

THE MERCHANT OF VENICE

Enter BASSANIO (1), ANTONIO (2), GRATIANO (3),
and their followers from L 2.

Por. (C). You are welcome home, my lord.

*Bass.*¹ I thank you, madam. Give welcome to my friend.²

This is the man: this is Antonio,
To whom I am so infinitely bound.

Por. Sir, you are very welcome to our house:
It must appear in other ways than words,
Therefore I scant this breathing courtesy.

Gra. (*R to Ner.*).³ By yonder moon I swear
you do me wrong;

In faith, I gave it to the judge's clerk.

Por. (L C). A quarrel, ho, already! what's
the matter? (*Xing to C.*)

Gra. (R). About a hoop of gold, a paltry ring
That she did give me, whose posy was
For all the world like cutler's poetry
Upon a knife, "Love, me, and leave me not."

Ner. (R C). What talk you of the posy or
the value?

You swore to me, when I did give it you,
That you would wear it till your hour of death,
And that it should lie with you in your grave.
Though not for me, yet for your vehement oaths,