

## Pii20 Awake, sad Brittain, and advance at last

*Notes. In at least one source, the final two lines of this epitaph on Felton are transcribed as a discrete poem (Bodleian MS Tanner 465).*

“On the Duke and Felton”

Awake, sad Brittain, and advance at last

Thy drooping head: Let all thy sorrowes past

Bee drown'd, and sunke with their owne teares; And now

O're-looke thy Foes with a triumphant brow.

Thy Foe, Spaines agent, Hollands bane, Romes freind,<sup>1</sup>

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By one victorious hand receiv'd his end.

Live ever, Felton: thou hast turn'd to dust,

Treason, Ambition, Murther,<sup>2</sup> Pride and Lust.

**Source.** BL MS Sloane 826, fol. 188v

**Other known sources.** Bodleian MS Dodsworth 79, fol. 158r; Bodleian MS Douce 357, fol. 18r; Bodleian MS Malone 23, p. 195; BL Add. MS 22959, fol. 27r; CUL MS Gg.4.13, p. 106; TCD MS 806, fol. 511v

**Known sources of the shorter version.** Bodleian MS Tanner 465, fol. 102v

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<sup>1</sup> *Thy Foe...Romes freind*: this line encapsulates some of the most damaging contemporary charges against Buckingham, that he was an enemy to the Protestant English nation, the curse (“bane”) of England’s natural allies, the Protestant Dutch, and an abettor of both Catholic temporal power (“Spaines agent”) and the Catholic Church’s quest for religious domination (“Romes freind”).

<sup>2</sup> *Murther*: allusion to Buckingham’s alleged poisoning of James I and of other courtiers, an accusation first explicitly levelled in George Eglisham’s 1626 *Forerunner of Revenge*.

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