

Salisbury, cheer thy spirit with this comfort,  
Thou shalt not die whiles— 90  
He beckons with his hand and smiles on me,  
As who should say, 'When I am dead and gone,  
Remember to avenge me on the French.'  
Plantagenet, I will; and, Nero-like,  
Play on the lute, beholding the towns burn. 95  
Wretched shall France be only in my name.

*Here an alarum, and it thunders and lightens.*

What stir is this? What tumult's in the heavens?  
Whence cometh this alarum, and the noise?

*Enter a Messenger.*

*Mess.* My lord, my lord, the French have gather'd head:  
The Dauphin, with one Joan de Pucelle join'd, 100  
A holy prophetess new risen up,  
Is come with a great power to raise the siege.

*Here Salisbury lifteth himself up, and groans.*

*Tal.* Hear, hear how dying Salisbury doth groan;  
It irks his heart he cannot be reveng'd.  
Frenchmen, I'll be a Salisbury to you. 105  
Puzzel or Pucelle, dolphin or dogfish,  
Your hearts I'll stamp out with my horse's heels  
And make a quagmire of your mingled brains.

94. Nero-like] *Pope*; like thee *F1*; Nero like will *F2*; like thee, Nero *Malone*. 98. the] *F*; this *Pope*. 100. de] *F*; la *edd.* 106. Puzzel or Pucelle] *F* (*Puzel* or *Pussel*).

94. *Plantagenet*] Salisbury was a Montacute, but also a descendant of Edward III (*Wilson*).

*Nero-like*] The *F* reading is probably due to the omission of 'Nero', and consequent emendation, conjectural.

Hart quotes *Grafton's Chronicle*, i. 61, 'He commaunded the City of Rome to be set on fyre, and himself in the meane season, with all semblant of joy, sitting in an high Tower to beholde the same, played upon the Harpe, and sang the destruction of Troy'.

96. S.D. it thunders . . . ] Hall, 148.

99. *gather'd head*] raised an army, drawn their forces together.

102. *power*] army, fighting force.

106. *Puzzel*] common drab, with a probable play on 'pizzle'.

*Pucelle*] maid; also harlot.

*dolphin*] Some writers considered the dolphin as the highest in the 'chain of being' among the fishes; see *Tillyard, EWP.*, 27. The dogfish, by contrast, was one of the lowest.

Convey we Salisbury into his tent,  
And then try what these dastard Frenchmen dare. 110  
*Alarum. Exeunt [with the body of Salisbury].*

[SCENE V.—*Before Orleans.*]

*Here an alarum again, and TALBOT pursueth the DAUPHIN, and driveth him: then enter JOAN LA PUCELLE, driving Englishmen before her [, and exit after them]. Then enter TALBOT.*

*Tal.* Where is my strength, my valour, and my force?  
Our English troops retire, I cannot stay them;  
A woman clad in armour chaseth them.

*Enter [LA] PUCELLE.*

Here, here she comes. I'll have a bout with thee;  
Devil or devil's dam, I'll conjure thee: 5  
Blood will I draw on thee, thou art a witch,  
And straightway give thy soul to him thou serv'st.  
*Puc.* Come, come, 'tis only I that must disgrace thee.

109. *we*] *This edn, conj. Vaughan*; *me F.* 110. *then*] *This edn*; *then wee'le F. S.D.*] *This edn*; *Alarum. Exeunt. | F.*

*Scene v*

SCENE V] *Capell+edd.*; *not in F.* *Before Orleans.*] *Capell*; *not in F.* S.D. *and exit after them*] *Dyce*; *not in F.* 3. *them*] *F*; *men conj. Vaughan.* 6. *art a*] *F*; *arrant conj. this edn.*

109. *we*] *F* has an *m/w* error, as in *Meas.*, v. i. 13. Talbot would not delegate this pious duty. The metrical irregularity in 110 is due to consequent emendation of the sense.

*Scene v*

With the intervention of Joan—maid, heroine, and goddess to the French, but witch and strumpet to the English—the English fortunes continue downwards, in spite of all that the great warrior Talbot can do. He himself cannot prevail against her, his men flee, and the besieged garrison of Orleans is relieved.

Source—Hall, 143–6.

4. *a bout with*] cf. iii. ii. 56. The term has here a bawdy implication, like so many references to Joan; see *Sh. Bawdy*.

5. *Devil, or devil's dam*] 'the devil and his dam' was proverbial, going back to *Piers the Plowman* (Hart). Cf. *John*, ii. i. 127–8, 'as like / As . . . devil to his dam'.

*conjure*] control, constrain.

6. *Blood . . .*] 'He that could draw the witch's blood was free from her power' (*Johnson*); cf. *Giffard, Dialogue concerning Witches* (*Sh. Assoc. Facs.*, 1931), sigs. B1<sup>v</sup>, E3<sup>v</sup>, E4.

*Here they fight.*

*Tal.* Heavens, can you suffer hell so to prevail?  
My breast I'll burst with straining of my courage, 10  
And from my shoulders crack my arms asunder,  
But I will chastise this high-minded strumpet.

*They fight again.*

*Puc.* Talbot, farewell; thy hour is not yet come:  
I must go victual Orleans forthwith.

*A short alarum: then enter the town with soldiers.*

O'ertake me if thou canst: I scorn thy strength. 15  
Go, go, cheer up thy hunger-starved men;  
Help Salisbury to make his testament:  
This day is ours, as many more shall be. *Exit.*

*Tal.* My thoughts are whirled like a potter's wheel;  
I know not what I am, nor what I do: 20  
A witch by fear, not force, like Hannibal,  
Drives back our troops and conquers as she lists:  
So bees with smoke, and doves with noisome stench,  
Are from their hives and houses driven away.

16. hunger] *Rowe*; hungry *F.*

9.] cf. Matt., xvi. 18, 'And the gates of hell shall not prevail against it'.

12. *But*] if I do not.

*high-minded*] arrogant, overweening (*Schmidt*).

13. *thy hour* . . . ] cf. John, vii. 30, 'because his hour was not yet come' (*Noble*).

14. S.D.] 'Joan here goes from the lower to the upper stage, . . . lines 15-18 being spoken' thence (*Brooke*).

16. *hunger-starved*] cf. *3H6*, i. iv. 5. 'Starved' (Ger. *sterben*) means 'perished, dead'; the scribe, or compositor, 'improved' the sense. 'Hunger-starved is in *Golding's Ovid*' (*Hart*).

19. *whirled* . . . *wheel*] cf. Jer., xviii. 3 (*Carter*).

21. *Hannibal*] *Livy*, xxii. xvi-xvii;

and *North's Plutarch*, v. 97, 'Annibal . . . commaunded his souldiers to bring forth two thowsand oxen which they had gotten in spoyle . . . and then tying torches or fire linckes unto their hornes, he appointed the nimblest men he had to light them, and to drive the oxen up the hill to the toppe of the mountaines. . . the whole armie marched after them fayer and softly . . . the Romanes . . . were affrayed of this straunge sight, and . . . foorthwith forsooke their peeces and holdes.' Hannibal thus rescued his army from encirclement.

22. *lists*] pleases.

23. *smoke* . . . *stench*] possibly suggested by the Hannibal reference in 21 (*Hart*). A characteristic piece of Euphuism.

They call'd us, for our fierceness, English dogs;  
Now like to whelps we crying run away. 25

*A short alarum.*

Hark, countrymen! either renew the fight,  
Or tear the lions out of England's coat;  
Renounce your style, give sheep in lions' stead:  
Sheep run not half so treacherous from the wolf, 30  
Or horse or oxen from the leopard,  
As you fly from your oft-subdued slaves.

*Alarum. Here another skirmish.*

It will not be: retire into your trenches:  
You all consented unto Salisbury's death,  
For none would strike a stroke in his revenge. 35  
*Pucelle* is enter'd into Orleans  
In spite of us or aught that we could do.  
O, would I were to die with Salisbury!  
The shame hereof will make me hide my head.

*Exit Talbot. Alarum; retreat.*

29. *style*] *Marshall, conj. Dyce*; *Soyle F.*

26. *whelps*] young dogs.

28. *lions* . . . *England's coat*] cf. i. i. 81; the three lions passant quartered with the fleur-de-lis in the English coat of arms.

29. *style*] *F Soyle* was due to a misreading which gave a plausible and easier sense.

*give*] display as an armorial bearing; cf. *Wiv.*, i. i. 16.

30. *treacherous*] The running away of

the English, like sheep, is treachery to Talbot.

31. *leopard*] trisyllabic (?).

33. *It will not be*] It is useless.

34. *consented unto*] cf. i. i. 5; conspired together to bring about.

35. *his*] objective genitive = in revenge of him.

39.] *Carter* compares Jer., xiv. 3, 'They were ashamed and confounded, and covered their heads.'