

Speed. The shepherd seeks the sheep, and not the sheep the shepherd; but I seek my master, and my master seeks not me; therefore I am no sheep.

Pro. The sheep for fodder follows the shepherd, the shepherd for food follows not the sheep; thou for wages followest thy master, thy master for wages follows not thee; therefore thou art a sheep.

Speed. Such another proof will make me cry, *Bad!*

Pro. But dost thou hear? gavest thou my letter to *Julia*?

Speed. Ay, fir; I, a lost-mutton, gave your letter to her, a lac'd-mutton^a; and she, a lac'd-mutton, gave me, a lost-mutton, nothing for my labour.

Pro. Here's too small a pasture for such store of muttons.

Speed. If the ground be over-charg'd, you were best stick her.

Pro. Nay, in that you are a stray, 'twere best pound you.

Speed. Nay, fir, less than a pound shall serve me for carrying your letter.

Pro. You mistake; I mean the pound, a pin-fold.

Speed. From a pound to a pin? fold it over and over, 'Tis threefold too little for carrying a letter to your lover.

Pro. But what said she?

Speed. She nodded and said, I.

Pro. Nod-I? why, that's noddy.

Speed. You mistook, fir; I said, she did nod: And you ask me, if she did nod; and I said, ay.

Pro. And that, set together, is noddy.

Speed. Now you have taken the pains to set it together, take it for your pains.

Pro. No, no, you shall have it for bearing the letter.

Speed. Well, I perceive, I must be fain to bear with you.

Pro. Why, fir, how do you bear with me?

Speed. Marry, fir, the letter very orderly; Having nothing but the word noddy for my pains.

Pro. Beshrew me, but you have a quick wit.

^a Lac'd mutton is a phrase anciently used for a lady of pleasure.

Speed.