**KENT**

Royal Lear,
Whom I have ever honour'd as my king,
Loved as my father, as my master follow'd,
As my great patron thought on in my prayers,--

**KING LEAR**

The bow is bent and drawn, make from the shaft.

**KENT**

Let it fall rather, though the fork invade
The region of my heart: be Kent unmannerly,
When Lear is mad. What wilt thou do, old man?
Think'st thou that duty shall have dread to speak,
When power to flattery bows? To plainness honour's bound,
When majesty stoops to folly. Reverse thy doom;
And, in thy best consideration, cheque
This hideous rashness: answer my life my judgment,
Thy youngest daughter does not love thee least;
Nor are those empty-hearted whose low sound
Reverbs no hollowness.

**KING LEAR**

Kent, on thy life, no more.

**KENT**

My life I never held but as a pawn
To wage against thy enemies; nor fear to lose it,
Thy safety being the motive.

**KING LEAR**

Out of my sight!

**KENT**

See better, Lear; and let me still remain
The true blank of thine eye.

**KING LEAR**

Now, by Apollo,--

**KENT**

Now, by Apollo, king,
Thou swear'st thy gods in vain.

**KING LEAR**

O, vassal! miscreant!

**KENT**

Revoke thy doom;
Or, whilst I can vent clamour from my throat,
I'll tell thee thou dost evil.

**KING LEAR**

Hear me, recreant!
On thine allegiance, hear me!
Since thou hast sought to make us break our vow,
Which we durst never yet, and with strain'd pride
To come between our sentence and our power,
Which nor our nature nor our place can bear,
Our potency made good, take thy reward.
Five days we do allot thee, for provision
To shield thee from diseases of the world;
And on the sixth to turn thy hated back
Upon our kingdom: if, on the tenth day following,
Thy banish'd trunk be found in our dominions,
The moment is thy death. Away! by Jupiter,
This shall not be revoked.

**KENT**

Fare thee well, king: sith thus thou wilt appear,
Freedom lives hence, and banishment is here.