

John Florio 1553-1625

Florios Second Frutes, To be gathered of twelve Trees, of divers but delightsome tastes to the tongues of Italians and Englishmen, TO which is annexed his Gardine of Recreation yeelding six thousand Italian proverbs, Londra 1591

A Worlde of Wordes, Or Most copious, and exact Dictionarie in Italian and English, Londra 1598

Queen Anna's New World of Words, Or Dictionarie of the Italian and English tongues, Collected, and newly much augmented by Iohn Florio, Reader of the Italian vnto the Soueraigne Maiestie of Anna, crowned Queene of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, &c. And one of the Gentlemen of hir Royall Priuie Chamber. Whereunto are added certaine necessarie rules and short obseruations for the Italian tongue, Londra 1611

Lexicons of Early Modern English (LEME): www.leme.library.utoronto.ca

Shakespeare Insults Dictionary: <http://www.william-shakespeare.org.uk/shakespeare-insults-dictionary.htm>. Con Shakespeare Insults Generator:

Thou artless boil-brained mumble-news!
Thou paunchy urchin-snouted worms-meat!
Thou roguish rump-fed contriver!
Thou barbarous fen-sucked lout!

Second Frutes:

P. What doo you thinke of the Italian tongue?

S. I thinke it to be the most eloquent, and copious tongue of all, next unto hir three elder sisters, which without a prohem of great honour ought not to be named, that is the Hebrue, the Greeke, and the Latine.

Worlde of Wordes:

Now where my rawer youth brought foorth those female frutes, my riper yeeres affording me I cannot say a braine-babe Minerua, armed at al assaies at first houre; but rather from my Italian Semele, and English thigh, a bouncing boie, Bacchus-like, almost all names.

If in these rankes the English out-number the Italian, congratulate the copie and varietie of our sweete-mother-toong, which vnder this most Excellent well-speaking Princesse or Ladie of the worlde in all languages is growne as farre beyond that of former times, as her most flourishing raigne for all happines is beyond the raignes of former Princes.

I haue heard, and often haue had the good hap and comfort to see, that no Ambassador or stranger hath audience of hir Maiestie, but in his natiue toong; and none hath answere but in the same; or in the common toongs of Greeke and Latin, by hir sacred lips pronounced.

And for English-gentlemen me thinks it must needs be a pleasure to them, to see so rich a toong out-vide by their mother-speech, as by the manie-folde Englishes of manie wordes in this is manifest?

Ghiotto, a craftie, knauish, slie, subtill, malicious man. Also a saucie iacke, a malapert or saucie companion. Also a glutton, a gourmand or gullie gut.

Epulóne, an Epicure, a glutton, a gourmand, a smell-feast, a tall-trencherman.

Ghezzo, foolish, simple, grosse-headed, a dull sconse, a shallowe pate. Also ripe or withered.

Fottere, fotto, fottei, fottuto, to iape, to sard, to fucke, to swiue, to occupy.

Godére, gódo, godéi, goduto, to enioy, possesse, hold or owe: also to reioice, to be glad, to ioy, to delight.

Madarazzo, a clowne, a loobie, a loggerhead, a grosse fellow.

Concetto, a conceit or apprehension of the minde. Also conceiued.

Pensiere, Pensiero, thought, care, imagination, deeming, weening, musing, supposing, carke.

Idea, the idea, figure or forme of any thing conceiued in imagination.

Gnaffe si, yea in goodsooth, yea forsooth, yea by our ladie.

Gnaffe nò, no by our Ladie, no in goodsooth, no forsooth.

Boccata, a mouth-full. Also a bucke of cloathes. Also a word vsed when one is about to tell a thing & knows not what it is: or that a scholer would faine read his lesson and cannot, and that we by some signe or voice will let him knowe that he is out, wide, and saies he wots not what. We vse to say Boccata, as in English, yea in my other hose, or iump as Germans lips, you are as wise as Waltams calfe, and such other phrases.

As Trust me I cannot but maruell at the disposition of these men, who are so malicious as they will not spare to stab others, though it be thorough their owne bodies, and wrong other men with their owne double harme. Such mens wordes a wise man compare to boltes shot right-vp against heauen, that come not neare heauen, but downe againe vpon their pates that shot them: or a man may compare them to durt flung at another man, which besides it defiles his handes that flings it, possibly it is blowne backe againe vpon his owne face: or to monie put out to vsurie, that returnes with increase, so they deliuered with hatred, are repaide with much more: or to the blasting Sereno in hot countries, rising from puddles, dunghils, carions, putrified dampes, poysoned lakes, that being detestable it selfe, makes that much more detested from whence it comes. On the other side a good worde is a deaw from heauen to earth, that soakes into the roote, and sends forth fruite from earth to heauen: It is a precious balme, that hath sweetnesse in the boxe, whence it comes, sweetnesse and vertue in the bodie, whereto it comes: it is a golden chaine, that linkes the toongs, and eares, and harts of writers and readers, each to other. They hurt not God (saith Seneca) but their owne soules, that ouerthrowe his altars: Nor harme they good men, but themselues, that turne their sacrifice of praises into blasphemie. They that raue, and rage, and raile against heauen, I say not (saith he) they are guiltie of sacrilege, but at least they loose their labour. Let Aristophanes and his comedians make plaies, and scowre their mouthes on Socrates; those very mouthes they make to vilifie, shall be the meanes to amplifie his vertue. And as it was not easie for Cato to speake euill, so was it not vsuall for him to heare euill: It may be Socrates would not kicke againe, if an asse did kicke at him, yet some that cannot be so wise, and will not be so patient as Socrates, will for such iadish tricks giue the asse his due burthen of bastonadas. Let H. S. hisse, and his complices quarrell, and all breake their gals, I haue a great faction of good writers to bandie with me.

Thinke they to set their teeth on tender stuffe?

But they shall marre their teeth, and finde me tough.