

View evâ€™ry Age, the present, and the past,
 To this, the Great, and Wisest, come at last,
 No mortal Powâ€™r, its firm Decree can shun,
 â€™Twas *Caesarâ€™s* Fate, and *Ammonâ€™s* mighty Son. Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â
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Â NOTES:

Â Title A reference to Act V scene 1 of William Shakespeareâ€™s *The Tragedy of Hamlet*, where Hamlet questions mortality and the nature of fate when mourning the loss of his love, Ophelia.

Dedication *Mr. J. Lisset* [Unable to trace.]

- 1 *Span* â€™A short space of time, esp. as the duration of human lifeâ€™ (*QED*).
- 4 *venal* â€™Connected or associated with sordid and unprincipled bargaining; subject to mercenary or corrupt influencesâ€™ (*QED*).
- 7 *consign*â€™ *d* â€™To commitâ€™ (*QED*).
- 16 *flavour*â€™ *d* â€™A distinctive appealing or enlivening qualityâ€™ (*QED*); *sprightly* â€™With spiritâ€™ (*QED*).
- 18 *wanton* â€™Unrestrained in merriment, jovialâ€™ (*QED*).
- 22 *putrifying* Alternate spelling of â€™putrefying,â€™ â€™to cause to decompose with a foul smellâ€™ (*QED*); *Trunk* â€™A dead body or corpseâ€™ (*QED*).
- 30 *Caesarâ€™s fate* Allusion to the death of the Roman dictator Gaius Julius Caesar who was murdered in the Roman Senate House by a group of nobles in March 15, 44 BCE (*Britannica*). Caesar is also referenced in the scene that this poem imitates: â€™Imperious Caesar, dead and turnâ€™d to clay,/ Might stop a hole to keep the wind awayâ€™ (Shakespeare *Hamlet*, V.i.220-221); *Ammonâ€™s mighty Son* Alexander the Great (356 BCE-323BCE), king of the ancient Greek kingdom of Macedon and conqueror of the Persian Empire.

Source: *A Miscellany of Original Poems on Various Subjects, Part I* (London, 1751), pp. 132-133. [Google Books]

Edited by Brittany Prodan