

Dédicace de St Cecily

Auteur : Medbourne, Matthew

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Les folios

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2 Fichier(s)

Mots clés

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Informations éditoriales

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Auteur de la pièce Medbourne, Matthew

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To Her Sacred MAJESTY,
THE
QUEEN-Confort.

MADAME,

Here is so great a distance between the Meanness of a Comedian, and the Majesty of a Crown'd Head, that the presumption of this Address may occasion some, to charge me with an Oblivion of the former, and want of reverence to the Sacrednesse of the latter. 'Tis true, at the first blush, it might appear so; but I have this self-encouragement, that my applications are made to a Greatnesse surrounded with Goodnesse; to an equal transcendency of Power and Piety: and These regard not so much the Merit, as the Humility of the Supplyant.

But, M A D A M E, when I finde represented in this small Piece, the Triumphs of Divine Love over all the most alluring Concerns of Sublunary Happinesse; When I reflect on a tender Virginity, defying all the charming enjoyments of this World, nay what's most harsh to the delicacy of that fair sex, Torture; When I see enflam'd Youth, by an Heroick contempt, spurning the greatest Pleasures, to court the Cross of Christ: When I observe the
A 2 sudder,

The Epistle Dedicatory.

sudden, yet efficacious Operations of that Winde which bloweth where it listeth, converting a Saul into a Paul, a Persecutor into a Sufferer: And lastly, when I consider, how the want of an humble Perseverance (like an unexpected Wrack within the Port) made way to the Apostasie of one ready to lay hold on the Crown of Martyrdom: When these Reflexions fill my thoughts, how should I conceive any Patronage too great for so great Examples.

These, M A D A M E, were the Inducements prevail'd with me, to offer them to that of your Sacred Majesty: For, where should Innocency, Virtue, Piety, and all the other amazing heights of Christian life, expect to be more kindly entertain'd, than where they are in the highest degree practis'd? Whilst then they are admitted into so Royall a Presence, if I can but press in, as the meanest Attendant, after so Noble a Train, it will be only with this hope, that Your Majesty may, though at a great distance, shew some providential Graces upon,

M A D A M E,

Your Majesties most dutifull

and most Obedient Servant,

M. MEDBURNE.