

die if he love her not; and ſhe will die ere ſhe make her love known; and ſhe will die if he woo her, rather than ſhe will bate one breath of her accuſtom'd croſſneſs.

*Pedro.* She doth well; if ſhe ſhould make tender of her love, 'tis very poſſible he'll ſcorn it; for the man, as you know all, hath a contemptuous ſpirit.

*Claud.* He is a very proper man.

*Pedro.* He hath, indeed, a good outward happineſs.

*Claud.* 'Fore god, and, in my mind, very wiſe.

*Pedro.* He doth, indeed, ſhow ſome ſparks that are like wit.

*Leon.* And I take him to be valiant.

*Pedro.* As *Hector*, I aſſure you; and in the managing of quarrels you may ſee he is wiſe; for either he avoids them with great diſcretion, or undertakes them with a chriſtian-like fear.\* Well, I am ſorry for your neice: ſhall we go ſee *Benedick*, and tell him of her love?

*Claud.* Never tell him, my lord; let her wear it out with good counſel.

*Leon.* Nay, that's impoſſible; ſhe may wear her heart out firſt.

*Pedro.* Well, we will hear further of it by your daughter; let it cool the while. I love *Benedick* well; and I could wiſh he would modeſtly examine himſelf, to ſee how much he is unworthy to have ſo good a lady.

*Leon.* My lord, will you walk? dinner is ready.

*Claud.* If he do not dote on her upon this, I will never truſt my expectation.

*Pedro.* Let there be the ſame net ſpread for her, and that muſt your daughter and her gentlewoman carry; the ſport will be, when they hold an opinion of one another's dotage, and no ſuch matter; that's the ſcene that I would ſee, which will be merely a dumb ſhow; let us ſend her to call him in to dinner. [*Exeunt.*]

\* ----- a chriſtian-like fear.

*Leon.* If he do fear god, he muſt neceſſarily keep peace; if he break the peace, he ought to enter into a quarrel with fear and trembling.

*Pedro.* And ſo will he do, for the man doth fear god, howſoever it ſeems not in him, by ſome large jeſts he will make.

Well, &c.