

And bowed her hand to teach her fingering,
When, with a most impatient devilish spirit, 150
'Frets, call you these?' quoth she, 'I'll fume with them'
And with that word she struck me on the head,
And through the instrument my pate made way,
And there I stood amazèd for a while,
As on a pillory, looking through the lute,
While she did call me 'rascal', 'fiddler',
And 'twangling Jack', with twenty such vile terms,
As had she studied to misuse me so.

PETRUCHIO

Now, by the world, it is a lusty wench;
I love her ten times more than e'er I did. 160
O how I long to have some chat with her!

BAPTISTA (to Hortensio)

Well, go with me, and be not so discomfited.
Proceed in practice with my younger daughter;
She's apt to learn and thankful for good turns.
— Signor Petruchio, will you go with us
Or shall I send my daughter Kate to you?

PETRUCHIO

I pray you do. I'll attend her here —

Exeunt all but Petruchio

156 'rascal', 'fiddler' FI (Rascall, Fidler); rascal fidler CAPELL 167 I'll FI (Ile); I will ROWE
167.1 Exeunt all but Petruchio FI (Exit. Manet Petruchio.) after l. 166; after 'do' HERFORD

149 bowed (l) curved

151 fume Katherine is playing on the phrase
'fret and fume', meaning 'give way to ob-
vious anger'. The image in 'fume' is found
again in the colloquial 'get all steamed
up'.

153 pate head. See note on 1.2.12.

154 amazèd bewildered, astonished

155 pillory The comparison is with the
wrong-doer firmly held by head and arms
in the wooden instrument of punishment.
(In the stocks, the legs also were
pinioned.)

156 'rascal', 'fiddler' 'Rascal' signifies here
not 'wrong-doer' but 'mean fellow' or
'one of the rabble'. (The noun was used
also of the inferior deer in a herd.) The ad-
jective, with corresponding meaning, was
common too; hence the plausible but
unnecessary emendation 'rascal fiddler',
to match 'twangling Jack'. 'Fiddler' may

have three syllables.

157 Jack mean fellow, rascal

158 As . . . studied as if she had thought
deeply how

159 lusty In its regular Elizabethan mean-
ing, 'full of life' (perhaps, also, as often, im-
plying admiration for the strength or
sense of humour of the one so described).

163 Proceed in practice with continue your
teaching of ('practice' in the sense, still
found, of 'exercise in any art [etc.] . . . for
the purpose of attaining proficiency'. OED
1.3)

164 apt ready. 'Apt' and 'turns' sometimes
had indecent connotations but Baptista
obviously does not intend them.

167 Petruchio speaks the words 'I pray you
do, I'll attend her here' as Baptista leaves,
and completes the second sentence when
Baptista is out of hearing.
attend await

And woo her with some spirit when she comes.
Say that she rail, why then I'll tell her plain
She sings as sweetly as a nightingale. 170
Say that she frown, I'll say she looks as clear
As morning roses newly washed with dew.
Say she be mute and will not speak a word,
Then I'll commend her volubility
And say she uttereth piercing eloquence.
If she do bid me pack, I'll give her thanks,
As though she bid me stay by her a week.
If she deny to wed, I'll crave the day
When I shall ask the banns, and when be married.
But here she comes, and now, Petruchio, speak. 180

Enter Katherine

Good morrow, Kate — for that's your name, I hear.

KATHERINA

Well have you heard, but something hard of hearing:
They call me Katherine that do talk of me.

PETRUCHIO

You lie, in faith, for you are called plain Kate,
And bonny Kate, and sometimes Kate the curst.
But Kate, the prettiest Kate in Christendom,
Kate of Kate Hall, my super-dainty Kate,
For dainties are all Kates, and therefore, Kate,
Take this of me, Kate of my consolation:
Hearing thy mildness praised in every town, 190

185 bonny FI (bony); F4 first spells 'bonny' 188 Kates FI; Cates POPE

175 piercing moving, affecting — as in *Lear*,
4.3.9–10. 'Did your letters pierce the
Queen to any demonstration of grief?'

176 pack be gone, take myself off. This in-
transitive use is lost but compare 'she
packed him off' and 'send (someone)
packing'.

178 crave the day ask her to name the day

182 heard . . . hard The Elizabethan pro-
nunciation of 'heard' as 'hard' would
have made the pun clearer.

182 something somewhat

185 bonny Perhaps in the widest general
sense, 'fine' or 'good', but conceivably 'of
fine size' (OED 2.a.). It is barely possible
that FI's 'bony' means 'bony' or some-
thing like 'angular'. (In *As You Like It*,

2.3.8, where Adam calls the Duke's
wrestler his 'bonnie priser', some editors,
in reverse gear, read 'bony'.)

187 Kate Hall May mean only 'the house
Kate rules over' or (ironically) 'the house
that is known because Kate lives there'.
There was a Katharine Hall in the south
of England (of no great known impor-
tance) and the Cambridge college
Catharine Hall (later St. Catharine's
College) already existed but there seems
to be no point in an allusion to either.

188 Kates i.e. cates, delicacies, choice
viands. (The words are probably to be
construed 'all Kates are dainties', not 'all
dainties are Kates'.)

PETRUCHIO

No, not a whit; I find you passing gentle.
 'Twas told me you were rough, and coy, and sullen,
 And now I find report a very liar,
 For thou art pleasant, gamesome, passing courteous,
 But slow in speech, yet sweet as spring-time flowers;
 Thou canst not frown, thou canst not look askance,
 Nor bite the lip, as angry wenches will,
 Nor hast thou pleasure to be cross in talk;
 But thou with mildness entertain'st thy wooers,
 With gentle conference, soft and affable. 250
 Why does the world report that Kate doth limp?
 O slanderous world! Kate like the hazel-twig
 Is straight and slender, and as brown in hue
 As hazel-nuts and sweeter than the kernels.
 O let me see thee walk: thou dost not halt.

KATHERINA

Go, fool, and whom thou keep'st command.

PETRUCHIO

Did ever Dian so become a grove
 As Kate this chamber with her princely gait?
 O be thou Dian, and let her be Kate,
 And then let Kate be chaste and Dian sportful. 260

246 askance] F2 (subs.); a fconce FI

242 coy disdainful (the commonest meaning in Shakespeare)

243 very complete

244 gamesome Best explained by citation of Brutus's lines, *Caesar*, 1.2.28-9, 'I am not gamesome: I do lack some part | Of that quick spirit that is in Antony'.

245 But slow only, admittedly, slow.

246 look askance cast disdainful looks (as against the modern sense of mistrust or doubt).

248 cross perverse

249 entertain'st receive(st) honourably (rather than 'keep amused')

250 conference conversation, talk

253-4 as brown . . . Since the Elizabethan lady took great care not to allow the sun to darken her skin, there is probably much irony in Petruchio's praise here.

255 halt limp

256 whom . . . command i.e. give orders (only) to those (servants) you maintain (Tilley C245. 'Thou dost not bear my

charges that thou shouldst command me')

257 Dian . . . grove Diana, goddess of chastity, was in one of her functions 'Diana Nemorensis' i.e. of the grove, and was worshipped at a famous shrine in a grove in the Alban hills. Perhaps unnecessarily, Thomson finds in this line a reminiscence of the passage in the first book of the *Aeneid* (ll. 328-9) where Aeneas, in a wood, meets his mother Venus, disguised, 'and wonders if she can be Diana'.

become grace, adorn (rather than 'accord with', the other common meaning)

258 gait movement, manner of walking (but the word is not incongruous as it would be in the same phrase today)

260 sportful merry, playful, or even 'amorous'. The apparent contrast with 'chaste' suggests to some editors the meaning 'wanton' but there seems to be no authority for that - and it would be very uncomplimentary to Katherine.

KATHERINA

Where did you study all this goodly speech?

PETRUCHIO

It is extempore, from my mother-wit.

KATHERINA

A witty mother, witless else her son.

PETRUCHIO

Am I not wise?

KATHERINA

Yes, keep you warm.

PETRUCHIO

Marry, so I mean, sweet Katherine, in thy bed.
 And therefore, setting all this chat aside,
 Thus in plain terms: your father hath consented
 That you shall be my wife; your dowry 'greed on;
 And will you, nill you, I will marry you. 270
 Now, Kate, I am a husband for your turn,
 For by this light whereby I see thy beauty,
 Thy beauty that doth make me like thee well,
 Thou must be married to no man but me.

Enter Baptista, Gremio and Tranio (as Lucentio)

For I am he am born to tame you, Kate,
 And bring you from a wild Kate to a Kate
 Conformable as other household Kates.
 Here comes your father. Never make denial;
 I must and will have Katherine to my wife.

BAPTISTA Now, Signor Petruchio, how speed you with my daughter? 280

274.1] FI (*Enter Baptista, Gremio, Trayno*); after l. 279 POPE; after l. 277 CAPELLI

261 goodly fair, elegant

263 witless . . . son i.e. her son has no other claim to wit, he would be without wit if he couldn't thus claim some of his mother's (Katherine is, of course, quibbling on 'mother-wit', which really means 'natural intelligence').

265 keep you warm i.e. just wise enough to keep yourself warm. Proverbial (Tilley K10) and comparable with the modern 'not sense enough to keep out of the cold'.

270 will you, nill you whether you will or not (*ne + will*). A stock phrase (Tilley W401), which survives in the modern 'willy, nilly'.

271 for your turn to suit you ('turn' in the sense of 'occasion' or 'need' and perhaps also 'disposition' or 'bent'. *OED sb. V and VI*). Compare 1.2.165, and 3.2.131 and note.

274.1 The placing of the direction in FI indicates another entrance from the back of the deep Elizabethan stage. The audience sees the other characters approaching before Petruchio sees them.

276 wild Kate Perhaps there is a quibble on 'wild cat' (to which Rowe emended); certainly in the following line there is the same pun as before on 'Kate' and 'cate'.

280 speed fare, succeed