

**MERCHANT  
OF  
VENICE**  
**SHAKESPEARE**



**MARION  
SHUMARD**



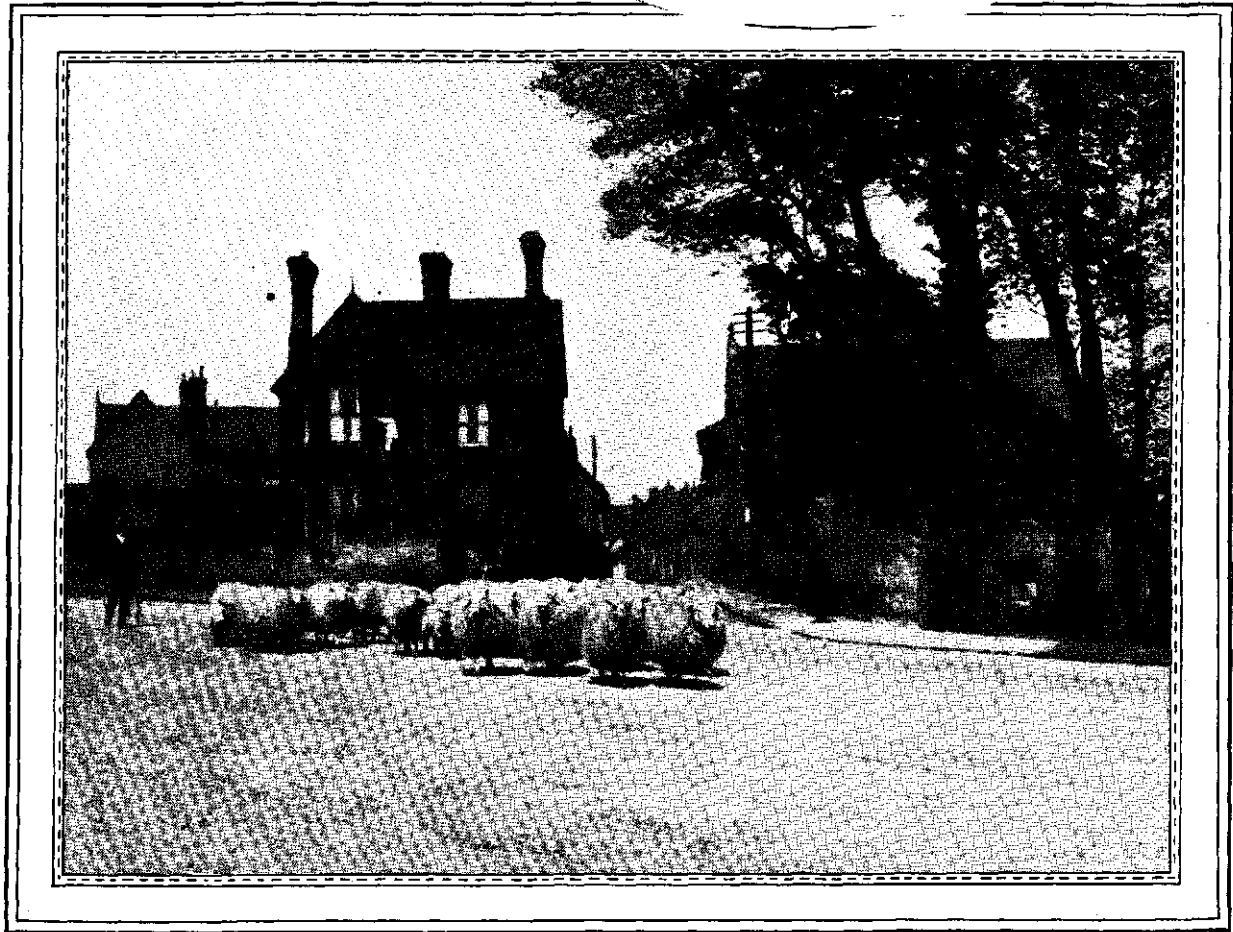
THE  
MERCHANT  
OF  
VENICE

W. SHAKESPEARE



By  
Marion  
Shumard

BELOW—A FARMER AND  
HIS FLOCK OF SHEEP IN  
A STREET OF STRATFORD,  
SHAKSPERE'S TOWN. THE  
FLOCK IS BEING BROUGHT  
IN FROM PASTURE TO THE VIL-  
LAGE HOME OF THE SHEPHERD





## Quotations.

"I hold the world but as the  
world Gratiano;  
A stage, where every man must  
play a part,  
And mine a sad one."

"  
Let me play the fool.  
With mirth and laughter let  
old wrinkles come;  
Let my liver rather heat with  
wine,  
Than my heart cool with mortifying  
groans.  
Why should a man whose blood  
is warm within,  
Sit like his grandsire cut in  
alabaster?"

Act I sc. I

Mark you this Bassanio;  
The devil can cite scripture for his  
purpose.

An evil soul, producing holy witness,  
Is like a villain with a shrilling  
chuck;

Act I sc. III

"It is a wise father that knows  
his own child."

Act II Sc. II

All that glistens is not gold;  
Often have you heard that told;  
Many a man his life hath sold,  
But my outside to behold;

Act II Sc. III

"Cold, indeed; and labor lost.  
Then, farewell, heat; and welcome,  
frost."

Act II Sc. VII

"I am a Jew; hath not a Jew eyes?  
hath not a Jew hands, organs,  
dimensions, senses, affections, passions?"

Act III Sc. I

"What! wouldst thou have a serpent  
sting thee twice?"

Act IV Sc. I

The quality of mercy is not strained;  
It droppeth, as the gentle rain  
from heaven

Upon the place beneath; it is  
twice blessed;

It blesseth him that gives and  
him that takes.

'Tis the mightiest in the mightiest; it  
becomes

The throned monarch better than  
his crown;

His sceptre shows the force of  
temporal power

The attribute to awe and majesty,  
Wherein doth sit the dread and  
fear of kings;

But mercy is above this sceptred  
sway;

It 'tis enthroned in the hearts  
of kings;

It is an attribute to God himself  
And earthly power doth then  
show likest Gods,

When mercy seasons justice.

Act II sc. IV

How far that little candle throws  
his beams!

So shines a good deed in a naughty world.

Act I sc. I

How sweet the moonlight sleeps upon  
This bank  
Here will we sit, and let the sounds  
of music  
Creep on our ears; soft stilness, and  
the night,  
Become the touches of sweet harmony.  
act V sc. I

I am never merry when I hear  
sweet music.

act V sc I

The man who hath no music  
in himself  
Nor is not moved with concord  
of sweet sounds,  
Is fit for treasons, stratagems,  
and spoils;  
The motions of his spirit are dull  
as night  
And his affections dark as Crebus.  
Let no such man be trusted

act V sc. I

I have thee on the ow the hip.  
act V sc. I



Gratiano speaks an infinite  
deal of nothing; more than any  
man in <sup>ally</sup> Venice. His reasons  
are as two grains of wheat hid  
in two bushels of chaff; you  
shall seek all day ere you  
find them; and, when you  
have them, they are not worth  
the search.

act I sc. I

A Daniel come to judgment.

act IV sc. I



**PAGEANTRY IN VENICE**  
—Scene on the Grand Canal  
as gondolas and floats of  
special design passed in  
review. —Associated Press photo.

"In sooth I know not why I  
am so sad."

Act I Sc I

This quotation was the keyword to the whole plot of scene I, because it signified the reason for the other characters giving their opinions of the cause for Antonio's sadness. These words were spoken by Antonio to his friends, Salerino and Salanio. Of course it was at first the opinion of Antonio's friends, that he was worried about his ships, which were laden with his merchandise. This, Bassanio, Lorenzo and Gratiano each in turn, gave their opinions. The actual quotation meant that Antonio's mind was worried and tired, the reason, he nor any of his friends could guess, for many times a person's mind gets in a condition similar to this.



A LANGUID MERCHANT

"I hold the world but as the world,  
Gratiano;  
A stage where every man must  
play a part,  
And mine a sad one."

Act I Sc I

This quotation is perhaps the best known phrase of Shakespeare's works and is most generally used. I think it is his best saying as it is just about the truth! Shakespeare has well worded this statement as it really fits into the story so well. Antonio was the speaker of these words in expressing his belief in why he felt so sad. Gratiano was the direct and only receiver of this speech and answered in a most pleasing manner. The main reason that Shakespeare's <sup>plays</sup> are so pleasing to read are that they are written almost like a poem as every line leads you right off into the next one.

"In my school days when I  
had lost one shaft I shot  
his fellow with the self  
same flight.

The self same way with  
more advised watch  
to find the other forth  
and by adventuring both  
I oft found both."

Act I. Sc I

This speech was made by  
Bassanio when he was  
asking Antonio for a loan.  
In this he meant to imply  
how often he had borrowed  
money and received favors  
from his most faithful  
friend, Antonio. By the  
selfsame flight he meant  
that mission when he  
was a school boy was the  
same thing he was asking  
now of Antonio. Bassanio  
was very apologetic for having  
to borrow from his friend  
again.



*Anne Hathaway's Cottage in Shottery, and the garden, filled with  
gayly-hued foliage. ©*

"By my troth, Nerissa, my little  
body is awearry of this great  
wold."

Act I Sc. II

Portia, when she spoke these words, must have felt much as Antonias did when he said "I know not why I am so sad." Portia was very sad and weary as she was being wooed by so many lovers whom she had no love for. Her father had said in his will this should be done, and that one of three caskets would hold her fate. Portia was also very lonely in her large house with no comforting or guiding hand to help her, except Nerissa, her servant who could only comfort her at times. It is probable that Portia was troubled by a great many household problems since her father had died.





TEMPLE TOURS

"God made him and therefore  
let him pass for a man."

Act I Sc II

This was Portia's opinion of the  
French Lord, Monsieur Le Bon,  
a suitor for her hand in marriage.  
This statement means that she  
did not think Monsieur Le Bon  
could rightfully be called a man  
as he was so cruel and hateful.  
This man was made by God and  
so he had to pass for a man,  
though he was as vile as a  
beast, and he loved to fight  
for blood. He could not  
have been suitable for such  
a beautiful woman as Portia,  
though she had to forget  
herself to such men as  
these, if they chose rightly  
the casket which held  
her picture. This was perhaps  
the worst of all her suitors,  
though there were many who  
could almost best him as  
a beast.

"Mistake me not for my Complexion,"  
Act II Sc I

These words were spoken by the Prince of Morocco to Portia. In Morocco, where this Prince lived, it is very hot and dry so that the Prince was very dark complexioned. He wanted her to understand that it was not his blood that caused him to be so dark, but by the sun which he lived very close to. When he said these words he wanted Portia to overlook his complexion and think of him as a normal man. This quotation was spoken in the scene where the three caskets were first chosen and the Prince was the first man to try his luck. He did not succeed as he chose the golden casket which was the wrong one.

"Go draw aside the curtains  
and discover  
The several caskets to this  
noble Prince.  
Now make your choice"

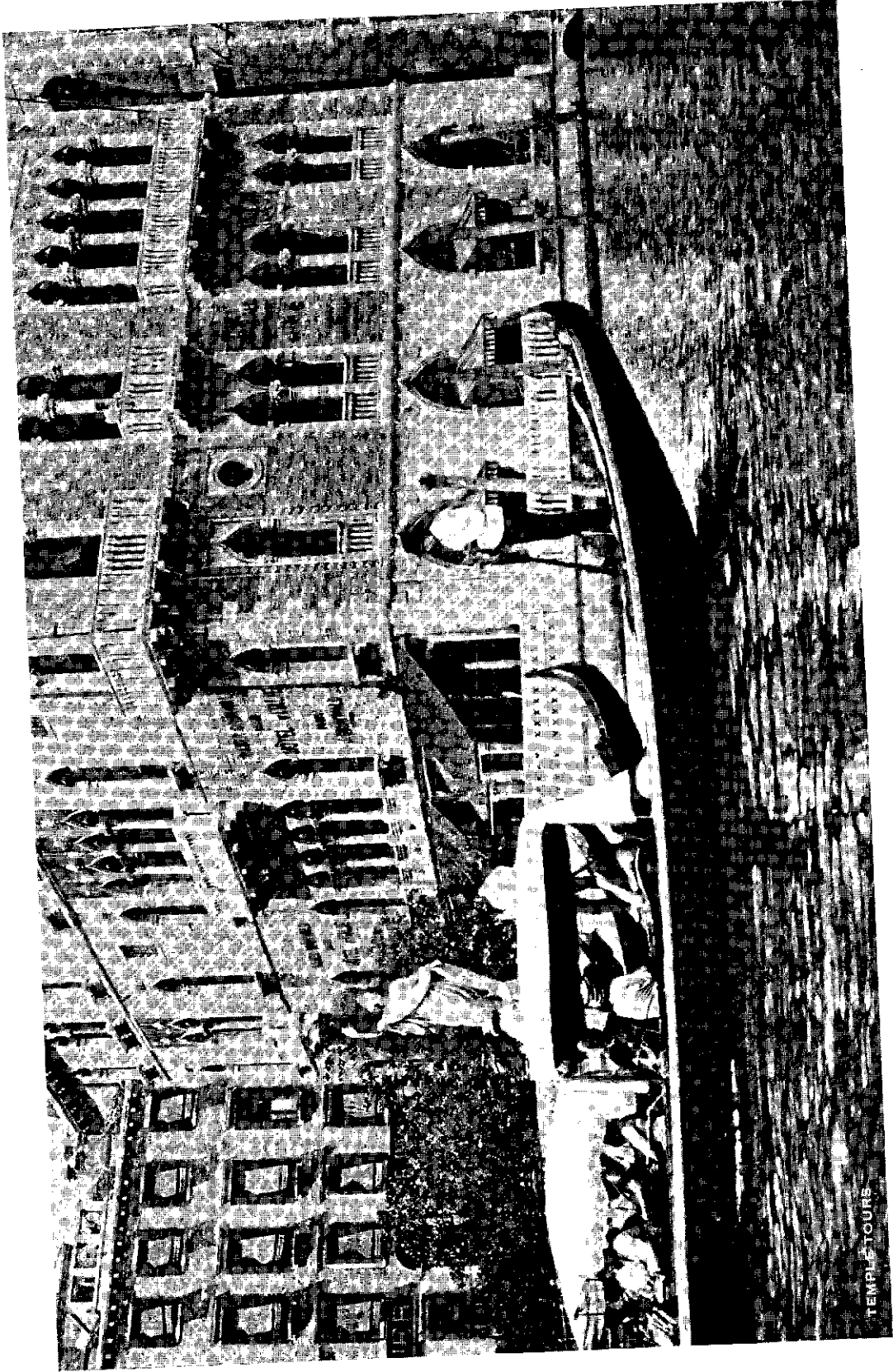
Act II Sc VII

This command was given by  
Portia to one of her servants.  
She wanted the servant to show  
the three caskets to the first  
of her suitors to try his fortune  
in picking the lucky casket which  
had Portia's picture in it.  
The Prince of Morocco was the  
receiver of the command, "Now  
make your choice" which Portia  
said and he was one of the  
three remaining suitors for  
hand. The reason there were  
only three left was because  
if they were to choose wrong  
they could not marry any  
woman or even have any  
relations with one for the  
rest of their lives.

"Three thousand ducats and  
Antonio bound."

Act I Sc III

This statement was made by Shylock the Jew. Bassanio was the one who was being spoken to. He was bargaining with Shylock on Antonio's credit, to borrow three thousand ducats. Shylock's words show that he liked the idea of Antonio being bound for this credit as he wanted some way of getting even with him. For many times Antonio had taunted and insulted Shylock in the streets, and had also given credit at a cheaper rate than Shylock, causing him to have to lower his also. Shylock's speech shows that he was very happy at having a chance to have Antonio indebted to him. Shylock was the villain of the story.



TEMPLE TOURS

"O Lorenzo, if thou keep promise  
I shall end this strife  
Become a Christian and  
thy loving wife!"

Act II Sc III

This speech was made  
by the daughter of Shylock  
the Jew, Jessica. She was  
in love with Lorenzo, a Christian  
and she being a Jewess  
had to change her religion  
if she married him. Her  
father was very much  
opposed to this courtship and  
tried to stop it, but in  
vain. Jessica did not like  
her father's people's traits and  
therefore she would not  
do as her father wished  
about such things as the  
ancient customs of the Jews,  
their ancient dress, (which they  
still wore at that time) and  
the domestic principals  
of the women of  
her tribe.

"If you be well pleased with this,  
And hold your fortune for your  
bliss,  
Turn you where your lady is  
And claim her with a loving kiss."

Act III Sc II

This was part of the inscription  
on the lucky casket, which  
Bassanio found. This casket, that  
held Portia's picture and the  
inscription above, was only  
made of lead and had these  
words on its outside,  
"Who chooseth me must give  
and hazard all he has."  
To the other suitors this  
leadin casket's inscription  
was practically a threat,  
while Bassanio reasoned  
a little more thoroughly  
with the words. For he chose  
not as the others, by  
outside appearance but by common  
sense. Bassanio chose rightly  
and claimed Portia, as was  
directed in the inscription





A SCENE FROM RICHARD III.—Theatrical production on a truck beside the tablet which marks the site of the theater where Shakspeare played.  
—Wide World.

"The court awards it, and the law doth give it."

"Most rightful judge".

Act IV Sc

Portia very cleverly acted the part of a lawyer at the trial of Antonio and the quotation above was used by her at the trial.

As Portia would say these words Shylock the Jew would make the statement "Most rightful judge". Later, when Portia's cleverness caused him to lose his case, Gratiano would mock him with the same words. Both Portia and Shylock spoke these two different speeches of theirs at the court scene. The Jew lost his case and could not cut a pound of flesh from Antonio as he wanted to do. Shylock also lost his three thousand ducats.