

S C E N E III.

The Palace.

*Enter King, Queen, Rosincrosse, Guildenstern, Lords
and other Attendants.*

King. **W**ELCOME, dear *Rosincrosse*, and *Guildenstern*!
Moreover that we much did long to see you,
The need we have to use you did provoke
Our hasty sending. Something have you heard
Of *Hamlet's* transformation; so I call it,
Since not the exteriour, nor the inward man
Resembles that it was. What it should be
More than his father's death, that thus hath put him
So much from th' understanding of himself,
I cannot dream of. I entreat you both,
That being of so young days brought up with him,
And, since so neighbour'd to his youth and humour,
That you vouchsafe your rest here in our court
Some little time; so by your companies
To draw him on to pleasures, and to gather
So much as from occasions you may glean,
If aught, to us unknown, afflicts him thus,
That open'd lies within our remedy.

Queen. Good gentlemen, he hath much talk'd of you:
And, sure I am, two men there are not living,
To whom he more adheres. If it will please you
To show us so much gentry and good will,
As to extend your time with us a while,
For the supply and profit of our hope,
Your visitation shall receive such thanks
As fits a king's remembrance.

Ros. Both your majesties
Might by the sovereign power you have of us,

Put