The title of this early example of a shotgun satire is enclosed in brackets as conjectural; the original is without title or date. Probably it was written before September 16, 1663, when Lady Brudenell's husband Robert inherited as second Earl of Cardigan, and she became Lady Cardigan (line 30).

On September 30, 1660, James, Duke of York (the King's younger brother) secretly married Anne Hyde, daughter of Edward, Earl of Clarendon and Lord Chancellor. On May 21, 1662, King Charles II married Catherine of Braganza. Both the Queen and the Duchess had to have large entourages of servants: Ladies of the Bedchamber, Maids of Honor, Ladies of the Privy Chamber, and dressers. Most of the ladies libeled in this satire had some kind of post at Court, where, according to the cynics, virtue was a worthless commodity. Pepys reported (February 21, 1665) that "my Lady Castlemaine will in merriment say that her daughter (not above a year old or two) will be the first mayde in the Court that will be married."

The copy text is Bodleian MS. Don. b. 8, p. 179 ("Sir W. Haward's Collection").

Cary's face is not the best,
But she as useful as the rest,
Though not so much alluring;
She's near as good as Madam Wood
For pimping and procuring.

Strangely pleasant were their chats,
When Mayne and Steward played at flats,
Their marriage night so taught them;
Till Charles came there
And with his ware
Taught how their fathers got them.
Wells' broken vessels leak,
Though fools their freedom have to speak,
They take no honor from them;
Whilst thou art there
They are sure to bear
All that is laid upon them.

Warmestry's brows are black as coal,
Which makes me love her from my soul;
But, I fear, she's faulty.
For all her pride,
Her cony's wide;
She needs not be so haughty.

Boynton, Price and all the rest,
Take heed of leap-frog, though in jest,
Obey your reverend Mother,
Who warns you all
To none to fall
But Caesar and his brother.

Brudenell long was innocent,
But for the time she has misspent
She'll make amends hereafter.
Who can do more
Than play the whore
And pimp too for her daughter?

Shrewsbury hath sounding fits,
You'd think she'd almost lose her wits,
She lies so on the ground, sir;
But Jermyn's tarse
Will claw her arse
And make her soon rebound, sir.

Killigrew is whore enough,
And though her cunt be not so rough,
ON THE LADIES OF THE COURT

She makes it up in motion.  
'Twill be good rent  
When all is spent  
And prove her better portion.

Shirley thinks she has got renown,  
'Cause to the offers of the crown  
She gave such bold denial.  
'Tis clear as the sun  
'Twas Carlisle's gun  
That made her so disloyal.

Middleton, since thou dost swive  
Thou art the simplest wench alive  
To give such friends denial.  
For Castlemaine  
Shows thee the gain  
To command the pintle royal.

Savile's eyes are full of fire,  
Which makes appear her heart's desire,  
But she's a close contriver;  
For all agree  
That Bates is he  
That doth in private swive her.

Wetnall will not take a touch,  
But yet, to show her lust as much,  
She hath boys to grope her;  
For now and anon  
'Tis Hamilton,  
But constantly Will Roper.

Hamilton's a crafty wench,  
Who by speaking so good French  
Hath overcome her knight, sir.  
She doth but stay
Her marriage day,
And then she will be right, sir.

Scroope, they say, hath no good breath,
But yet she's well enough beneath,
And hath a good figary;
Or with such ease
She could not please
The King's great secretary.

Waldgrave now is out of date,
For all her servants now of late
Have found her breath so stinking!
She mourns her luck,
For they'll not fuck
Unless they have been drinking.

Leveston is yet but small,
But she's the fairest of them all,
And hath as many graces.
For she can kill
Whenso e'er she will,
Such charming in her face is.

Byron fain would conquer still,
But now she only hath the will;
Her killing power is over;
And yet 'tis plain
She hurt Dick Lane,
But he's like to recover.

1. Cary. Simona Cary, daughter of Sir Ferdinand Cary, was one of Queen Catherine's original Maids of Honor. In 1670 the King gave her £2,000 bounty, presumably toward her marriage (CTB, 1670, p. 660). Since the poet charged her only with "pimping and procuring," an easy indictment, the chances are that she was reasonably virtuous.
4. Wood. Mary, Lady Wood, formerly Mary Gardiner, one of Queen Henrietta Maria's Maids of Honor, married in November, 1651, Sir Henry Wood in Paris. After the Restoration, Sir Henry became Clerk of the Board of the Green Cloth, and his wife became one of Queen Catherine's dressers. After Lady Wood died of smallpox in 1665, Pepys remarked (March 17, 1665) that she was "a good-natured woman and a good wife, but for all that it was ever believed she was as others were." Lady Wood's daughter, Mary, married Charles Fitzroy, Duke of Southampton, in 1671, and died November 15, 1680, aged seventeen.

7. Mayne. Barbara (Villiers) Palmer, Countess of Castlemaine, Lady of the Queen's Bedchamber, and the King's chief mistress; see Appendix, Cleveland. Steward. Frances Teresa Stuart, one of the Queen's Maids of Honor; see Appendix, Richmond. at flats. Lesbian practices. See "The Ladies' Complaint to Venus," c. 1691 (Lansdowne MS. 852, f.43) in which Venus scolds the ladies,

you are to blame
And have got a new game
Called flats, with a swinging clitoris.

8. marriage night. According to gullible Mr. Pepys (February 8, 1663), Lady Castlemaine and Mrs. Stuart went through a mock wedding ceremony one night, "but in the close, it is said that Lady Castlemaine, who was the bridegroom, rose, and the King came and took her place with pretty Mrs. Stuart. This is said to be very true."

12. Wells. Winifred Wells, youngest daughter of Gilbert Wells of Twyford, Hants., was one of the Queen's original Maids of Honor, and one of the King's many mistresses. It was said that she had dropped a child during a Court ball, perhaps on December 31, 1662 (Pepys, February 8, 1663). On February 20, 1665, a gossip reported that the King had given her "£1,500 or £2,000" (Sixth Report, p. 337B). On September 7, 1672, the King gave her £2,150 (CSPD, 1672, p. 627), probably as a marriage portion. On July 14, 1673, she owned her marriage to Thomas Windham, one of the King's equerries, and the Queen appointed her as a dresser (Williamson, I, 104). She remained in the Queen's service until 1692.

18. Warmestry. Ellene or Hellene Warmestry was one of the Queen's Maids of Honor. She figures in Hamilton's Memoirs of Count Grammont (I, 105, 135; II, 29), "Miss Warmestre was brown; she had no shape at all, and still less air; but she had a very lively complexion, very sparkling eyes, [and] tempting looks." Although unmarried, she was "very quietly brought to bed in the midst of the Court." The father of her by-blow may have been William, Lord Taaffe. Eventually she married John Machen, of Hills, Sussex.

22. cony. Vagina.

24. Boynton. Katherine, daughter of Colonel Matthew Boynton of Barniston, Yorks., was one of the Queen's Maids of Honor. In May or June, 1669, she married Colonel Richard ("Lying Dick") Talbot, a Gentleman of the Bedchamber to the Duke of York. Katherine died in 1678. Price. Henrietta Maria, daughter of Sir Robert Price, The Priory, Brecon., was also one of the Queen's Maids of Honor. On December 4, 1673, she married Alexander Stanhope of the Inner Temple, a widower and younger son of Sir John Stanhope of Elvaston, Derby. The King gave her a warrant for a dowry of £2,500. She died in October, 1674, and three years later Stanhope claimed the dowry, which was still unpaid (Westminster Abbey Registers; CTB, 1676–79, p. 582).
26. **reverend mother.** Bridget, wife of Sir William Sanderson (1586-1676) was "Mother of the Maids of Honor" to the Queen until she died, January 17, 1682, aged eighty-nine.

30. **Brudenell.** Lady Anne, fourth daughter of Thomas Savage, Earl Rivers, was the second wife of Robert Brudenell (1607-1703), who inherited as second Earl of Cardigan on September 16, 1663. Lady Brudenell seems to have been respectable enough, but as the mother of the beautiful but indiscreet Anna-Maria, Countess of Shrewsbury, she was damned by association.

36. **Shrewsbury.** Anna-Maria (Brudenell), second wife of Francis Talbot (1623-68), eleventh Earl of Shrewsbury. See Appendix, Shrewsbury.

39. **Jermyn.** Henry Jermyn (1636-1708), Master of the Horse to the Duke of York and a handsome little man with a large head, was an irresistible lover. On August 17, 1662, Jermyn fought an impromptu duel with Captain Thomas Howard, his rival for Lady Shrewsbury's favors. Jermyn's second, Giles Rawlins, was killed, and Jermyn was seriously wounded (Pepys, August 19, 1662). *tarse. Penis.*

42. **Killigrew.** Probably Elizabeth, daughter of Sir William Killigrew, Vice-Chamberlain to the Queen. At this time Elizabeth was one of the Queen's dressers and unmarried; hence the emphasis on her "portion." She married Sir Francis Clinton (1635-93), son of the fifth Earl of Lincoln and a Gentleman of the Privy Chamber. Lady Clinton was buried in Westminster Abbey on December 11, 1677.

48. **Shirley.** Dame Anne Shirley, widow of Sir Thomas Shirley, an obscure lady, seems to have lived at the King's expense (see CSPD, 1665-66, p. 424). On December 22, 1663, the King gave her £50 as "royal bounty" (CTB, 1660-67, p. 565).

52. **Carlisle.** Charles Howard (c.1629-85), son of Sir William Howard of Naworth, Cumb., was created on April 30, 1661, Earl of Carlisle. In 1663 he was ambassador to Russia. According to Burnet (Own Time, II, 265), Carlisle "had been in great favor with Cromwell . . . and had then run into a high profession of religion, to the pitch of praying and preaching at their meetings. But after the Restoration he shook that off and run into a course of vice."

54. **Middleton.** The beautiful and notorious Jane Middleton, a famous beauty; see Appendix, Middleton.

57. **Castlemaine.** Barbara (Villiers) Palmer, Countess of Castlemaine, the King's chief mistress; see Appendix, Cleveland. *pintle. Penis.*

60. **Savile.** Probably Lady Frances Savile, daughter of Thomas, Earl of Sussex. In June, 1668, she married Francis, Lord Brudenell, son of Robert, second Earl of Cardigan. In "Scandal Satired" [1682], Harleian MS. 6913, p. 209, she is described

As grinning Brudenell, nown mother's brat,
Famed for sly lust and pert provoking chat.

Lady Frances died June 6, 1695; her husband in 1698.

64. **Bates.** Possibly Charles Bates, a very minor courtier. He was the second husband of Anne, widow (1657) of Edward, Lord Clinton.

66. **Wetnall.** Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Henry Bedingfield of Oxborough, Norfolk, and wife of Thomas Wetenhall of East Peckham, Kent, was a flirt, but would not satisfy her lover, Hamilton (see Grammont, II, 95, 216).

68. **grope.** Touch, feel amorously.

70. **Hamilton.** Captain George Hamilton, younger brother of Anthony, author of The Memoirs of Count Grammont. George was an officer in the Horse Guards
at this time. After 1667 he took service in the French army, was created a count, and died at the Battle of Saverne in June, 1676. He married Frances Jennings, Maid of Honor to the Duchess of York.


77. right. A cant term for sexually available.

78. Scroope. Lady Mary Scroope, a famous wit, was daughter of Sir Robert Carr of Sleaford, Lincs., widow of Sir Adrian Scroope, mother of the minor poet, Sir Carr Scroope, and one of the Queen’s dressers. In 1663 she was mistress of Henry Bennet, Earl of Arlington, “The King’s great secretary” of state (Jusserand, A French Ambassador, p. 151). Later she was the mistress of Henry Savile, Envoy to France (Cartwright, Sacharissa, p. 234). Lady Scroope died in 1685.

80. figary. Probably figuerie, a fig garden; obscene.

84. Waldgrave. Probably one of the daughters of Sir Henry Waldgrave, Bart., of Stoninghall, Norfolk. By two successive wives, Sir Henry had eleven sons and eleven daughters!

85. servants. Lovers.

90. Leveston. According to Lord Cornbury (Beaufort MS, pp. 52-53), this was Lady Elizabeth Livingston, daughter of James, Earl of Newburgh. Still very young, she was a “maid” of the Privy Chamber to the Queen.

96. Byron. Eleanor, daughter of Robert Needham, Viscount Kilmurry, was the second wife of John Byron, first Lord Byron, who died in 1652. Lady Byron had been one of the King’s mistresses during the period of royal exile. According to John Evelyn, she had been the King’s “seventeenth whore abroad” (Pepys, April 26, 1666). Lady Byron died on January 26, 1664.

100. Dick Lane. Richard Lane was a Groom of the Bedchamber to the King. The poet implies that Lady Byron “hurt” him by giving him venereal disease.