

WORCESTER Side

THOMAS PERCY, EARL OF WORCESTER

Hear me, my liege.

For mine own part, I could be well content

To entertain the lag end of my life

With quiet hours; for I protest

I have not sought the day of this dislike.

It pleas'd your Majesty to turn your looks

Of favor from myself and all our house,

And yet I must remember you, my lord,

We were the first and dearest of your friends.

It was myself, my brother, and his son,

That brought you home, and boldly did outdare

The dangers of the time. You swore to us

That you did nothing purpose 'gainst the state,

Nor claim no further than your new-fall'n right.

To this we swore our aid, but in short space

It rain'd down fortune show'ring on your head,

And such a flood of greatness fell on you.

You took occasion to be quickly wooed

To gripe the general sway into your hand,

Forgot you oath to us at Doncaster,

We were enforc'd for safety sake to fly

Out of your sight and raise this present head,

Whereby we stand opposed by such means

As you yourself have forg'd against yourself

By unkind usage, dangerous countenance,

And violation of all faith and troth

Sworn to us in your younger enterprise.