

Piii14 Who ever lov'd man vertuous

Notes. While alluding to popular perceptions of Buckingham, this relatively straightforward epitaph focuses less on chiding the Duke's critics than it does on trumpeting his virtues.

Who ever lov'd man vertuous,

Stout,¹ liberall,² wise, industrious,

Or to the arts a matchles frend

Laments (thrice honor'd Duke thy end)

And lett him knowe what ere hee bee

5

Would highly praise mortallitie

Must faigne some person in a man

Just like to that of Buckingham

A Soule inricht with soe much good

As kings (not Commons) understood

10

Fond Mallice doe what ere thou cann

Tyme will bewaile brave Buckingham

To that most sadd, and mournefull name

His life hath added such a Fame

That to expresse to future yeares

15

his worth, his Fate, his Maisters teares

Hee needs noe Funerall, nor verse,

But his owne Name writt on his herse.

Source. Bodleian MS Malone 23, pp. 140-41

Other known sources. BL MS Harley 6383, fol. 27r

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¹ *Stout*: brave. This epithet was often used to describe Felton.

² *liberall*: generous.
