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Hamlet

BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

WITH DETAILED NOTES
FROM THE WORLD'S
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EDITED BY BARBARA A. MOWAT
AND PAUL WERSTINE

MARCELLUS And liegemen to the Dane.

FRANCISCO Give you good night.

MARCELLUS

O farewell, honest (soldier.) Who hath relieved you?

20

FRANCISCO

Barnardo hath my place. Give you good night.

Francisco exits.

MARCELLUS Holla, Barnardo.

BARNARDO Say, what, is Horatio there?

HORATIO A piece of him.

BARNARDO

Welcome, Horatio.—Welcome, good Marcellus.

25

HORATIO

What, has this thing appeared again tonight?

BARNARDO I have seen nothing.

MARCELLUS

Horatio says 'tis but our fantasy

And will not let belief take hold of him

Touching this dreaded sight twice seen of us.

30

Therefore I have entreated him along

With us to watch the minutes of this night,

That, if again this apparition come,

He may approve our eyes and speak to it.

HORATIO

Tush, tush, 'twill not appear.

35

BARNARDO

Sit down awhile,

And let us once again assail your ears,

That are so fortified against our story,

What we have two nights seen.

HORATIO

Well, sit we down,

40

And let us hear Barnardo speak of this.

BARNARDO Last night of all,

When yond same star that's westward from the pole

Had made his course t' illume that part of heaven

Where now it burns, Marcellus and myself,

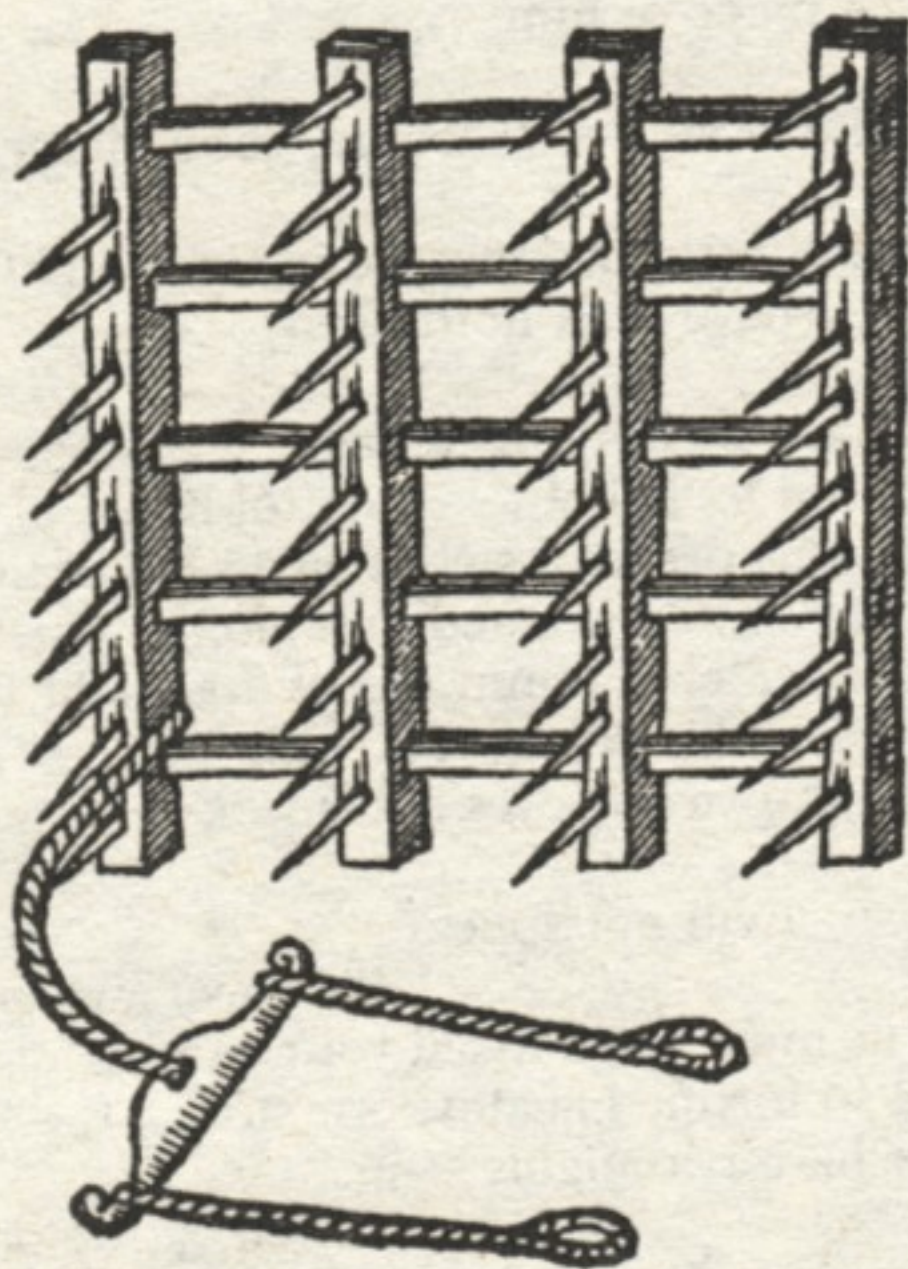
45

The bell then beating one—

51. **harrows:** torments (A harrow is a farm implement used to break up the ground.)

57. **sometimes:** formerly

67. **sensible:** attested by the senses; **avouch:** guarantee, testimony



The harrow. (1.1.51)

From Gervase Markham, *The English husbandman* (1613).

Enter Ghost.

MARCELLUS

Peace, break thee off! Look where it comes again.

BARNARDO

In the same figure like the King that's dead.

MARCELLUS, *['to Horatio']*

Thou art a scholar. Speak to it, Horatio.

BARNARDO

Looks he not like the King? Mark it, Horatio.

50

HORATIO

Most like. It *(harrows)* me with fear and wonder.

BARNARDO

It would be spoke to.

MARCELLUS

Speak to it, Horatio.

HORATIO

What art thou that usurp'st this time of night,
Together with that fair and warlike form
In which the majesty of buried Denmark
Did sometimes march? By heaven, I charge thee,
speak.

55

MARCELLUS

It is offended.

BARNARDO

See, it stalks away.

60

HORATIO

Stay! speak! speak! I charge thee, speak!

Ghost exits.

MARCELLUS 'Tis gone and will not answer.

BARNARDO

How now, Horatio, you tremble and look pale.
Is not this something more than fantasy?
What think you on 't?

65

HORATIO

Before my God, I might not this believe
Without the sensible and true avouch
Of mine own eyes.

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WASHINGTON SQUARE PRESS

Cover design by Jeanne M. Lee

www.simonsays.com

\$5.99 U.S./\$8.25 Can.

ISBN 13: 978-0-7434-7712-3

ISBN 10: 0-7434-7712-X



50599



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PRINTED IN U.S.A.