

#### Mi4 Fly not Momperson sins thear is no inn

*Notes. In the only known source, this poem on Sir Giles Mompesson is ascribed to Sir Robert Cotton; however, there is no evidence to support this attribution.*

“Uppon Momperson orerunning the parlament”

Fly not Momperson sins thear is no inn

By thy foul rapin robd will hide thy head,<sup>1</sup>

No spittell<sup>2</sup> will conceale thy impious sine,

That left in them for piety noe bed

The royall woods, the standards of ould age,

By thee dispoild,<sup>3</sup> yeelde thee noe shady tree

In vaine thou fliest of thine own guilt the rage

For more thow fliest, the more it follows thee

Turne than again, and thy bad corses alter

Or chaing thy threds of gould<sup>4</sup> into a halter.

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**Source.** BL MS Harley 3910, fol. 60r

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<sup>1</sup> *sins thear is...head*: allusion to Mompesson’s patent for licensing inns.

<sup>2</sup> *spittell*: hospital; house for the indigent and diseased, especially those of low social status.

<sup>3</sup> *The royall woods...dispoild*: Mompesson held a grant which authorized him to sell decayed woods in royal forests.

<sup>4</sup> *thy threds of gould*: allusion to Mompesson’s notorious patent for gold thread.

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