

SCENE IX.

Enter Bardolph.

Bard. Sir *John*, there's one master *Brook* below would fain speak with you, and be acquainted with you; and hath sent your worship a morning's draught of sack.

Fal. *Brook* is his name?

Bard. Ay, fir.

Fal. Call him in; such *Brooks* are welcome to me that o'erflow with such liquor. Ah! ah! mistress *Ford*, and mistress *Page*, have I encompass'd you? go to; *via*!

Enter Ford disguis'd.

Ford. 'Bless you, fir!

Fal. And you, fir; would you speak with me?

Ford. I make bold to press with so little preparation upon you.

Fal. You're welcome; what's your will? give us leave, drawer. [Exit Bard.

Ford. Sir, I am a gentleman that have spent much; my name is *Brook*.

Fal. Good master *Brook*, I desire more acquaintance of you.

Ford. Good fir *John*, I sue for yours; not to charge you; for I must let you understand, I think myself in better plight for a lender than you are; the which hath something embolden'd me to this unseason'd intrusion; for they say, if money go before, all ways do lye open.

Fal. Money is a good soldier, fir, and will on.

Ford. Troth, and I have a bag of money here troubles me; if you will help to bear it, fir *John*, take all, or half, for easing me of the carriage.

Fal. Sir, I know not how I may deserve to be your porter.

Ford. I will tell you, fir, if you will give me the hearing.

Fal. Speak, good master *Brook*, I shall be glad to be your servant.

^a Edit. of 1619. In all the succeeding editions this name of *Brook* is alter'd to *Broom*: whereas it is manifest from this conceit upon the name, that it should be *Brook*.