

Textor thought it a good epithet, too, for under *Amator*, he recorded from Strozius the father,

Patiens, quoniam, ut ait idem, Ferre famem, tolerare sitim, cōtemnere somnos, Dura pati dicit plurima, quisquis amat

and under *Amor*,

Patiens, ab aerumnis, quas perferunt amantes. qui interdum sub dio pernoctant, noctuq; discurrunt imbre & luto aspersi, ut fiant propositi uictores. Sabinus, Durauit, patiēs ad mala perstat amor.<sup>112</sup>

That Shakspeare knew how to vary his epithets, etc., he himself has explicitly pointed out, and those epithets which he has specifically so labeled are generally traceable to the conventional storehouse of such material, Textor. Presumably, also, as we have seen, Shakspeare had the *Flores Poetarum* to aid him in "Smelling out the odoriferous flowers of fancy." Thus such fundamental aids in writing poetry were available to Shakspeare as Brinsley demands.

A Scholler of any inclination and fitnessse for Poetry, cannot but receiue notable encouragement, hauing these, or but the principall of these bookes: this exercise of Versifying will be found a most pleasant recreation vnto him after a time.<sup>113</sup>

It is abundantly evident, I believe, that by such methods Shakspeare was taught "this exercise of Versifying," whether or not it was "found a most pleasant recreation vnto him after a time."

<sup>112</sup> Textor, *Epithetorum Opos* (1549), pp. 47, 54.

<sup>113</sup> Brinsley, *Ludus Literarius* (1627), p. 197.