

If thou hadst fear'd to break an oath with heav'n,
Th' imperial metal, circling now thy head,
Had grac'd the tender temples of my child;
And both the princes had been breathing here,
Which now, two tender bedfellows for dust,
Thy broken faith hath made a prey to worms.

K. Rich. By time to come. —

Queen. That thou hast wronged in the time o'erpass'd;
For I myself have many tears to wash
Hereafter time, for time past, wrong'd by thee.
The children live, whose fathers thou hast slaughter'd,
Ungovern'd youth, to wail it in their age:
The parents live, whose children thou hast butcher'd,
Old wither'd plants, to wail it in their age.*

K. Rich. As I intend to prosper and repent;
So thrive I in my dangerous attempt
Of hostile arms! myself, myself confound!
Heaven and fortune bar me happy hours!
Day yield me not thy light, nor night thy rest!
Be opposite all planets of good luck
To my proceeding, if, with pure heart's love,
Immaculate devotion, holy thoughts,
I tender not thy beauteous princely daughter!
In her consists my happiness and thine;
Without her, follows to myself and thee,
Herself, the land, and many a christian soul,
Death, desolation, ruin, and decay:
It cannot be avoided but by this;
It will not be avoided but by this.
Therefore, dear mother, I must call you so,
Be the attorney of my love to her;
Plead what I will be, not what I have been;
Not my deserts but what I will deserve:

* ----- to wail it in their age.

Swear not by time to come, for that thou hast
Misus'd ere us'd, by times ill-us'd o'erpass'd.

K. Rich. As I intend &c.