

Resource 4

If it were done when 'tis done, then 'twere well

It were done quickly.

... I was particularly chagrined at your sneers about the Negro theatre.

If th' assassination

Could up the consequence and catch With his surcease success, that but this blow

Might be the be-all and the end-all here,

Why these reflections on our color, my good Mathews, so unworthy of your genius and humanity, your justice and generosity...

But here, upon this bank and shoal of time,

We'd jump the life to come.

Shakespeare makes sweet Desdemona say, "I saw Othello's visage in his mind."

But in these cases

We still have judgment here, that we but teach

Bloody instructions, which, being taught, return

To plague th' inventor.

Now, when you were ridiculing the "chief black tragedien" and burlesquing the "real Negro melody." was it my "mind" or my "visage" which should have made an impression on you.

This even-handed justice Commends th' ingredience of our poisoned chalice To our own lips...