LOVE'S LABOUR LOST.



ONCE MORE I'LL READ THE ODE THAT I HAVE WRIT.

Woodforde, Samuel, artist. Love's labour lost, act IV, scene III: Once more I'll read the ode that I have writ.

John Thompson, printmaker. Nineteenth century. Folger ART File S528l1 no.26 (size XS)

The four young men of *Love's Labour's Lost* vow to concentrate on scholarship, not love. To illustrate their fall from this lofty intellectual pursuit, Shakespeare has the lovers turn to writing and reading love poetry. As Dumaine declares, "Once more I'll read the ode that I have writ," to which Berowne, his scornful and spying companion, replies, "Once more I'll mark how love can vary wit" (4.3.103, 4.3.104).

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