

[SCENE III.—*Venice.*]

Enter JESSICA and [LAUNCELOT] the clown.

- Jes.* I am sorry thou wilt leave my father so,
Our house is hell, and thou (a merry devil)
Didst rob it of some taste of tediousness,—
But fare thee well, there is a ducat for thee,
And Launcelot, soon at supper shalt thou see 5
Lorenzo, who is thy new master's guest,
Give him this letter,—do it secretly,—
And so farewell: I would not have my father
See me in talk with thee.
- Laun.* Adieu! tears exhibit my tongue, most beautiful pagan, most sweet Jew!— 10
if a Christian do not play the knave and get thee, I am much deceived; but
adieu! these foolish drops do something drown my manly spirit: adieu! [*Exit.*]
- Jes.* Farewell good Launcelot.
Alack, what heinous sin is it in me
To be ashamed to be my father's child! 15

Scene III] *Capell; om. Q, F; Scene IV Pope. Venice*] *om. Q, F; Shylock's house Theobald; The same. A Room in Shylock's House Capell. Launcelot*] *Rowe; om. Q, F. 1. I am*] *Q, F; I'm Pope. 9. in*] *Q; om. F. 10. Laun.*] *Q2; Clowne. Q, F. 10. Adieu!*] *Adiew, Q, F. 10. Jew!*] *Iewe, Q, F. do*] *Q, F; did F2. 12. adieu!*] *adiew, Q, F. 12. something*] *Q; somewhat F. 12. adieu!*] *adiew. Q, F. S. D.] Q2, F; om. Q; after l. 15 Capell. 15. child!*] *child, Q, F; Child? Rowe.*

5. *soon*] early.

10. *exhibit*] Eccles paraphrased "My tears serve to express what my tongue should, if sorrow would permit it," but probably it is Launcelot's blunder for prohibit (Halliwell) or inhibit (Clarendon).

10. *pagan*] This may have a scurrilous undertone: cf. 2 *H 4*, ii. ii. 168.

11. *do*] Malone upheld the reading of Qq and F

by comparing ii. vi. 23: "When you shall please to play the thieves for wives"; Launcelot seems fond of hinting at what is going to happen (cf. ii. v. 22–3). If F2's "did" is accepted, *get* is used for *beget*, as in iii. v. 9.

12. *foolish...spirit*] "tears do not become a man" (*AYL.*, iii. iv. 3); cf. also *H 5*, iv. vi. 28–32.