

S O N G S
FOR THE LUTE VIOL
and Voice

Composed by I. Danyel

1606

17. If I could shut the gate.

If I could shut the gate against my thoughts,
And keepe out sorrow from this roome with-in :
Or memory could cancell all the notes,
Of my misdeeds and I vnthink my sinne,
 How free, how cleare, how cleane my soule should lye,
 Discharg'd of such a lothsome company.

Or were there other roomes with-out my hart,
That dyd not to my conscience ioyned so neare,
Where I might lodge the thoughts of sin a-part,
That I might not their claim'rous crying heare.
And these wee feeble not as conceits in th'ayre,
 What peace, what Ioy, what ease should I possesse,
 Free'd from their horrors that my soule oppresse.

But O my Sauour, who my refuge art,
Let thy deare mercies stand twixt them and mee :
And be the wall to seperate my hart,
So that I may at length repose mee free :
 That peace, and Ioy, and rest may be within,
 And I remaine deuic'd from my sinne.