

THE
SECOND BOOKE
of Songs or Ayres

IOHN DOWLAND

1600

XV. White as Lillies was hir face.

1 White as Lillies was hir face,
 When shee smiled,
 She beguiled,
Quitting faith with foule disgrace,
Vertue service thus neglected,
Heart with sorrowes hath infected.

2 When I swore my hart hir owne,
 Shee disdained,
 I complained,
Yet shee left mee ouerthrowen,
Careles of my bitter groning,
Ruthlesse bent to no relieuing.

3 Vowes and oaths and faith assured,
 Constant euer,
 Changing neuer,
Yet shee could not bee procured,
To beleue my paines exceeding,
From hir scant neglect proceeding.

4 Oh that Loue should haue the art,
 By surmises,
 And disguises,
To destroy a faithfull hart,
Or that wanton looking women,
Should reward their friends as foemen.

5 All in vaine is Ladies loue,
 Quickly choosed,
 Shortly loosed,
For their pride is to remoue,
Out alas their looks first won vs,
And their pride hath straight vndone vs.

6 To thy selfe the sweetest faier,
 Thou hast wounded,
 And confounded,
Changles faith with foule dispaier,
And my service hath enuied,
And my succours hath denied.

7 By thine error thou hast lost,
 Hart vnfained,
 Truth vnstained,
And the swaine that loued most,
More assured in loue then many,
More dispised in loue then any.

8 For my hart though set at nought,
 Since you will it,
 Spoile and kill it,
I will neuer change my thoughts,
But grieue that beautie ere was borne.