

**EARLY ENGLISH DRAMATISTS.
ANONYMOUS PLAYS, 3RD SERIES,
COMPRISING: JACK JUGGLER; KING
DARIUS; GAMMER GURTON'S NEEDLE;
NEW CUSTOM; TRIAL OF TREASURE;
NOTE-BOOK AND WORD-LIST**

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JOHN S. FARMER

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Early English Dramatists

ANONYMOUS PLAYS

3RD SERIES

COMPRISING

*Jack Juggler—King Darius—Gammer Gurton's
Needle—New Custom—Trial of Treasure—
Note-Book and Word-List*

EDITED BY

JOHN S. FARMER

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A NEW INTERLUDE FOR CHILDREN TO PLAY,
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VERY PLEASANT. NEWLY IMPRINTED.

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JACK JUGGLER The Vice
JENKIN CAREAWAY . . . A Lackey
ALISON TRIP-AND-GO . . A Maid



JACK JUGGLER

THE PROLOGUE.

*Interpone tuis interdum gaudia curis,
Ut possis animo quemvis sufferre laborem.*
Do any of you know what Latin is this?
Or else would you have an *Expositorem*
To declare it in English *per sensum planiorem?*
It is best I speak English, or else within a while
I may percase mine own self with my Latin
beguile.

The two verses, which I rehearsed before,
I find written in the Book of Cato the wise
Among good precepts of living a thousand
more,
Which to follow there he doth all men advise
And they may be Englished briefly in this wise :
Among thy careful business use sometime mirth
and joy,
That no bodily work thy wits break or 'noy.
For the mind (saith he), in serious matters oc-
cupied,
If it have not some quiet mirth and recreation
Interchangeable admixed, must needs be soon
wearied, [tinal operation
And (as who should say) tried through con-
Of labour and business without relaxation.

Therefore intermix honest mirth in such wise
That your strength may be refreshed, and to
labours suffice.

For as meat and drink, natural rest and sleep,
For the conservation and health of the body,
Must needs be had, so the mind and wits to
keep

Pregnant, fresh, industrious, quick and lusty,
Honest mirth and pastime is requisite and
necessary; [est:

For, *Quod caret alterna requie durabile non*
Nothing may endure (saith Ovid) without some
rest.

Example proof hereof in earth is well found,
Manifest, open, and very evident;
For except the husbandman suffer his ground
Sometimes to rest, it wold bear no fruit vera-
ment;

Therefore they let the field lie every second year
To the end that, after rest, it may the better
corn bear.

Thus then (as I have said) it is a thing natural,
And naturally belonging to all living creatures,
And unto man especially above others all,
To have at times convenient pastance, mirth
and pleasures, [due measures;
So they be joined with honesty, and kept within
And the same well allowed not only the said
Cato, [and Plato.
But also the philosophers, Plutarch, Socrates,

And Cicero Tullius, a man sapient and wise,
Willeth the same, in that his first book,
Which he wrote and entituled of an honest
man's office :

Who so is disposed thereupon to look, [took,
Where to define and affirm he boldly on him
That to hear interludes is pastime convenient
For all manner men, and a thing congruent.

He reckoneth that namely as a very honest dis-
port, [comedy,
And above all other things commendeth the old
The hearing of which may do the mind com-
fort; [sophy :
For they be replenished with precepts of philo-
They contain much wisdom, and teach prudent
policy; [none importance,
And though they be all writers of matters of
Yet they show great wit, and much pretty
conveyance.

And in this manner of making Plautus did
excel, [him by name :
As recordeth the same Tullius, commending
Wherefore this maker delighteth passingly
well [same,
To follow his arguments, and draw out the
For to make at seasons convenient pastimes,
mirth and game : [oyster shell,
As now he hath done this matter, not worth an
Except percase it shall fortune to make you
laugh well.

And for that purpose only this maker did it
write, [comedy
Taking the ground thereof out of Plautus first
And the first sentence of the same; for higher
things indite [queasy,
In no wise he would, for yet the time is so
That he that speaketh best, is least thank-
worthy.

Therefore, sith nothing but trifles may be had,

You shall hear a thing that only shall make you
merry and glad.

And such a trifling matter, as when it shall be
done, [at all.

Ye may report and say ye have heard nothing
Therefore I tell you all, before it be begun,
That no man look to hear of matters sub-
stantial, [small

Nor matters of any gravity either great or
For this maker showed us that such manner
things

Do never well beseem little boys' handlings.

Wherefore, if ye will not sourly your brows
At such a fantastical conceit as this, [bend
But can be content to hear and see the end,
I wold go show the Players what your pleasure
is; [this.

Which to wait upon you I know be ready ere
I wold go send them hither into your presence,
Desiring that they may have quiet audience.

Jack. Our Lord of heaven and sweet Saint
Rest you merry, my masters everychone; [John
And I pray to Christ and sweet Saint Stephen
Send you all many a good even!
And you too, sir, and you, and you also,
Good even to you an hundred times and a
thousand mo. [blood,
Now by all these crosses of flesh, bone, and
I reckon my chance right marvellous good,
Here now to find all this company,
Which in my mind I wished for heartily;
For I have laboured all day, till I am weary,
And now am disposed to pass the time, and be
merry.

And I think none of you, but he would do the
same,
For who woll be sad, and needeth not, is foul
to blame; [taught
And as for me, of my mother I have been
To be merry when I may, and take no thought.
Which lesson I bare so well away,
That I use to make merry once a day.
And now, if all things happen right,
You shall see as mad a pastime this night,
As you saw this seven years, and as proper a
As ever you saw played of a boy. [toy
I am called Jack Juggler of many an one,
And in faith I woll play a juggling cast anon.
I woll conjure the nowl, and God before!
Or else let me lese my name for evermore.
I have it devised, and compassed how,
And what ways I woll tell and show to you.
You all know well Master Bongrace,
The gentleman that dwelleth here in this place?
And Jenkin Careaway his page, as cursed a
And as ungracious as ever man had, [lad,
An unhappy wage, and as foolish a knave
As any is now within London wall. [withal,
This Jenkin and I been fallen at great debate
For a matter, that fell between us a-late;
And hitherto of him I could never revenged be,
For his master maintaineth him, and loveth not
Albeit, the very truth to tell, [me;
Nother of them both knoweth me not very well.
But against all other boys the said gentleman
Maintaineth him all that he can.
But I shall set little by my wit,
If I do not Jenkin this night requite.
Ere I sleep, Jenkin shall be met,
And I trust to come partly out of his debt;