

47 — THE MERCHANT OF VENICE (continued)

Antonio was the kindest man that lived, the best conditioned, and had the most unwearied spirit in doing courtesies; indeed, he was one in whom the ancient Roman honour more appeared than in any that drew breath in Italy. He was greatly beloved by all his fellow-citizens; but the friend who was nearest and dearest to his heart was Bassanio, a noble Venetian, who, having but a small patrimony, had nearly exhausted his little fortune by living in too expensive a manner for his slender means, as young men of high rank with small fortunes are too apt to do. Whenever Bassanio wanted money, Antonio assisted him; and it seemed as if they had but one heart and one purse between them.

Charles and Mary Lamb

الألفاظ والمبارات :	
Courtesy	لطف ، كياسة
The ancient Roman honour	الشرف الروماني العريق
His fellow-citizens	مواطنوه
Patrimony	ارث ، ميراث
To exhaust his fortune	يبدد ثروته
Slender means	موارده الضئيلة