Hester Pulter

On the Horrid Murder of that Incomparable Prince, King Charles the First

Let none presume to weep: tears are too weak,

Such an unparalled loss as this to speak.

Poor village girls do so express their grief,

And in that sad expression find relief

When such a prince in such a manner dies.

Let us (ay me) no more drop tears but eyes;

Nor let none dare to sigh or strike their breast

To show a grief that so transcends the rest:

Plebeians so each vulgar loss deplore,

We do too little if we do no more.

When such a king in such a manner dies,

Let us suspire our souls, weep out our eyes.

Note

This is the shortest of Pulter's elegies on Charles I, who was executed outside Whitehall Palace on 30 January 1649.

^{2]} unparalled: unparalleled.

^{12]} suspire: sigh forth, breathe out.