

## **Fun with Grammar:**

entitled

poem some assumed local colour. I doubt if Zouche had any actual school in mind: New  
Colleg convened in the space between the  
west end of the chapel and the east range of the cloister; as a young boy Anthony Wood  
attended it. It is now the SCR bike shed.

William Poole  
Fellow Librarian

There are

Adverbs of place were thrown down lofty stories,  
 As ubi , ibi , llic , intus , foris ,  
 Conjunctions so disjoined as you would wonder  
 No coupling there but it was burnt asunder.  
 The prepositions knew not where to be,  
 The interjections cried hei !  
 For the due joining of which words again  
 A neighbour called *Qui mihi*<sup>10</sup> came amain,  
 Else sure the fire had into flames them turned  
 Both gods and men and all the rest had burned.

supellex I number;<sup>11</sup>  
 Of verbs there had been scarce left one in twenty  
 Had not there come by chance -as in praesenti <sup>12</sup>

Finis Dr Zouch

Vpon y<sup>e</sup> burning of a schole/

w<sup>t</sup> heat of learning kindled yo<sup>r</sup> desire  
 (yee muses sonnes) to sett yo<sup>r</sup> house on fire  
 w<sup>t</sup> loue of learning<sup>i</sup> in yo<sup>r</sup> breasts did burne  
 those sparks of vertue into flames to turne  
 Venus<sup>ii</sup> & Vulcane<sup>iii</sup> (old friends) now<sup>iv</sup> at ods  
 If y<sup>t</sup> they<sup>v</sup> be so,<sup>vi</sup> then neuer lett the dolt  
 thunder bolt<sup>vii</sup>  
 let poets penns paint<sup>viii</sup> only his disgrace  
 his cubby<sup>ix</sup> foot hornd brow and sooty face<sup>x</sup>  
 What ere was cause sure ill was the event  
 w<sup>ch</sup> iustly all the Muses<sup>xi</sup> may lament  
 but aboute all for name sakes Polyhymnie  
 bewaile the down fall of y<sup>exii</sup> learned chimney  
 there might<sup>xiii</sup> you see where w<sup>th</sup> out<sup>xiv</sup> speech or sence  
 lay the sad ashes of an accidente  
 What number then of nouns to wracke did goe  
 As Domus Liber and a great sort moe<sup>xv</sup>  
 a<sup>xvi</sup> wofull case! no case the flame did spare  
 each gender in this losse had common share<sup>xvii</sup>  
 There might<sup>xviii</sup> you see the ruefull declinations  
 y<sup>e</sup> 15 pronounes & foure conjugations  
 some gerunds Di &<sup>xix</sup> Do were<sup>xx</sup> ouercome  
 w<sup>th</sup> heat and smoake was quite struck dumbe<sup>xxi</sup>

<sup>10</sup> I.e. *Qui mihi discipulus*

*Carmen de moribus.*

<sup>11</sup> *Supellex*, being a heteroclite, changes its gender in the plural, in this case from feminine to neuter (example).

<sup>12</sup>

supines lay gasping upwards void of senses  
the moodes grew mad to see imperfect tenses

*re* a printed copy. This MS is the notebook of the  
schoolmaster and poet Christopher Wase (1627-90).  
Oxford, Corpus Christi Library:  
MS 328, fol. 8v

USA:  
Folger Library  
MS V.a.160, p. 25

- The burning of

Huntington Library  
HM116, p. 14

HM198.1, p. 124

on...or a

Yale University, Osborn Library  
MS b. 62, p. 60r

MS b 205, fol. 51v

MS fb 142, p. 26

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xxiv

showing that the original MS did continue the poem.

xxv

xxvi B1: left scarce