

Pi7 Thus Buck-in-game, Felt-one did soone abate

Notes. This couplet alludes to earlier violent fantasies of Buckingham's death that also used the metaphor of the hunt to imagine the destruction of the "Buck-in-game" (see, e.g., "Of Brittish Beasts the Buck is King" and "To hunt the Doe I have refu'sd"). The sole extant copy of this couplet is in William Davenport's commonplace book.

Thus Buck-in-game,¹ Felt-one² did soone abate
his pryde; the troble, off our English state

Source. CCRO MS CR 63/2/19, fol. 71r

Pi7

¹ *Buck-in-game*: the pun is on the buck, or male deer, being hunted (in the game), and Buckingham.

² *Felt-one*: i.e. Felton. The couplet's logic and transcription demand this be read as a pun. One possible reading of the pun would force us to paraphrase the couplet thus: "Thus Buck-in-game, being felt (here meaning something like 'detected'), one man did soon abate his pride, which had been the trouble of our English state".
