

D11 Falshoods Jewell

Notes. Croft (*“Reputation”* 49) discusses part of this verse compendium of attacks on Cecil.

Falshoods Jewell,
Mischeifes fewell,
Now is wasted;
Trecheries burden,
Lecheries guerdon¹ 5
Hath he tasted.

Deceits commander,
Abuses defender
Scarsely repented;
Oppressions praiser, 10
Taxations raiser,
Death hath prævented.

The kings abuser,
The Parliaments misuser
Hath left his plotting: 15
The Queenes deceiver,
The princes bereaver
Is now a rotting

The Counsells curber, 20
The states disturber
Dyed unwilling;
The Countries scourger,
The Citties Cheator
Of many a shilling.

Bawds best rewarder, 25
Queanes² most regarder,
Both did attend him;
Both laid uppon him,
Both sett uppon him,
That soone did end him. 30

Source. Bodleian MS Tanner 299, fol. 11v

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¹ *Guerdon*: reward.

² *Queanes*: here means harlots, strumpets, rather than the more literal use of the word in stanza three.
