[SCENE III.—*Venice.*]

Enter JESSICA *and* [LAUNCELOT] *the clown.*

Jes. I am sorry thou wilt leave my father so,
Our house is hell, and thou (a merry devil)
Didst rob it of some taste of tediousness,—
But fare thee well, there is a ducat for thee,
And Launcelot, soon at supper shalt thou see
Lorenzo, who is thy new master's guest,
Give him this letter,—do it secretly,—
And so farewell: I would not have my father
See me in talk with thee.

Laun. Adieu! tears exhibit my tongue, most beautiful pagan, most sweet Jew!—if a Christian do not play the knave and get thee, I am much deceived; but adieu! these foolish drops do something drown my manly spirit: adieu! [*Exit.*]

Jes. Farewell good Launcelot.
Alack, what heinous sin is it in me
To be ashamed to be my father's child!

Scene III] *Capell; om. Q, F;* Scene IV *Pope. Venice*] *om. Q, F; Shylock's house Theobald; The same. A Room in Shylock's House Capell.* Launcelot] *Rowe; om. Q, F.* 1. I am] *Q, F;* I'm *Pope.* 9. in] *Q; om. F.* 10. *Laun.*] *Q2; Clowne. Q, F.* 10. Adieu!] Adiew, *Q, F.* 11. Jew!] Iewe, *Q, F.* do] *Q, F;* did *F2.* 12. adieu!] adiew, *Q, F.* 12. something] *Q;* somewhat *F.* 13. adieu!] adiew. *Q, F.* S. D.] *Q2, F; om. Q; after l. 15 Capell.* 16. child!] child, *Q, F;* Child? *Rowe.*

5. *soon*] early.

10. *exhibit*] Eccles paraphrased "My tears serve to express what my tongue should, if sorrow would permit it," but probably it is Launcelot's blunder for prohibit (Halliwell) or inhibit (Clarendon).

10. *pagan*] This may have a scurrilous undertone: cf. *2 H 4,* II. ii. 168.

11. *do*] Malone upheld the reading of Qq and F by comparing II. vi. 23: "When you shall please to play the thieves for wives"; Launcelot seems fond of hinting at what is going to happen (cf. II. v. 22–3). If F2's "did" is accepted, *get* is used for beget, as in III. v. 9.

12–13. *foolish... spirit*] "tears do not become a man" (*AYL.*, III. iv. 3); cf. also *H 5,* IV. vi. 28–32.