A hundred almshouses right well supplied; And to the coffers of the King beside, A thousand pounds by th' year. Thus runs the bill. Ely. This would drink deep.  

20 Canterbury. 'Twould drink the cup and all. Ely. But what prevention?  

Canterbury. The King is full of grace and fair regard. Ely. And a true lover of the holy Church.  

Canterbury. The courses of his youth promised it not. The breath no sooner left his father's body But that his wildness, mortified in him, Seemed to die too; yea, at that very moment Consideration like an angel came And whipped th' offending Adam out of him, Leaving his body as a paradise T' envelop and contain celestial spirits. Never was such a sudden scholar made; Never came reformation in a flood With such a heady current scouring faults; Nor never Hydra-headed willfulness So soon did lose his seat—and all at once— As in this king.  

Ely. We are blessed in the change.  

Canterbury. Hear him but reason in divinity, And, all-admiring, with an inward wish You would desire the King were made a prelate; Hear him debate of commonwealth affairs, You would say it hath been all in all his study; List his discourse of war, and you shall hear A fearful battle rend'red you in music;  

45 cause of policy political problem 46 Gordian knot (tied by Gordius when chosen King of Gordium; the oracle declared that whoever loosed it would rule Asia; Alexander the Great cut the knot with his sword) 48 chartered libertine one licensed to go his own way 49 wonder wondrous 50 sentences sayings 51–52 art ... theoretic practice and experience must have taught him how to ... 63 contemplation study of life 66 crescive in his faculty growing because that is its nature 67 miracles are ceased (protestants believed miracles ceased to occur after the revelation of Christ) 68 means i.e., natural cause