Sheet A of May–Day, 1611 : Variants between the
Quarto and the Manuscript in the Library
of Worcester College, Oxford

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The Library of Worcester College, Oxford, holds two copies of George Chapman's
May–Day, 1611 (STC 4980), and one of them, an imperfect copy, contains the first
two leaves in manuscript based on the printed text. A collation of the manuscript
with the printed text revealed that ten substantive verbal changes have been
introduced into the manuscript apart from twenty-four instances where alterations
have been made in the punctuation. The significance of these manuscript leaves has
been discussed in my article, ‘The Seventeenth Century Manuscript Leaves of
George Chapman's May–Day, 1611’, which will appear in the March 1980 issue of
The Library.

The following is a complete list of variants between the manuscript and the
printed text. No attempt has been made to record the difference in literal represen-
tation of the long and short s's between the two texts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quarto</th>
<th>Manuscript</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A1</td>
<td>May Day/A/Witty Comedy/Written/by/George Chapman.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A2</td>
<td>[none]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-5.</td>
<td>Actus prima, Scena prima./</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chorus Iuuenum cantantes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&amp; saltantes. /Exeunt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>saltan./Interim, Inrat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lorenzo, Papers in his</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>hand.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-6.</td>
<td>[none]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Lor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>WELL done</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>bloods, Well</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Fitt, fit observance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>May–morning; Not the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-9.</td>
<td>May–/Moneth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>they</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Lor:
Well done,
blouds, well
fitt, fitt obse<rvance>
May morning; not y<
May month
<they>
10. Nor the
11. that/Moneth;
12. of the
13. houre,
14. the
15. day. Loose
16. the Sunne
17. bedde never
18. much
19. him;
20. the golden
21. day. Lose
12. bloods, loose no time;
14. of yᵉ
15. day. Loose
17. Day. Lose
18. Lady
19. yours
20. your
21. yours
22. January
23. dayes, thrusts
24. fore-head into
25. the
26. Mayes
27. bosome: What
28. Aprilles
29. O
30. doe ?
31. Well
32. will I
33. selfe,
34. wheresoever
35. the instruments,
36. and
37. the instruments
38. the faculties; What
39. man,
40. holsomly dyeted,
41. tooke
42. May
43. 1. ages, and
44. nor yᵉ
45. yᵉ Month,
46. n<or> yᵉ
47. Day;
48. of yᵉ
49. hou<re>
50. yᵉ
51. Day.
52. Loose
53. bloods, well done, l<ose> no time;
54. yᵉ Sun
55. Bed never
56. m<uch>
57. him:
58. yᵉ gol<den>
59. yᵉ silver
60. Lady
61. yo<se>,
62. yo<
63. January
64. Dayes thrust
65. forehead in<to>
66. yᵉ
67. Mayes
68. bosome, what
69. Aprills
70. Oh
71. d<oe ?>
72. Well,
73. I will
74. self<e,>
75. wheresoever
76. yᵉ Instrumen<ts>
77. &
78. yᵉ faculties; what
79. ma<n,>
80. wholesomely dieted,
81. too<ke>
82. May
83. Ages, &
2. he not
3. ages
4. Masse
5. that
6. and therefore
7. with the
8. haue loue
9. employ
10. in, as well
11. the prowdest
12. princock, and
13. haue
14. you Mistris Franches China:
15. haue at you Mistris Franke:
16. I'le sprede
17. nets
18. purse nets,
9-10. [none]
10. Ang.
11. wonder
12. May-morning
13. and
14. 'tis
15. January
16. is that
12-13. in hand/trow we?
13-14. [none]
14. Lor.
15. haue
16. put
17. vaine
18. contentment. O haire,
19. hayre
20. the Sunne.
16-17. [none]
17. Ang.
18. if it
19. shee that
17. shee has
18. Foxred cranium;
19. [none]
19-20. [none]
20. Ang.
21. Lor.
22. Ang.
23. [none]
24. Painted
25. Lor.
26. [none]
27. Lor.
28. [none]
29. Lor.
30. [none]
31. pre-/ty

sh'has
foxred Cranyon<.

[speech rule]

<\L or:
Oh forehead
y*

[speech rule]

<\A ng:
tis
foule

[speech rule]

<\L or:
Cheeke Vermillion

[speech rule]

<\A ng:
Painted,

[speech rule]

<\L or:
far command ing
indeed.

[speech rule]

<\A ng:
nose 

[speech rule]

<\L or:

[speech rule]

<\L or:

[speech rule]

<\L or:

[speech rule]

<\L or:

[speech rule]

<\L or:

[speech rule]

<\L or:

[speech rule]

<\L or:

[speech rule]

<\L or:

[speech rule]

<\L or:

[speech rule]

<\L or:

[speech rule]
31. legge, and a deft
31. personage,
32. dimensions,
32. Hector
33. Paris, not the
33. but the
33–4. that/Ladies
34–5. [none]
35. Ang.
35. O
35. whyniard.
35–6. [none]
36. Lor.
36. and braine
CW. in

Leg, & a
personage;
dimensions;
Hector,
Paris, not y
but y
y Ladies
[speech rule]
⟨A⟩ng:
Oh
Whynyard.
[speech rule]
⟨Lo⟩r:
& brayne
(in it)