

Thomas Campion

THE THIRD AND FOURTH BOOKE OF AYRES:

XI. If Loue loues truth

1 If Loue loues truth, then women doe not loue:
Their passions all are but dissembled shewes;
Now kinde and free of fauour if they proue.
Their kindnes straight a tempest ouerthrowes.
Then as a Seaman the poore louer fares,
The storme drownes him ere hee can drowne his cares.

2 But why accuse I women that deceiue ?
Blame then the Foxes for their subtile wile :
They first from Nature did their craft receiue :
It is a womans nature to beguile.
Yet some I grant in louing stedfast grow ;
But such by vse, are made, not nature so.

3 O why had Nature power at once to frame
Deceit and Beauty, traitors both to Loue ?
Oh would Deceit had dyed when Beauty came
With her diuinenesse eu'ry heart to moue !
Yet doe we rather with what ere befall,
To haue fayre women false, then none at all.