

**THE PLEASANT
COMEDY OF
OLD FORTUNATUS**

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The Pleasant Comedy of Old Fortunatus by Thomas Dekker

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THOMAS DEKKER

**THE PLEASANT
COMEDY OF
OLD FORTUNATUS**

THE PLEASANT COMEDY
OF
OLD FORTUNATUS

BY
THOMAS DEKKER

As Presented at the Court of Queen Elizabeth

UNIV OF
CALIFORNIA

PUBLISHED FOR TUFTS COLLEGE
THE TUFTS COLLEGE PRESS
1906

with
Pris S. S. Hickey

TO THE
DEPT. OF
CALIFORNIA

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1906

PREFATORY NOTE

This Edition was prepared for the production of the play in connection with the Semi-Centennial celebration of Tufts College. It is based on the text in the Mermaid Series edited by Mr. Ernest Rhys. A few printer's errors have been corrected.

The omissions made for convenience in acting are here indicated; except that omissions of single words are not noted:

15 - 17, * I have sighed . . . weary, 21; 16 - 12, Shortly . . . hence, 15; 16 - 28, a thousand . . . day, 34; 25 - 2, and we . . . beef, 11; 25 - 21, Now . . . livery, 29; 26 - 2, thou hast . . . us, 5; 26 - 20, When . . . power, 29; 26 - 34, which . . . execution, 27 - 15; 27 - 27, it . . . beast, 30; 27 - 34, By . . . mad, 28 - 17; 29 - 1, 'Tis . . . brave, 2; 29 - 12, I doubt . . . coin, 16; 29 - 21, if . . . butchers, 24; 29 - 27, your . . . meat, 28; 29 - 38, We . . . of them, 30 - 8; 33 - 5, No: . . . pleased, 12; 33 - 27, Fortune . . . paramour, 28; 38 - 37, By . . . leagues, 39, 4; 40 - 18, for . . . cheap, 20; 40 - 24, an you . . . be, 41 - 1; 41 - 16, Because . . . do't, 27; 41 - 30, Covetousness . . . urchins, 42 - 36; 43 - 2, let . . . Ampedo, 8; 43 - 13, If . . . vagaries, 15; 43 - 20, Or . . . silent, 23; 45 - 4, Of . . . cheek, 6; 46 - 1, By . . . Italianate, 5; 49 - 6, whilst . . . revive, 8; 50 - 11, But . . . alabaster, 25; 50 - 33, Indeed . . . both, 38; 51 - 35, But . . . down, 36; 53 - 1, Begone . . . sir, 4; 54 - 17, I . . . vile, 22; 55 - 13, O . . . grave, 23; 56 - 18, A . . . like, 25; 56 - 31, And . . . lovers, 57 - 6; 58 - 7, Over . . . sword, 9; 61 - 27, But . . . eyes, 31; 65 - 7, Since . . . destinies, 9; 65 - 28, my . . . munching, 34; 66 - 8, Is't . . . gulls, 10; 67 - 11, O . . . Ethiopians, 17; 70 - 16, yet . . . together, 17; 70 - 32, O . . . with,

* Page 15, line 17; single numbers refer to lines only.

33; 71-5, what . . . you, 5; 71-6, I could serve . . .
devil, 12; 71-18, What . . . cogging, 19; 71-30, Since
. . . not, 32; 75-10, Thou . . . eye, 15; 78-6, Ay .
. . . els, 10; 78-19, By . . . la, 20; 78-35, and as . .
. . la, 36; 79-2, I . . . la, 4; 80-12, whilst . . . fly,
15; 81-4, Wilt . . . pippins, 5; 82-7, Is . . . horn, 8;
83-27, Which . . . lost, 28; 85-14, Oh . . . so, 16;
87-24, O . . . horn, 25; 87-32, you . . . sheets, 33;
88-6, you . . . repass, 8; 88-10, Andelocia . . . There-
fore, 13; 88-14, Sigh . . . both, 16; 88-31, O . . .
us, 36; 89-15, Are . . . heels, 17; 92-32, Riches . . .
run, 34. Also, 16-21, which . . . sleep, 24; 27-18, his
. . . angels, 20; 46-6, I . . . blind, 9.

THE PROLOGUES



UNIV. OF
CALIFORNIA

THE PROLOGUE AT COURT.

Enter Two Old Men.

1st O. Man. Are you then travelling to the temple of Eliza?

2nd O. Man. Even to her temple are my feeble limbs travelling. Some call her Pandora: some Gloriana, some Cynthia: some Delphœbe, some Astræa: all by several names to express several loves: yet all those names make but one celestial body, as all those loves meet to create but one soul.

1st O. Man. I am one of her own country, and we adore her by the name of Eliza.

2nd O. Man. Blessed name, happy country: your Eliza makes your land Elysium: but what do you offer?

1st O. Man. That which all true subjects should: when I was young, an armed hand; now I am crooked, an upright heart: but what offer you?

2nd O. Man. That which all strangers do: two eyes struck blind with admiration: two lips proud to sound her glory: two hands held up full of prayers and praises: what not, that may express love? what not, that may make her beloved?

1st O. Man. How long is't since you last beheld her?

2nd O. Man. A just year: yet that year hath seemed to me but one day, because her glory hath been my hourly contemplation, and yet that year hath seemed to me more than twice seven years, because so long I have been absent from her. Come therefore, good father, let's go faster, lest we come too late: for see, the tapers of the night are already lighted, and stand brightly burning in their starry candlesticks: see how gloriously the moon shines upon us. [*Both kneel.*