in punishing, Those monstrous crimes, the onely staine and blemish To the weale-publike.

Eli. Villaines heare your doome,
Thou that hast bin the oppressyon of the poore,
Shalt bee more poore then penury it selfe,
All that thou hast is forsit to the Law,
For thy extortion I will have thee branded,
Vpon the forhead with the letter F.
For Cheating whipt, for forging loose thine eares,
Last for a basing of thy Soueraignes Coyne,
And traitrous impresse of our kingly seale,
Suffer the death of traitors. Beare him hence.
som. Since I must needs be martired graunt me this,
That No-body may whip, or torture me,

Or hang me for a traitor.

Morg. Away with him.

Som. Or if needs I must dye a traitors death, That No-body may see me when I dye.

Malg. Hence with the traitor.

Clo. I know by your complexion you wer ripe for the hangman, but now to this leane Gentleman.

Lady. Let me doome him, fmoth spaniel, soothing grome Slicke Oyly knaue, egregious parasite, Thou turning vane, and changing Weather-cocke, My sentence is thou shalt be naked stript, And by the citty beadles soundly whipt.

Clow

and Somebody

Clow. Ile make bold to fee thexecution.

No. Well hath the King decreed, now by your highnesse patience let No-body borrow a word or two of Euery-body.

The Epilogue.

Heer if you wonder why the king Elidurus bestowes nothing on me for all my good services in his land, if the multitude shuld say he hath preserd No-body, Some-body or other would say it were not well done, for in doing good to No-body he should but get himselfe an il name. Therefore I will leave my sute to him, and turne to you. Kinde Gentleman if any-body heere dislike No-body, then I hope Every-body have pleased you, for being offended with no-body, nor Any-body can finde himselfe agrieved, Gentlemen they have a cold sute that have no-body to speak in their cause, and therefore blame vs not to seare, yet our comfort is this, if no-body have offended you cannot blame No-body for it, or rather we will finde Some-body heareaster shall make good the fault that no-body hath done, and so I crave the generall grace of Every-body.

Eli. now forward Lords, long may our glories stand, Three fundry times Crownd king of this faire land.

I 3 Exeunt,

FINIS.



SOME-BODY



