

350 ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL.

Of worthy *Frenchmen*: let higher *Italy*<sup>a</sup>  
(Those bastards that inherit but the fall  
Of the last monarchy<sup>b</sup>) see, that you come  
Not to woo honour, but to wed it; when  
The bravest questant shrinks, find what you seek,  
That fame may cry you loud! I say, farewell.

2 *Lord*. Health, at your bidding, serve your majesty!

*King*. Those girls of *Italy*, take heed of them;  
They say, our *French* lack language to deny,  
If they demand: beware of being captives  
Before you serve.

*Both*. Our hearts receive your warnings.

*King*. Farewel.

[*Exit*.

1 *Lord*. O, my sweet lord, that you will stay behind us!

*Par*. 'Tis not his fault; the spark —

2 *Lord*. O, 'tis brave wars.

*Par*. Most admirable; I have seen those wars.

*Ber*. I am commanded here, and kept a coil with;  
*Too young*, and *the next year*, and 'tis *too early*.

*Par*. An thy mind stand to it, boy, steal away bravely.

*Ber*. Shall I stay here the forehorse to a smock,  
Creeking my shoes on the plain masonry,  
Till honour be brought up, and no sword worn,  
But one to dance with? by heav'n, I'll steal away.

1 *Lord*. There's honour in the theft.

*Par*. Commit it, count.

2 *Lord*. I am your accessory; and so farewell.

*Ber*. I grow to you, and this our parting is  
A tortur'd body.

1 *Lord*. Farewel, worthy captain.

<sup>a</sup> The ancient geographers have divided Italy into the higher and the lower, the Appennine hills being a kind of natural line of partition; the side next the Adriatick was denominated the higher Italy, and the other side the lower: and the two seas followed the same terms of distinction, the Adriatick being called the upper sea, and the Tyrrhene or Tuscan the lower. Now the Sennones or Senois, with whom the Florentines are here supposed to be at war, inhabited the higher Italy, their chief town being Ariminum, now called Rimini, upon the Adriatick.

<sup>b</sup> Reflecting upon the abject and degenerate condition of the cities and states which arose out of the ruins of the Roman empire, the last of the four great monarchies of the world.

2 *Lord*.