

# 8. Beware, fair maids

William Corkine

5

Be- ware, fair maids of mus- ky cour- tiers' oaths. Take  
 Each greed- y hand will strive to catch the flow'r, when  
 Be- lieve no o- ther, nor much- protest- ing men. Cre-  
 Be- ware, lest Cae- sar do cor- rupt thy mind, and

10

heed, take heed what gifts and fa- vors you re- ceive. Let not the fad-  
 none, when none re- gards the stalk it grows up- on. Each na- ture seeks  
 dit, cre- dit no vows, nor their be- wail- ing songs. Let cour- tiers swear,  
 fond, and fond am- bi- tion sell thy mo- des- ties. Say, though a king

15 20

ding gloss of silk- en clothes daz- zle your vir- tues or your fame be-  
 the fruit still to de- vour, and leave the tree to fall or stand a-  
 for- swear, and swear a- gain. Their hearts do live ten re- gions from their  
 thou ev- er cour- teous find, he can- not par- don thine im- pur- i-

reave. For lose but once the hold you have of  
 lone. Yet this ad- vice (fair crea- tures) take of  
 tongues. For when with oaths they make thy heart to  
 ty. Be- gin with king; to sub- ject thou wilt

grace, who will re- gard your for- tune  
 me: let none take fruit un- less he  
 trem- ble, be- lieve them least, for then they  
 fall, from lord to lack- ey, and at

or your face, who will re- gard your for- tune or your face?  
 take the tree, let none take fruit un- less he take the tree.  
 most dis- sem- ble, be- lieve them least, for then they most dis- sem- ble.  
 last to all, from lord to lack- ey, and at last to all.