

### Pii5 Some say the Duke was gracious, vertuous, good

*Notes.* This defence of Felton is more playful than is typical, arguing that if Buckingham was as virtuous as his apologists asserted, Felton did him a favour by sending him to his eternal heavenly rewards ahead of schedule.

#### “On Feltons killing the Duke”

Some say the Duke was gracious, vertuous, good,  
And Felton basely did to spill his blood.  
If that were true: What did hee then amisse  
In sending him more quicklie to his blisse?  
Pale death seemes pleasing to a good Mans Eye,  
And onely bad-men are afrayd to die.  
Left he this Kingdome to possesse a better?  
Why Felton then hath made the Duke his debter.

5

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

**Other known sources.** Rous 29; *Trevelyan Papers* 3.172; *Wit Restor'd* 58; Bodleian MS Ashmole 47, fol. 31r; Bodleian MS Dodsworth 79, fol. 158r; Bodleian MS Douce 357, fol. 18v; Bodleian MS Eng. Poet. e.14, fol. 19r; Bodleian MS Malone 23, p. 195; Bodleian MS Rawl. Poet. 26, fol. 78v; Bodleian MS Tanner 465, fol. 102v; BL Add. MS 22959, fol. 27r; BL MS Egerton 923, fol. 45v; BL MS Harley 791, fol. 57r; BL MS Lans. 498, fol. 141v; CUL Add. MS 42, fol. 37v; CUL MS Dd.11.73, fol. 67v; Houghton MS Eng. 1278, item 12; Rosenbach MS 239/27, p. 318

Pii5

---