

Jan: 1601

the last night of the year, went
 will from the country good to you.
 no you a woman, to Mr. Laurence,
 so you not bin so good as it would
 because of your self, you should be good
 to the first night, planning in the last
 on the last night, but you shall
 be Mother to my next, if you will be
 a woman.

Margaret West-falmer.
 my greatest well-wisher.
 Davis. Adm. Jk. / Judas, Martin.

Feb: 1601

2. we had a play called Mid Twelue night
 or what you will, much like the comedy of
 Errores, or Menechmi in Plautus, but most
 like and neere to that in Italian called Inganni
 a good practise in it to make the Steward
 beleve his lady widdow was in love with him
 by counterfeyting a letter, as from his lady in
 generall termes, telling him what shee
 liked best in him, and prescribing his gesture
 in smiling, his apparail, &c., and then
 when he came to practise making him beleuee
 they tooke him to be mad.

12. Gouernour Norton well receiued in London.

11. the last night of the year, went
 will from the country good to you.
 no you a woman, to Mr. Laurence,
 so you not bin so good as it would
 because of your self, you should be good
 to the first night, planning in the last
 on the last night, but you shall
 be Mother to my next, if you will be
 a woman.

Quo mala in multis pariter lauiora putantur

London, British Library, MS Harley 5353, fol. 12v

The Twelfth Night of Christmas, 1602: John Manningham's Diary

2 Februry 1601

At our feast wee had a play called Mid Twelue night
 or what you will, much like the comedy of
 Errores, or Menechmi in Plautus, but most
 like and neere to that in Italian called Inganni.
 a good practise in it to make the Steward
 beleve his lady widdow was in love with him
 by counterfeyting a letter, as from his lady in
 generall termes, telling him what shee
 liked best in him, and prescribing his gesture
 in smiling, his apparail, &c., and then
 when he came to practise making him beleuee
 they tooke him to be mad.

13 March 1601

Vpon a tyme when Burbidge played Rich. 3.
 there was a citizen greue soe farr in liking
 with him, that before shee went from the play
 shee appointed him to come that night vnto
 hir by the name of Ri: the 3. Shakespeare
 overhearing their conclusion went before, was
 intertained, and at his game ere Burbidge
 came. Then message being brought that Rich.
 the 3.d was at the dore, Shakespeare caused returne
 to be made that William the Conquerour
 was before Rich. the 3. Shakespeare's name William.

March: 1601

11. Sergeant Volverton and Serj. Hoale beinge byen w
 bynd in the company of some w^{ch} were miserly distressed
 Volverton began to take exception against Hoale
 that he was more officious then one sh^old be, to
 paye the wife the duty. Hoale said that hee great
 was the best iudg^e in that kinde, and
 therefore he would but yet hee w^ould make it
 to seeme. If a man be to playe you a good round
 sh^ould not playe you rather thene it by dribbl^e
 or by w^ould together. After hee gon^e and pray^ed
 rounde for the said breake sh^ould, at last one
 of them made him his answere. Let me be
 paid as I made it. M^r. S. Curle Jk.

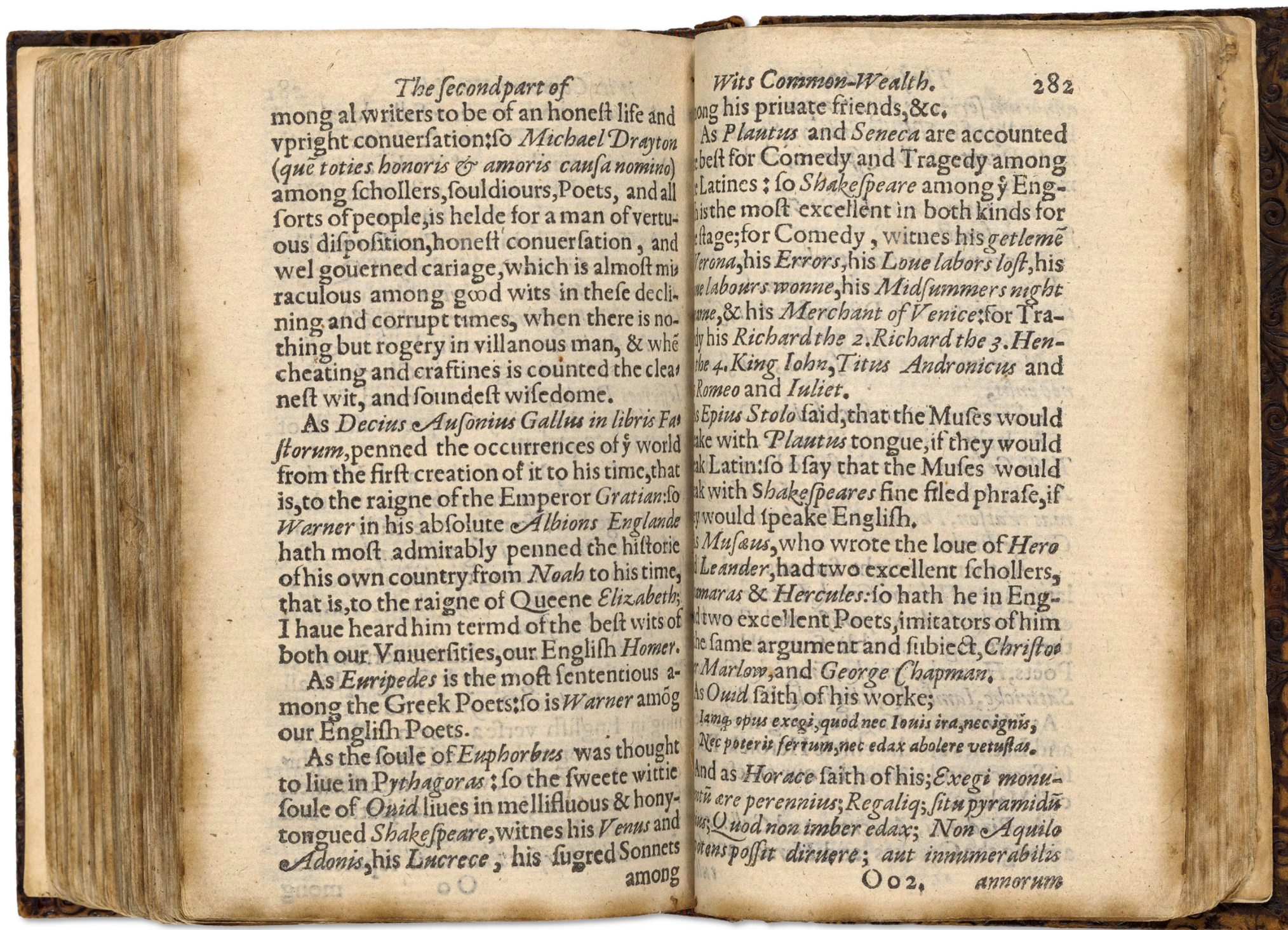
13. Mr. watts and Dr. Danvers and f^rom words.
 some daye hee w^ould beate most against Tudor
 was like a dog, w^ould runne into a roome, w^ould
 be off^red a powder, mutton beinge upon sh^ould
 w^ould beate, shall be barbing at it, hee w^ould be
 ramst w^ould it. watts.

Upon a tyme when Burbidge played Rich. 3.
 there was a citizen greue soe farr in liking
 with him, that before shee went from the play
 shee appointed him to come that night vnto
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 to be made that William the Conquerour
 was before Rich. the 3. Shakespeare's name William.

14. Mr. Phokwood by Recorder sitting in iudg^ement
 upon a prisoner was to give the prayer, and w^ould
 not read, soe sh^ould him w^ould be w^ould be
 with me hee obstinat knave w^ould be made
 soe talk him away and w^ould him. M^r. Brewster
 hee imprisoned one for sayinge hee had sh^ould be
 w^ould be the L. mayor, w^ould hee had nothinge but bread
 and w^ould.

London, British Library, MS Harley 5353, fol. 29v

*A Contemporary Appraisal of Shakespeare:
Meres' Palladis tamia (1598)*



Francis Meres, *Palladis tamia: Wits treasury being the second part of Wits common wealth*
(London: P. Short, for Cuthbert Burbie, 1598), 281v–282r.