

**A MANIFEST DETECTION OF THE
MOST VYLE AND DETESTABLE
USE OF DICE PLAY, NO.LXXXVII,
MARCH 1850, PP. 6-44**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649307562

A Manifest Detection of the Most Vyle and Detestable Use of Dice Play, No.LXXXVII, March 1850, pp. 6-44 by J. O. Halliwell

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

J. O. HALLIWELL

**A MANIFEST DETECTION OF THE
MOST VYLE AND DETESTABLE
USE OF DICE PLAY, NO.LXXXVII,
MARCH 1850, PP. 6-44**

Cambridge University Library, Boston
from the Editor.

A Manifest Detection

OF THE

MOST VYLE AND DETESTABLE

USE OF DICE PLAY.

EDITED BY

J. O. HALLIWELL, ESQ., F.R.S., F.S.A.

" He won it of me with false dice."—*Mach Ado about Nothing*, ii, 1.

LONDON:

PRINTED FOR THE PERCY SOCIETY,
BY RICHARDS, 100, ST. MARTIN'S LANE.

No. LXXXVII.

MARCH 1850.

A MANIFEST DETECTION,

ETC.

The Percy Society.

President.

THE RIGHT HON. LORD BRAYBROOKE, F.S.A.

Council.

THOMAS AMYOT, Esq., F.R.S., F.S.A.

WILLIAM HENRY BLACK, Esq.

T. CROFTON CROKER, Esq., F.S.A., M.R.I.A.

J. H. DIXON, Esq.

FREDERICK WILLIAM FAIRHOLT, Esq. F.S.A.

JAMES ORCHARD HALLIWELL, Esq., F.R.S., F.S.A.,

Honorary Secretary.

W. JERDAN, Esq., M.R.S.L.

SIR EDWARD BULWER LYTTON, BART.

E. RALEIGH MORAN, Esq.

T. J. PETTIGREW, Esq. F.R.S., F.S.A.

JAMES PRIOR, Esq., F.S.A., M.R.I.A.

WILLIAM SANDYS, Esq., F.S.A.

RICHARD JOHN SMITH, Esq.

THE REV. J. REYNELL WREFORD, F.S.A.

THOMAS WRIGHT, Esq. M.A., F.S.A., *Treasurer.*



PREFACE.

ONLY two copies of the following Tract are known to exist. One of these was purchased by the late Mr. Heber, at Nassau's sale, for £7: 17: 6, and that collector, in a note on the fly-leaf, says,—“The present copy formerly belonged to Topham Beauclerk, (*Cat. Lon.* 1781, *n.* 4137), and I never saw or heard of another. It formed one of eight very curious old tracts bound together in one volume, a manuscript list of which, in an ancient, perhaps contemporary, hand, was inscribed on the back of the title page of the first. From this authority, it appears that Gilbert Walker was the author of the present treatise.” Lowndes mentions another edition, printed by Richard Tottyl, 1532, 16mo.

The tract seemed worthy of re-publication, as containing a remarkably vivid description of the tricks in vogue amongst the gamesters of the sixteenth century. It has, also, many curious allusions to the manners and customs of the period, and several remarkable phrases I do not recollect to have met with elsewhere. The

accounts of false dice are peculiarly valuable, as comprising fuller explanations of terms used by Shakespeare, and other old dramatists, than are to be found in the notes of the commentators. The mysteries of gourds and fullams, high men and low men, stumbling-blocks to many intelligent readers of the works of the Stratford poet, are here satisfactorily revealed.

The name of Gilbert Walker does not appear to occur elsewhere as an author, and the above note is the only authority we possess for attributing the tract to his pen.

It is right to add that the editor has not had an opportunity of collating this reprint, which is printed from a neat transcript, the writer of which has modernized the orthography; but there is no reason for believing that any errors of much importance will be discovered. In one or two instances, where the transcriber appears to have misunderstood the text, a note of interrogation has been affixed.

an hour, stalking up and down alone, without any companion, sometime with such heavy and uncheerful countenance, as if ye had some hammers working in your head, and that breach of company had moved your patience ; and I, for my part, what face soever I set on the matter, am not all in quiet : for had all promises been kept, I should, or this hour, have seen a good piece of money told here upon the font, and as many indentures, obligations, and other writings sealed, as cost me twice XL*s.* for the drawing and entayle : but as to me, let them that be acold blow the coals, for I am already on the sure side, and if I miss of my hold this way, I doubt not to pinch them as near by another shift ; though indeed I must confess, that unkindness and breach of promise is so much against my nature, that nothing can offend me more. And you, on the other side, if your grief in tarrying be the same that I take it, ye cannot do better than to make little of the matter, for ye seem to be a man that wadeth not so unadvisedly in the deep, but that always ye be sure of an anchor hold ; and therefore let us by mine advice forget such idle griefs, and whiles noon-tide draweth on, talk of other matters that may quicken our spirits to make a merry dinner. Perchance this occasion may confirm a joyful acquaintance between us.

Sir, (quoth I,) as touching the cause of my long abiding here, it is not very great, neither is it tied to any such thrift as ye speak of, but lack of company will soon lead a man into a brown study.

Well then (quoth he) if your head be fraught with