

Lib from the Dutch *lub, geld*. This is another instance of the great approximation between the Low Dutch and English; an affinity which is scarcely suspected, but which the perusal of our old writers will fully establish in the opinion of every one who understands that neglected language.

Gifford is, I think, mistaken in his emendation of Vitelli's reply to Donusa, Act II. Scene 4.

"Nor can it fall in my imagination,
What wrong you e'er have done me; and much less
How, like a royal merchant, to return
Your great magnificence."

The old copies and Mason read,
"What wrong I e'er have done you;"
which is a reply to Donusa's exhortation,

—"Be thou taught
By my example, to make satisfaction
For wrongs unjustly offered."

meaning, as she afterwards explains herself,

"Full restitution of that virgin freedom
Which thou hast robb'd me of.

It is the common-place imagery of love—"You have injured me by stealing my heart; I have injured you by breaking your ware, I make ample reparation to you in gold and in jewels; therefore learn by my example, and, in return for my heart, give me your person." Vitelli could not but remember the wrong she had done him, but, with great propriety, professes his ignorance of having unjustly wronged her, or if he have, his impotence to make reparation as she does "like a royal merchant."