

Act 4

TROILUS & CRESSIDA

Scene 4



R. Dighton, invt. sculp.

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M. BRERETON in the Character of TROILUS.

*Tell thee Lord of Greece,
She is as far highscoring o'er thy praises
as thou unworthy to be called her Servant.*

R. Dighton, invt. sculp. *Mr. Brereton in the character of Troilus ...* 1776. Folger ART File B841 no.2 (size XS)

William Brereton was a late eighteenth-century actor whose early career was supported by David Garrick, despite critics' initially harsh response to his performances. Despite improvement of his acting skills -- he began to receive better reviews appearing opposite Sarah Siddons in 1782's *Venice Preserved* -- severe mental illness eventually compromised his career. Brereton died in an asylum in 1787. ("Brereton, William," *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*, 2006)

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