

THE
THIRD AND
LAST BOOKE
OF SONGS OR
AIRES.

JOHN DOWLAND

1603

VI. When *Phoebus* first did *Daphne* loue.

When *Phoebus* first did *Daphne* loue,
And no meanes might her fauour moue,
He crau'd the cause, the cause quoth she
Is, I haue vow'd virginities.
Then in a rage he sware, and said,
Past fiftene none but one should liue a maid.

If maidens then shal chance be sped
Ere they can scarsly dresse their head,
Yet pardon them, for they be loth
To make good *Phoebus* breake his oth.
And better twere a child were borne,
Then that a god should be forsworne.