

# What is it all?

Thomas Campion

What is it all that men possess, among themselves conversing?  
 If weary, they prepare us rest; if sick, their hand attends us.  
 What pretty babes with pain they bear, our name and form presenting,  
 All this of whose large use I sing in two words is expressed:

⌋ ⌋ ⌋ ⌋ ⌋ ⌋ ⌋ ⌋ ⌋ ⌋ ⌋ ⌋

a r a d r | a a a a | r a d a | a a

r a e r a | r r b r | r r b r | b a

e r a | e a r a | a e r a | r r

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Wealth or Fame or some such boast scarce worthy the rehearsing.  
 When with grief our hearts are press'd, their comfort best befriends us.  
 What we get, how wise they keep; by sparing, wants preventing.  
 "Good wife" is the good I praise, if by good men possessed.

⌋ ⌋ ⌋ ⌋ ⌋ ⌋ ⌋ ⌋ ⌋ ⌋ ⌋ ⌋

a r a | a a a a | d a r a | a a

b a r b | r b r r | r r r r | a b r

r a e r | a a r | r e a a | r a

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Women only are men's good, with them in love conversing.  
 Sweet or sour, they willing go to share what Fortune sends us.  
 Sorting all their household cares to our observ'd contenting.  
 Bad with bad in ill suit well, but good with good live blessed.

⌋ ⌋ ⌋ ⌋ ⌋ ⌋ ⌋ ⌋ ⌋ ⌋ ⌋ ⌋

a r a | a a a a | d a r a | a a

b a r b | r b r r | r r r r | a b r

r a e r | a a r | r e a a | r a