

G5 Here lyes my Lord of Northampton, his Majestie's erwigg

Notes. Henry Howard, Earl of Northampton, privy councillor and Lord Privy Seal, died 15 June 1614. The charges of corrupt counsel and crypto-popery levelled in this mock epitaph were of long standing and would continue to dog Northampton in the years after his death (see, e.g., “The great Archpapist Learned Curio”, and the discussion of Northampton’s reputation in Bellany, *Politics 182-191*, 204-06).

Here lyes my Lord of Northampton, his Majestie's erwigg,¹
With a Papisticall bald crowne, & a Protestant perewigg.²

Source. *Dr Farmer Chetham Manuscript 2.196*

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¹ *erwigg*: earwig; in contemporary usage, an ear whisperer, flatterer, or court parasite.

² *perewigg*: periwig; wig.
