

VERB FORMS FROM SELECTED PLAYS
OF JOHN DRYDEN

BY

ELLEN NADINE PALMER

Bachelor of Arts

Oklahoma College for Women

Chickasha, Oklahoma

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Thesis Approved:

William R. Van Riper

Thesis Adviser

David S. Berkeley

John M. ...

Dean of the Graduate School

472845

PREFACE

The majority of verb studies on English of the Restoration period deal mainly with the syntax of the verb. Very little has been done on verb forms in this period.

The purpose of this thesis is to present a study of verb forms in the Restoration period from selected plays by John Dryden.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

The Age of Dryden was one in which the literary men of England expressed great interest in the development of English grammar. During this era the Royal Society appointed a committee for improving English in an attempt to protect it from becoming obsolete. However, very few linguistic studies are available on the verb during the Restoration period. Studies which lead up to this period are Mary McDonald Long's The English Strong Verb from Chaucer to Caxton, Bohumil Trnka's Syntax of the English Verb from Caxton to Dryden, and H. T. Price's A History of Ablaut in Strong Verbs from Caxton to the End of the Elizabethan Period. Britta Marian Charleston's Studies on the Syntax of the English Verb treats the period briefly. Alex Beljame's Quae e Gallicis Verbis in Anglican Linguam Johannes Dryden introduxerit deals with Dryden's introduction of certain Gallic verbs into the English language, and Johannes Söderlind has written on Verb Syntax in Dryden's Prose. No studies were found which deal in any detail with the verb form during the Restoration period.

This thesis will present a study of the verb forms from this period found in selected plays of John Dryden.

It will deal with the absence or obsolescence of those verbs or with their presence in certain dialects of England and the United States. Dryden's plays were chosen because he was considered the most eminent writer in the Restoration period, and because plays, owing to their dialogue, are more apt to reflect actual speech than other types of literature.

The basis for this study is a catalogue of approximately 2,400 verb forms from six plays selected from the early, middle, and late periods of Dryden's career as a playwright; the plays chosen were The Wild Gallant (1663), The Rival Ladies (1664), Aureng Zebe (1675), All for Love (1678), King Arthur, or The British Worthy (1691), and Love Triumphant or Nature Will Prevail (1694) from Sir Walter Scott's edition, The Dramatic Works of John Dryden. Infinitive, present, preterite, and present and past participle forms were recorded from these selections on their initial appearance only.

Those verb forms which differed from present Standard American English were checked in The Oxford English Dictionary to determine their obsolescence and in Wright's English Dialect Dictionary and Elmer Bagby Atwood's Survey of Verb Forms in the Eastern United States to place them as nearly as possible in regional dialects of those countries. Terminology used in discussing dialect regions of the Eastern United States is that used by Atwood; the

dialect areas of England correspond with the Middle English dialect areas used in Baugh's History of the English Language.

CHAPTER II

VALUE OF DRYDEN'S ENGLISH AS A SOURCE FOR A LINGUISTIC STUDY

Since literature is our only record of speech before the advent of recording machines, one obviously must turn to that field for source material for a linguistic study. In studying a particular era in the development of English, one naturally seeks the English author who best represents the time under examination. During the latter half of the seventeenth century, that author was John Dryden, poet laureate to Charles II.

In addition to Dryden's being the literary leader in a time later known as the Age of Dryden, he also possessed other qualities which make his works desirable sources for linguistic research. Among these attributes are his great interest in the study and development of English and his close associations with places which were located in the East Midlands, a region which contributed greatly to the development of Standard English.

The basis for John Dryden's knowledge of English and his acquaintance with its dialects was established in Northamptonshire, England, where he was born in the village

of Aldswinkle in 1631.¹ Dryden's childhood and a greater part of his life were spent in this area.

The Dryden family originally settled in Cumberland near the Scottish border, but they moved into Northamptonshire in the middle of the sixteenth century when Dryden's great-grandfather married into the family of Sir John Cope of that county.²

An inscription in Tichmarsh Church of Northamptonshire proclaims that Dryden received his early education in that village although the town of Oundle also claims that he was educated there.³ Later he attended Westminster School in London and went from there to Trinity College at Cambridge where he graduated in 1654. Dryden remained at Cambridge until 1657.⁴

On leaving Cambridge, Dryden seems to have found employment in London, possibly as a clerk to a cousin, Sir Gilbert Pickering, who was in favor with Cromwell.⁵ After the Restoration, when the cousin was no longer able

¹George Saintsbury, John Dryden (English Men of Letters), [John Morley, ed.] (New York, 1899), p. 1.

²Ibid., p. 2.

³Ibid., p. 5.

⁴Ibid., p. 6.

⁵Sir Leslie Stephen and Sir Sidney Lee, "John Dryden," Dictionary of National Biography (London, 1901), VI, 65.

to help him, Dryden worked with Herringman, a London bookseller.⁶

In 1663 Dryden married Lady Elizabeth Howard, whose father gave them a small estate in Wiltshire. Dryden had also an estate in Northamptonshire which he inherited from his father.

London and Northamptonshire were Dryden's major places of residence; however, he made frequent visits to the village of Chesterton in Huntingdonshire where his favorite cousins resided. Dryden also retired to the home of his father-in-law, Lord Berkshire, in Wiltshire during the time that the theaters were closed by the plague and the London fire.⁷ He visited, too, in the home of Sir William Bowyer of Denham, Buckinghamshire.

In addition to hearing the dialects of his residences in Northamptonshire, Wiltshire, Huntingdonshire, Buckinghamshire, and Cambridge, Dryden presumably would have heard a great variety of dialects in the streets of London and in the coffeehouses which it pleased him to frequent. All of these places lie within the East Midland dialect area which contributed profusely to the London dialect which, in turn, contributed much to the Standard Written

⁶Ibid.

⁷Ibid.

English in the fifteenth century.⁸

Like many literary men of this era, Dryden was actively in favor of founding an English academy for the purpose of giving some system and permanence to his native tongue, which he spoke of as "a noble, full, and significant language."⁹

Although Dryden was not the first to suggest the establishment of an English academy, he gave the movement his consistent support. Speaking of such an organization in the dedication of Rival Ladies (1664) Dryden said,

I am sorry, that (speaking so noble a language as we do) we have not a more certain measure of it, as they have in France, where they have an academy erected for the purpose, and endowed by the present king.

The Royal Society adopted a resolution in 1664 to establish a committee to work toward the improvement of English.¹⁰ Dryden was one of the twenty-two member committee which seems to have held only three or four meetings; however, his interest in refining the language did not decline with the committee.¹¹

⁸Samuel Moore, Historical Outlines of English Sounds and Inflections (Ann Arbor, Mich., 1951), p. 131.

⁹John Dryden, Preface to "The Indian Emperor, The Dramatic Works of John Dryden, ed. Sir Walter Scott (Edinburgh, 1832), II, 298.

¹⁰Albert C. Baugh, A History of the English Language (2d ed., New York, 1957), p. 318.

¹¹ibid., p. 319.

In furthering his desire for a purification of the language, Dryden set forth in an essay certain methods which he thought would promote this refinement:

Let us consider in what the refinement of a language principally consists; that is either in rejecting such old words or phrases, which are ill sounding, or improper; or in admitting new, which are more proper, more sounding and more significant.

The reader will easily take notice, that when I speak of rejecting improper words and phrases, I mention not such as are antiquated by custom only, and as I may say, without any fault of theirs. For in this case the refinement can be but accidental; that is, when the words and phrases, which are rejected happen to be improper.¹²

Dryden makes various other statements in prefaces and essays which indicate his absorption in the study of English. In a discussion of loan words in "An Essay on the Dramatic Poetry of the Last Age" he said,

It is obvious that we have admitted many, some of which we wanted, and therefore our language is the richer for them, as it would be by importation of bullion; yet, by their admission, the language is become more courtly, and our thoughts are better drest. These are to be found scattered in the writers of our age, and it is not my business to collect them. They, who have lately written with most care, have, I believe, taken the rule of Horace for their guide; that is, not to be too hasty in receiving of words, but rather to stay till custom has made them familiar to us.

On being accused of "latinizing" too much, Dryden defended himself in the dedication of his translation

¹²Dryden, "An Essay on the Dramatic Poetry of the Last Age," Epilogue to The Conquest of Granada, IV, 227.

of the Aeneid:

I neither borrow from the Latin, nor any other language; but when I want at home, I must seek abroad...I trade both with the living and the dead, for the enrichment of our native language.

Dryden defended the use of English in place of the traditional Latin, "I know not why he, who is master of it [English] may not clothe ordinary things in it as decently as in the Latin, if he use the same diligence in his choice of words."¹³

Dryden felt that the language used in his day was superior to that of previous ages. In "An Essay on the Dramatic Poetry of the Last Age" Dryden discusses some of the "ill-bred and clownish" errors made by Shakespeare and Jonson. In reading through some of the literature of Dryden's age, we find similar faults which some may now consider as ill-bred and ignorant as Dryden found the mistakes of Shakespeare and Jonson to be. Dryden attributes the inferiority of their language to poor speech patterns caused by the lack of association with the best company in court circles.¹⁴ However, a more reasonable assumption might be merely that the language had undergone a great many changes in the time between Shakespeare and Dryden, and the errors were errors only when compared

¹³Ibid., Preface to The Indian Emperor, II, 298.

¹⁴Ibid., "An Essay on the Dramatic Poetry of the Last Age," Epilogue to The Conquest of Granada, IV, 227.

to the new way of speaking and not when considered in their proper time element.

Although Dryden believed the writers of his age used a type of English superior to that of the Elizabethans, he did not feel that he and his contemporaries were in perfect command of English. In speaking of their imperfections compared to those of Shakespeare and Jonson, Dryden said,

I may safely conclude in the general that our improprieties are less frequent, and less gross than theirs. One testimony of this is undeniable, that we are the first who have observed them; and, certainly to observe errors is a great step to the correcting of them.¹⁵

Dryden's dedication to English and its preservation, his familiarity with the important East Midland dialect area, and his eminent position of influence as the literary leader of his time contribute to the value of his works as source material for a linguistic study. Still there is one important factor to be discussed: Is the literature a true record of the language? Johannes Söderlind says,

It is safe to assume that Dryden's discouraging prose tolerably well reflects careful educated speech in the Restoration Age.... Similarly, we may believe that in his plays the author's sure linguistic instinct and taste enabled him to create a style which fairly well echoes contemporary colloquial speech.¹⁶

¹⁵Ibid.

¹⁶Johannes Söderlind, Verb Syntax in John Dryden's Prose (Essays and Studies on English Language and Literature, No. 10 [Cambridge, Mass., 1951]), p. xii.

We may rely on Dryden's own statement in his dedication to Rival Ladies (1664) as to the reliability of his works as written records of the English in use during his time:

I have endeavoured to write English, as near as I could distinguish it from the tongue of pedants, and that of affected travelers.

TABLE I

OBSOLETE, ARCHAIC, AND DIALECTAL VERBS

I. OBSOLETE AND ARCHAIC VERBS

VERBS OBSOLETE IN CERTAIN ENDINGS

Second Person

askest	pretend'st	justifiest	shouldst
comest	seemest	cozen'st	dost
deny'st	lovest	confirm'st	durst
favour'st	cam'st	swear'st	entertainst
longest	think'st	upbraid'st	couldst
findest	urgest	imaginest	art
reserv'st	want'st	desirest	wert
knew'st	tak'st	wouldst	wilt
knowest	stayest	hadst	shalt
mistak'st	sayest	meanst	hast
pressest	livest	yieldst	

Third Person

hath

PRESENT FORMS

fright

affright

fond

PRETERITE FORMS

start (up)

PAST PARTICIPLE FORMS

alight

VERBS OBSOLETE IN MEANING

ballasted
mads
huswifepooped
wildered
avoidcloyed
coying
makes

TABLE I (continued)

II. DIALECTAL VERBS

A- PREFIX BEFORE PRESENT PARTICIPLES

a-mumming	a-conjuring
a-preaching	a-talking
a-beating	a-writing

TO BE, AUXILIARIES FOR PERFECT TENSES

is come	is met	is fallen	is grown
are come	is arrived	is got	
is become	are gone	am gone	

PRESENT FORMS

mind	fidges
------	--------

PRETERITE FORMS

begun	sate	wert	eat
come	hasted	writ	use (to)
			sung

PAST PARTICIPLE FORMS

writ	foreswore	beholden	rivelled
eat	chose	wrought	wracked
spoke	drank	ta'en	forsook
broke	forbid	forgot	

VERBS DIALECTAL IN MEANING

bode	fob	panck	quop
moistened	had	popt	

CHAPTER III

OBSOLETE, ARCHAIC, AND DIALECTAL VERBS

Dryden and many of his contemporaries feared that the language which they spoke and wrote would become obsolete. This would narrow their chances for immortality through literature by limiting their future readers to the few who would laboriously translate their works as Dryden and his associates did when they wished to read Chaucer, who had become "the study only of a few poring antiquarians."¹⁷

Although we do not yet have to translate Dryden's works for understanding, some of the verbs which he used have become obsolete or archaic, or have entered dialectal speech.

Of the 2,400 or more verbs in the catalogue, approximately 58 are listed as obsolete or archaic by The Oxford English Dictionary. Of the 58, 49 are either obsolete or archaic in form, and the remaining nine are obsolete in meaning.

Forty-three of the obsolete verbs are forms in the second person, singular, indicative mood, which ended in

¹⁷ Thomas Sheridan, "A Plea to Earl of Chesterfield," quoted by Albert C. Baugh, A History of the English Language (2d ed., New York, 1957), p. 322.

either -est, -st or -t, and which had the word thou as their only subject. Verbs which ended in -e in the stem were formed by adding -st as in comest, lovest, urgest, livest, and desirest. The final -e of these verbs was sometimes replaced by an apostrophe producing such forms as cam'st and tak'st. The -st ending also appeared with auxiliaries such as shouldst, couldst, wouldst, dost, and hast. Other auxiliaries ended in -t, for example, wast, wert, art, shalt, and wilt. The suffix -est appeared with such verbs as longest, findest, knowest, and sayest. Occasionally the "e" in -est was replaced by an apostrophe as in pretend'st, want'st, think'st, and cozen'st. Hadst, knew'st, couldst, wouldst, shouldst, wast, and wert were the preterite forms which occurred in the selected plays with these second person singular endings; no preterite or past participle forms for weak verbs appeared in any of the six plays with these endings. Although Dryden used the -st, -est, and -t endings quite often, we hear them now only in an occasional prayer or in some poetry.

The present form of the third person, singular, indicative differed slightly from modern English. Only the verb hath appeared with the old third person, singular -th ending. This form is no longer in use, having become obsolete as a spoken form early in the seventeenth century.¹⁸

¹⁸Moore, p. 158.

Dryden used it later in the century in The Wild Gallant (1663).

Affright is another of Dryden's present forms which appeared in the third person, singular. The word means "to cause to be afraid." According to The Oxford English Dictionary, it is presently only poetic for the more modern term frighten. Affright is a late formation on the verb fright with the a- prefix which may have been derived from the earlier participial adjective affright.¹⁹ Dryden also used fright, the present form, and frighted, the preterite form, instead of the forms for the later formation frighten, which occurred in the selected plays only in the infinitive form, to frighten.

Fond, a first person, singular, present infinitive form, appeared in Aureng Zebe (1675) instead of fondle, which is commonly used today. Fond means "to show fondness for or to caress" just as fondle does, but the shortened form is now obsolete (OED). Fondled, a past participle form, also appeared in the selected plays. Dryden's fond in his translation of the Aeneid (1697) appears as the last quotation given for this word in The Oxford English Dictionary.

¹⁹James A. H. Murray et al., The Oxford English Dictionary (Oxford, 1933), I, 162. Subsequent references to The Oxford English Dictionary (abbreviated OED) may appear parenthetically in the text.

Start (up), an obsolete preterite form which Dryden used, lacked the -ed ending which we would expect it to have. Start is borrowed from sterete, the old perfect form of the Middle English verb, stereten.²⁰

Alight, a past participle form without the -ed ending, appeared in this phrase from The Wild Gallant (1663), "I have alight upon the best wine in your cousin's cellar...." We might expect the word to be alut or alighted. Alight as a past participle is now a rare word which was in good usage in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries (OED). The first recorded use of alighted in The Oxford English Dictionary was in the sixteenth century. Wright cited light (upon) as a past participle having the same meaning as alight (upon), but the a- prefix was not present.²¹ No other forms for this verb appeared in any of the selected plays.

Some of the verbs which Dryden used are now obsolete or archaic in meaning rather than form. For example, the verb ballasted in "you ballasted my pride" (Aureng Zebe, 1675) is now archaic in the sense in which Dryden used it, "to load, burden, weight down (OED)."

Mads, meaning "to madden, bewilder, or infuriate," has become rare except as a colloquialism for exasperate

²⁰Dryden, Dramatic Works of John Dryden, VI, 157.

²¹Joseph Wright, The English Dialect Dictionary (London, 1905), I, 3. Subsequent references to The English Dialect Dictionary (abbreviated EDD) may appear parenthetically in the text.

in the United States (OED). Dryden says, "It mads me" in Rival Ladies (1664) where we might say, "It maddens me" or "It makes me mad."

Huswife (Wild Gallant, 1663), the present form of a verb meaning "to manage," has become rare (OED).

Dryden used pooped to mean "deceived or cheated," another meaning which is no longer current (OED).

He also used wildered, meaning "led astray or confused," which has become archaic, chiefly appearing only in poetic use (OED). The word bewilder became common by the seventeenth century (OED).

Avoid is now obsolete in Dryden's meaning "to depart" as it appeared in The Wild Gallant (1663). The last quotation listed for this word in The Oxford English Dictionary appeared in 1660; The Wild Gallant was produced three years later in 1663.

Cloyed is another word obsolete in Dryden's meaning, "weighed down or encumbered," which was used in Rival Ladies in 1664; the terminal quotation for cloyed in The Oxford English Dictionary was dated 1665.

Coying, "acting or behaving coyly or with affected shyness," has become archaic; it appears chiefly in the phrase, "to coy it (OED)."

Dryden used makes in the now archaic sense of causes (OED). "What makes you here at this hour" (Wild Gallant, 1663) is taken as if it means "What causes you to be here." This was a common use in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries;

it was quoted last in The Oxford English Dictionary in 1797.

Many of Dryden's verbs are no longer in standard use but have become part of certain local, regional, or class dialects spoken in England or the United States; in some cases they may appear in the dialects of both countries. Of the approximate 2,400 verbs in the catalogue, 49 appeared either in Wright's English Dialect Dictionary or in Atwood's Survey of Verb Forms in the Eastern United States as dialectal verbs. Of this number, 42 are dialectal in form; 7 are dialectal in meaning.

One group of verbs dialectal in form are those in which Dryden used an a- prefix before present participles as a-writing, a-talking, and a-preaching. According to The English Dialect Dictionary the use of the a- prefix before present participles was occasionally used in the eighteenth century, but it has now disappeared from literary use except where an author is working toward an archaic atmosphere.²² This form is fairly common everywhere throughout New England.²³ In the Middle Atlantic States the forms are fairly common everywhere

²² Britta Marian Charleston. Studies on the Syntax of the English Verb (Swiss Studies in English / Bern, Switzerland, 1941//), p. 171

²³ E. Bagby Atwood, A Survey of Verb Forms in the Eastern United States (Ann Arbor, Mich., 1953), p. 35. Subsequent references to A Survey of Verb Forms in the Eastern United States (abbreviated SVF) may appear parenthetically in the text.

except in metropolitan New York City and parts of central and western Pennsylvania (SVF). It is quite commonly used in West Virginia by nearly all of the old-fashioned informants of poor education and more modern informants of fair education (SVF). It is also recorded with considerable frequency in the South Atlantic States, but very few cultured informants in any of the areas use the prefixed forms (SVF). This usage is also present in the eastern half of Oklahoma among similar groups of informants.²⁴

The a- prefix is midway in the development of the progressive verbs and is a weakened form of the earlier participle as a noun governed by the preposition on; for example, "he was on writing" was the earlier form, "he was a-writing" was the weakened form, and "he was writing" is the modern form.²⁵ Dryden also exhibits many progressive verbs without the a- prefix, such as are writing, am thinking, and others.

Certain auxiliary verbs which Dryden used are now dialectal also; these are forms of to be used as auxiliaries with the perfect tenses, ha' used in place of have, and wonnot for won't.

²⁴Wherever possible the author's knowledge of dialectal verb forms in Oklahoma will be used to supplement Atwood's information on New England and the Eastern Seaboard. Other sections of the United States are not treated since there are no definitive published works on other extensive areas.

²⁵Baugh, p. 352.

Forms of to be used as auxiliary verbs with the perfect tenses have to a great extent been displaced by to have; for example, "you are come" is now "you have come," but we still retain the form in such a phrase as "the boy is not fully grown."²⁶ Forms of to have also appeared in the selected plays as auxiliaries with the perfect tenses. Many perfect verbs still showed the construction with a form of to be as the auxiliary into the eighteenth century.²⁷ We still retain this construction when the verb expresses a pure state, as in the example, "the boy is not fully grown"; earlier the verb could also express an action as in "the company is met" (The Rival Ladies, 1664).²⁸ This usage appears in the dialects of the Shetland Islands and the East Midland (EDD).

The auxiliary ha' for have was also used with the perfect tenses. This abbreviated form was current in the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries.²⁹ The form occurs in the Northern, Midland, and Southern dialects of England (EDD). The contraction is a result of the weak stress that have often has an auxiliary.³⁰

²⁶See Söderlind, p. 48-59.

²⁷Charleston, p. 25

²⁸George O. Curme, Parts of Speech and Accidence (New York, 1935), p. 322.

²⁹Henry Cecil Wyld, A History of Modern Colloquial English (3d ed., Oxford, 1935), p. 411.

³⁰Curme, p. 251.

Wonnot, which also appeared in the selected plays, is a form of will plus a negative. There have been several of these forms, but won't is the lone survivor; the rest are obsolete or dialectal (OED). The English Dialect Dictionary records wonnot in the dialect of Northampton, the county of Dryden's birth.

Two of the dialectal present forms which occurred in the selected plays are mind and fidges. Dryden used mind for our verb remind, which did not appear in any of the selected plays. Mind appeared in this phrase from The Wild Gallant (1663), "Pr'ythee do not mind me of 'em." Mind as a verb is of Old English origin and is now a rare word (OED). The re- prefix came into English from the Latin about 1200 and was established as an ordinary English prefix by the sixteenth century (OED). Mind was in use up to the nineteenth century (OED). It occurs in the Northern and East Midland dialects and in a few counties of the West Midland and Southern dialects (EDD).

From the selected plays the present form fidges, meaning "to move restlessly," appears instead of the verb fidget which we now use. The word occurs in various dialects of Scotland, and in the Northern and the Midland dialects of England (EDD).

The dialectal preterite forms which appeared in the selected plays were begun, sung, come, hasted, use (to), wert, sate, writ, and eat.

Dryden's preterite form for to begin is begun, a form which was in use from the fourteenth through the nineteenth centuries (OED). Began, the preterite form now in standard use, also appears in the selected plays. According to Atwood, the preterite form begun occurs in about half of the communities in New England and in a little less than half of the communities in most other areas of the Mid Atlantic and South Atlantic States. This form begun is considered slightly old-fashioned, but the difference in age groups using the word is not appreciable (SVF).

In the preterite form of verbs some changes have taken place through the process of leveling, the making identical of the preterite and past participle forms. Sometimes the preterite serves as the model by which the leveling is done so that the past participle form is the same as the preterite form. In other cases the past participle form acts as the model on which the preterite form is leveled as in sung, which was Dryden's preterite form instead of sang. Sung, the preterite, was leveled or made identical with the past participle form sung, which was the model for the leveling process. Another possible source for the use of sung as a preterite form is the Middle English preterite, plural form sunge (OED). Sung as a preterite form may be heard occasionally in the dialectal speech of Oklahoma.

Come and came were both used as preterite forms by Dryden. Come as a preterite form is recorded by Wright in

The English Dialect Dictionary as appearing in the Midland dialects. In Old English it was the usual preterite form, but it has been displaced by came, which is now favored by cultured informants.³¹ Come as a preterite exists in nearly all communities of New England and occurs in varying frequency throughout the Eastern United States (SVF). The form also appears in the dialectal speech of Oklahoma.

Dryden's hasted, a preterite indicative form of the verb haste, is now chiefly literary in use; the ordinary word is hastened, which is an extended form of haste (OED). The first recorded use of hasten in The Oxford English Dictionary was in the sixteenth century. Presently, haste is sometimes used in the imperative but seldom in the indicative. Hasted occurs in the Scottish, Irish, and Lakeland dialects (EDD). Dryden also used the extended forms to hasten and hastened.

A present form appeared for the preterite in the phrase, "I use to tell him" (Wild Gallant, 1663). The word use (to) means "to be accustomed to" and was employed by Dryden both in the present form and in the preterite form used (to). The verb occurred formerly in various tenses, but standard English has confined it to preterite and past participle forms only.³² The reason only one form survived is probably

³¹Ibid., p. 309.

³²Ibid., p. 322.

that no difference can be heard in use (to) and used (to).³³

Wert, a preterite form of to be which Dryden used, appears now mainly in prayers and poetry. Wert was derived after the analogy of art and Late Middle English; art has an earlier origin from the Old English eart from the present indicative, second person, singular.³⁴ Wright records wert in the dialect of Cornwall (EDD).

Because of the working of analogy during the Middle English and Early Modern English periods, some strong verbs developed both a long and a short vowel in the preterite.³⁵ Dryden exhibits one of these verbs in sate, which he rhymed with state. During the fifteenth century both sate and sat were in frequent use as preterites.³⁶ The short form sat is a development from the Old English sæt, and the long form sate was developed by analogy with the preterite plural form sæton.³⁷ According to Wright, sate occurs in the Northern dialect (EDD). The short form sat did not appear in the selected plays.

³³Charleston, p. 171.

³⁴Henry Cecil Wyld, A Short History of English (London, 1914), p. 219.

³⁵Wyld, History of Modern Colloquial English, p. 343.

³⁶Ibid., p. 353.

³⁷Ibid., p. 343.

Two preterite forms, writ and eat, also appeared as past participle forms. The preterite writ came into modern dialects through a leveling process. The Old English preterite plural writon had the same vowel [ɪ] as the past participle writen; the vowel was eventually extended to the preterite singular in Early Modern English and has been retained in modern dialect (SVF). The past participle writ is an abbreviated form. Writ, the preterite form and the past participle, occurs in Southern and Midland English dialects (EDD); it also appears sparsely in Northeast New England, and rarely in the Mid Atlantic States and the Southern Atlantic States (SVF). Writ appears occasionally as preterite and past participle forms in Oklahoma among uncultured groups. Written was also used by Dryden as a past participle.

Dryden used eat both as a preterite form and as a past participle form. Ate did not occur in any of the selected plays as a preterite form, but the past participle form eaten did appear. Eat may be found in the preterite and past participle in the West Midland speech of England (EDD), and in parts of New York, the Midland and South Midland and Southern dialects of the United States where the frequency of usage increases as one moves south (SVF). The two forms occur also in the speech of Oklahomans. No cultured informants were found by Atwood to use eat except as a present form.

A common practice of writers in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries was to leave off the -n inflection from the past participle forms of many of the ablaut or strong verbs such as eat-ate-eaten and forbid-forbade-forbidden. Many of the shortened forms are still recognized in verse but not in the spoken English of today (OED). Dryden exhibits both practices with some of the ablaut verbs retaining the -n in the past participle form as in torn, stolen, and worn, while others like broke, forgot, and forsook have lost the -n.

One example of this shortening appeared in the verb broke. The shortened form appeared several times, but the -n form did not occur in the selected plays at all. Broken is the accepted form today, but from the end of the fourteenth century the -n inflection was shortened to broke (OED). The past participle broke was leveled with the preterite form broke, so that it became identical with the preterite form broke. The form survives in the colloquial meaning "to be out of money," "I am broke." The form also survives in dialectal speech in Oklahoma where people may be heard saying such things as "He has broke the speed record," and "I have broke my arm."

Dryden used both spoke and spoken as past participles. Wyld states that the two forms seem to have been in equal use down to and during the eighteenth century.³⁸ Wright

³⁸Wyld, A History of Modern Colloquial English, p. 349.

locates spoke in the Southern and Cornish dialects (EDD). Although spoke is not discussed by Atwood, the form does appear in Oklahoma and is quite possibly used as a past participle in other parts of the United States as well.

Rival Ladies (1664) exhibits the past participle form foreswore. Foresworn did not appear in any of the selected plays. Similar to other strong verbs which dropped the -n inflection, foreswore was in use from the thirteenth through the fifteenth centuries and from the seventeenth through the nineteenth centuries. (OED).

Chose and chosen both appeared as past participle forms in the selected plays. In Old English the past participle was coren, but the form had assimilated the initial consonants of the present form and the singular of the preterite by 1200 to become chosen.³⁹ This form eventually assimilated the old plural cure(n) of the preterite form which became chose(n), giving us two forms for the past participle by Dryden's time.⁴⁰ Chose as a past participle form is recorded by Wright in the dialects of Northumberland and York (EDD).

Forbid, another shortened past participle form used by Dryden, was in use in the sixteenth through the nineteenth centuries and has become archaic (OED); forbidden

³⁹Curme, p. 303.

⁴⁰Ibid., p. 304.

is the form which is now standard. Forbade appeared as the only preterite form for this verb in the six selected plays. Unlike most of Dryden's ablaut verbs with -n inflection, the past participle is similar to the present form instead of the preterite.

Forgot, another of Dryden's past participle forms, is given as archaic and poetic with the form now in use being forgotten (OED). This past participle has been leveled with the preterite form forgot as the model. Forgot is the only form which appeared in the plays for both the preterite and past participle forms. Occasionally forgot is used as a past participle form in Oklahoma dialectal speech.

Forsook, a similar past participle which also leveled with the preterite form, appeared in The Wild Gallant (1663). The Oxford English Dictionary cited the form to be in use in the sixteenth through the nineteenth centuries. The past participle form forsaken also occurred in the selected plays.

The remaining dialectal past participle forms which appeared in the selected plays were drank, beholden, wrought, ta'en, rivelled, and wracked.

The Oxford English Dictionary says that drank, used by Dryden as a past participle, was current from the seventeenth through the nineteenth centuries, probably to avoid the pejorative association of drunk as an adjective. Among those who do not use the standard forms, it is the common

practice to level the past participle with the preterite form (SVF). This tendency occurs throughout the Eastern United States (SVF) and in the state of Oklahoma. Wright records the form in the dialect of the county of Ayr in Scotland.

Beholden (Wild Gallant, 1663), meaning "under personal obligation," occurs in Irish, East Midland, and Southern dialects (EDD). This verb may be found only in the past participle, beholden. It also appears in the folk speech of central and southeast Oklahoma, but only in the past participle.

Wrought, appearing in Dryden as a past participle of the verb work, is currently archaic or in technical usage. It was established as both a preterite and a past participle form in the fifteenth century (OED). Wrought occurs now as a finite verb only in certain expressions. We may say, "The invention has wrought much good," or, as a preterite form, "The storm wrought great damage upon the coastal region." Wright records the appearance of wrought in all the counties of the Northern dialect area and in the county of Suffolk in the East Midland area (EDD).

Shrivelled occurs in Dryden as rivelled, a past participle in an adjectival use. It can be found in this form in West Midland and Southern English speech (EDD).

Wracked appeared in the selected plays instead of wrecked. This is listed in the dialects of Scotland and of Nottinghamshire (EDD).

Dryden's verbs which occurred with dialectal meaning are bode, damped, fob, had, panck, popt, and quop.

Wright states that bode (All for Love, 1678) meaning "to foretell or announce," is dialectal in parts of Scotland, in the Northern dialect, and in Gloucester and Oxford in the Southern dialect area. The Oxford English Dictionary labels it archaic.

Dryden's word for moistened is damped, which is the standard British form, but in the United States the standard form is dampened (OED).

Fob, "to cheat or deceive," is listed by Wright in the West Midland dialect, and in Somersetshire in the Southern speech area (EDD).

Had (Wild Gallant, 1663), meaning "put or conveyed," is now archaic (OED). It is in East Midland and Kentish dialects and also appears in parts of Scotland (EDD).

Panck, "to pant," is in the Cornish and Southern dialects (EDD).

Popt, a preterite form meaning "put suddenly," is in the Scottish dialect and in Northern and Southern English speech (EDD).

Quop means "to throb or palpitate," and is in the Midland and Southern dialects (EDD).

Having been written over 250 years ago, the selected plays might be expected to exhibit a great many dialectal, obsolete, and archaic verbs; however, only 107 of the total number of verbs in the catalogue are in this category.

Of these, 58 are obsolete or archaic forms. This number is even smaller than it appears since seventy-four per cent of these obsolete and archaic forms were all second person singular forms which ended in -st, -est, and -t. Most of the verb forms which Dryden used may still be found in the language. Although they may not be standard forms, they do appear colloquially and dialectally..

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION

Although Dryden feared his language would become obsolete, the majority of the verb forms which he used are still in standard usage. From approximately 2,400 verb forms collected from the six selected plays, only 107 verbs, or about four percent of the total, were classed as obsolete, archaic, or dialectal. This would indicate that the verb was in a fairly modern stage of development at the time Dryden wrote the plays. This period spread over the years from 1663 through 1694.

One of the changes which have taken place since Dryden's time is the loss of -st, -est, and -t inflections from verbs in the second person singular. These forms, comprising nearly forty per cent of the obsolete, archaic, and dialectal verbs, were widely used by Dryden, but they now appear only in an occasional prayer or poem or in the dialogue of a work which the author wishes to give an archaic atmosphere. The subject thou appeared with all the verbs in this class. Although some preterite forms of strong verbs appeared with these inflectional endings, no preterite forms of weak verbs had them.

Only one verb, hath, appeared with the old third person singular -th ending. The -th form was used only occasionally by Dryden's time, having been replaced by the -s, form which is current today.

Another of Dryden's verb forms which have since gone out of use is the auxiliary to be in the perfect tenses in place of to have. Formerly, to be as an auxiliary for the perfect tenses could be used to express both an action and a pure state; now it can be used only to express the pure state or a condition already achieved.

One of Dryden's verb forms which may now be found only in dialectal speech is the present participle with an a- prefix. This type of present participle is midway in the development of the progressive verb from the verbal governed by the preposition on to the modern progressive exhibiting an auxiliary form of to be plus the present participle form. Dryden used the two latest developments, but no participles governed by the preposition on were present.

Many of our non-standard verb forms of today were commonly used by the very best writers in the seventeenth century as acceptable forms. Among these were such past participles as chose, spoke, and writ. However, Dryden also used our standard forms chosen, spoken, and written. Many of these variations have come about through the process of leveling. Some of Dryden's verb forms exhibited the unlevelled forms only. Among these were tore-torn,

gave-given, blew-blow, stole-stolen, and threw-thrown. Some were leveled on the types of their preterite forms such as hid-hid, forgot-forgot, broke-broke, and foreswore. Some past participles which assumed the forms of their preterites also retained their unlevelled forms, as in for-sook-forsook/forsaken, chose-chose/chosen, spoke-spoke/spoken. Some preterite forms also leveled with their past participle forms as in came/come-come and began/begun-begun.⁴¹ However, most of the leveling observable in the verb catalogue took place with the past participle form leveling with or assuming the form of the preterite. Atwood in A Survey of Verb Forms in the Eastern United States observed that in most leveled verb forms today, the standard preterite form also serves as the type for the past participle form. This suggests that the same type of leveling exhibited in the verb catalogue of Dryden's plays is still occurring today in the popular treatment of verbs in spite of the English teacher's efforts to teach the unlevelled forms of standard English.

One may observe from some 107 dialectal, obsolete, and archaic verbs in the study as compared to the total number of verbs in the catalogue that Dryden's verbs are comparatively modern. Around ninety-six per cent are still in standard usage today. Of the four per cent which are not

⁴¹See O. L. Abbott's "The Preterit and Past Participle of Strong Verbs in Seventeenth-Century American English" American Speech, XXXII (Feb., 1957), 31-42.

in standard use, the majority appear in some substandard level of use. Very few are totally unfamiliar to us. In spite of a lapse of over 250 years Dryden's modern use of verbs partly refutes the prediction made by Alexander Pope in the "Essay on Criticism,"

"Our Sons their father's failing language see
And such as Chaucer is, shall Dryden be."

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Appendix A

VERB CATALOGUE

Verbs in the catalogue will be listed alphabetically according to the present form of the verb. Forms appear in this order: infinitive, present form, present participle, preterite form, and past participle. Whenever it is necessary for clarity, forms will be labeled with the following abbreviations: pres., present form; p., preterite form; and pp., for the past participle. To in parenthesis (to) appears where that word did not occur in context with the infinitive.

A

a-beating	achieve	afforded p.
a-conjuring	to acknowledge	affright
a-dunning	acknowledge	aggravate
a-mumming	to acquaint	agree
a-preaching	acquaint	to aid
a-talking	acquainted pp.	aim
a-writing	acquits	aiming
abandon	to add	aimed p.
abandoned pp.	added pp.	alarm
abhor	to admire	alarmed pp.
abhorring	admires	alight pp.
abhorred	admired pp.	allege
abide	adore	allow
abstain	adorned pp.	allowed pp.
abuse	advance	allied pp.
abused pp.	advancing	alter
to accept	adventured	altered pp.
accepts	advise	amazes
accepting	advised	amazed pp.
accepted pp.	affects	animate
account	afflicting	annoyed pp.
accuse	afflicted pp.	to answer
accustomed pp.	afford	answer

answered pp.
 aped pp.
 appear
 appears
 appearing
 appeared p.
 to applaud
 'pointed p.
 appointed pp.
 apprehend
 apprehended pp.
 (to) approach
 approach
 approaches
 argues
 arise
 arm
 armed pp.
 arrest
 arrested pp.
 arrived p.
 ascribe
 to ask
 ask
 asks
 askest
 asking
 asked p.
 to asperse
 aspires
 assemble
 assert
 to assist
 assist
 assure
 atone
 atoned pp.
 to attack
 to attempt
 attempt
 attempts
 attempted p.
 attend
 attended pp.
 augment
 auguring
 authorized p.
 to avenge
 avert
 to avoid
 avowed p.
 awed pp.

B

bagged p.
 to bail
 bailing
 balked p.
 ballasted p.
 banded p.
 bandy
 to banish
 banished pp.
 to bark
 barred p.
 bask
 to bate
 bate
 bating
 bathe
 bay
 to be
 be
 is
 am
 are
 art
 being
 was
 were
 wert
 been pp.
 to bear
 bears
 bearing
 bore p.
 born pp.
 borne pp.
 beat pp., p.
 beaten pp.
 to become
 become pres., pp.
 becomes
 becoming
 became p.
 bedew
 befall
 (to) beg
 to begin
 begins
 began p.
 begun p., pp.
 to beget
 begets

begot pp.
 begone pp.
 to behave
 to behold
 beheld pp., p.
 beholden pp.
 behove
 behoves
 belie
 belies
 (to) believe
 believe
 believes
 believed pp.
 bellowing
 belong
 bemoan
 to bend
 bend
 bent pp.
 bequeath
 bequeathes
 bereaves
 beseech
 besieged p.
 to bestow
 bestow
 bestowed pp.
 bet
 betray
 betrayed pp.
 bias'd pp.
 bid
 bids
 bade p.
 bidden pp.
 to bind
 bind
 bound pp.
 bite
 blame
 blanket
 to blast
 blast
 blasts
 blasted pp.
 blazing
 bleach
 bleached pp.
 bleed
 bleeds
 bleeding
 to bless

bless
 blest pp.
 blotted pp.
 blow
 blows
 blew p.
 blown pp.
 blunt
 blush
 blushing
 blushed p.
 blustering
 boast
 bode
 bodes
 boded p.
 boils
 boiling
 boiled pp.
 bolts
 borrow
 borrowing
 borrowed pp.
 bound
 bounds
 bounded pp.
 brand
 branded pp.
 brays
 braying
 to break
 break
 breaking
 broke pp., p.
 breakfast
 breathe
 breathes
 breathing
 breathed p.
 bred pp.
 bribe
 bribes
 bribed pp.
 to bring
 bring
 brings
 brought p., pp.
 bristling
 to brood
 broods
 brook
 brush
 to bubble

bubbles
 to buckle
 buds
 budding
 built pp.
 buoys
 to burn
 burning
 burnt pp.
 burnished pp.
 burst pres.
 bursting
 buried p.
 buttered pp.
 buy
 bought p.

C

to call
 call
 calling
 called pp.
 call'd p.
 camped pp.
 can
 couldst
 to cancel
 cancelled pp.
 care
 cared p.
 caroused pp.
 to carry
 carries
 carrying
 carried p., pp.
 to cast
 cast pres., pp.
 casts
 to catch
 catch
 catching
 caught pp.
 cause
 caused pp., p.
 (to) cease
 cease
 to celebrate
 censures
 centred pp.
 chafe
 chafed pp.
 challenged p.

champ
 chance
 to change
 changes
 changed pp.
 charge
 charged pp.
 charm
 chasing
 chatter
 to cheat
 cheat
 cheated pp.
 checks
 cheer
 cherish
 to chide
 chid
 chilled pp.
 choke
 chokes
 (to) choose
 choose
 chose p., pp.
 chosen pp.
 chouse
 christen
 christened p., pp.
 to claim
 claim
 clapping
 clapt p.
 clasps
 to clear
 clear
 cleared pp.
 cleft pp.
 clipped pp.
 clipt pp.
 clog
 close
 closed pp.
 clothed pp.
 cloud
 cloyed pp.
 clustering
 coax
 cog
 coined p., pp.
 comb'd pp.
 combat
 combine
 to come

come pres., p., pp.	confronted pp.	counterfeited pp.
comes	confused p.	countervail
comest	congealed pp.	to counterwork
coming	to congratulate	course
came p.	conjure	coursing
cam'st p.	to conquer	to court
to comfort	conquering	court
comfort	conquered pp.	courts
to command	consent	courting
command	consenting	courted p.
commands	consider	(to) cover
commanded p.	considered pp.	cover
commend	consist	covered pp.
commit	conspire	coying
committed p.	constrain	to cozen
compare	constrained p., pp.	cozen'st
compassed p.	construed p.	cozened pp.
to complain	consult	crackles
complain	consumes	to cramp
complained p., pp.	consummate	crampt pp.
to complete	consummated pp.	crave
to comply	contains	crawl
compose	contend	to create
compound	contending	create
comprehend	contenting	created p.
conceal	continue	credit
concealed pp.	continued pp.	creep
conceive	contracted pp.	croaking
conceived pp.	contribute	cross
concerning	contributed pp.	crossed p.
concerned pp.	contrived pp.	crouched p.
concerted pp.	to converse	crowding
conclude	conversing	crowns
concluded pp.	conversed pp.	crowned pp.
condemn	convert	crumm'd p.
condemned p., pp.	converted p.	to crush
conduce	convey	crush
conduct	conveyed pp.	cry
confer	convince	crying
to confess	convinced pp.	cried p.
confess	cools	cuckold
confessed p.	cooled pp.	culled pp.
confiding	coped p.	cultivated p.
confine	to copy	curb
confined pp.	copied p., pp.	curdled pp.
to confirm	corrupt	to cure
confirm'st	corrupted pp.	cure
confirmed p.	cost pres., pp.	cured pp.
to conform	couched p.	to curse
confound	counsel	curse
confounding	counselled p.	curses
confront	count	curst pp.
confronting	counterfeit	

(to) cut
cut

D

dabbling
dally
damn
damning
damned p.
damped p.
(to) dance
dance
dances
dancing
danced p.
dare
daring
dared pp.
dart
dash
dashed p.
to deal
deal
dealt pp.
debarred
debauched pp.
(to) decay
decay
to deceive
deceive
deceived pp.
(to) decide
deciding
decked pp.
declare
declared pp.
decline
declining
decoying
decrees
decreed pp.
to defeat
to defend
defend
defends
defending
defended p.
defer
deferred pp.
deform
deformed pp.
to defraud
defy

defies
defied pp.
degenerate
delights
to deliver
deliver
delivered pp.
to delude
delude
deludes
deluding
demand
denote
dented pp.
to deny
deny
deny'st
denies
denied p.
(to) depart
depart
departing
departed p.
depend
deplore
deprave
deprived pp.
derive
derived pp.
descending
to discredit
describe
deserve
deserves
deserved pp.
design
designed pp.
desire
desires
desirest
desiring
desired pp.
despair
despairing
despatches
despatching
despise
despising
despised pp.
to destroy
destroy
destroyed pp.
to detain
detain

determine
detract
devise
devote
devour
devouring
to die
die
dying
died p.
dines
dined pp.
dipped pp.
directs
disable
to disabuse
disapprove
disarm
discard
discarded pp.
discern
discharge
disclaim
disclosed pp.
(to) discourage
discouraged pp.
to discover
discover
discovered pp.
disdain
disenchants
disgraces pp.
disguise
disguised pp.
dishearten
dishonour
dislodge
dislodged pp.
dismiss
dismissed p.
(to) disobey
disobliged p.
disown
dispense
disperse
displays
to displease
displease
displeased pp.
dispose
disposed pp.
dispute
disputing

to disquiet
 disseized p.
 dissemble
 dissipated pp.
 dissolve
 to disturb
 disturb
 disturbed pp.
 to dive
 dive
 to divert
 (to) divide
 divide
 divides
 divided pp.
 divine
 divorced pp.
 divulged pp.
 to do
 do
 does
 dost
 did p.
 done pp.
 dcat
 doats
 dotes
 doting
 dogged pp.
 dooms
 doomed pp.
 double
 doubled pp.
 to doubt
 doubt
 doubts
 doubted
 drag
 dragged pp.
 drained p.
 to draw
 drew p.
 drawn pp.
 dread
 dream
 dreamed p.
 dreamt p.
 dress
 dressed pp.
 to drink
 drink
 drank pp.
 drive
 drove p.

driven pp.
 drop
 dropt pp.
 dropped p.
 dropping
 droops
 drooping
 drown
 drowning
 drowned pp.
 drudge
 dry
 dries
 dried pp.
 to duel
 dwell
 dwells
 dyes

E

to ease
 ease
 easing
 eased pp.
 to eat
 eat pres., pp.
 eating
 eaten p.
 ebbing
 eclipsed
 edge
 to effect
 emasculate
 embarked pp.
 embitter
 embolden
 embrace
 employ
 employing
 employed pp.
 emulate
 enchanted pp.
 enclose
 encompassed pp.
 encountered pp.
 to encourage
 encouraged p.
 encroached pp.
 encumbers
 to end
 end
 ends
 ended pp.

endangered pp.
 endear
 endeavoured pp.
 editing
 endued pp.
 endure
 endured pp.
 enforced pp.
 to engage
 engage
 engaged p., pp.
 to enhance
 enhance
 (to) enjoy
 enjoy
 enjoying
 enjoyed p., pp.
 to enlarge
 enlarge
 ensnared pp.
 ensue
 to ensure
 ensure
 enter
 enters
 entered pp.
 to entertain
 entertain
 entertains
 entertained pp.
 envy
 envied pp.
 erred p., pp.
 'scape
 'scaped pp.
 espied p.
 esteem
 esteemed p.
 estranged pp.
 evade
 exact
 examine
 exceed
 exceeding
 excel
 excelling
 except
 exclude
 excuse
 excused pp.
 to execute
 exert
 expect
 expects

expected p., pp.
 expelled pp.
 expiate
 (to) expire
 expire
 expires
 explain
 to explore
 to expose
 exposed pp.
 to express
 express
 expressed pp.
 (to) expire
 expiring
 to extend
 extend
 extends
 eyes
 eyeing

F

face
 fail
 fails
 faint
 fainting
 to fall
 fall
 falls
 falling
 fell p.
 fallen pp.
 falsified p.
 falters
 famed pp.
 famished pp.
 to fan
 fans
 fancy
 fancies
 fancied p.
 fare
 fared pp.
 fast
 fasting
 to fasten
 fasten
 fastened pp.
 to father
 father
 fathom
 fatten

favour
 favour'st
 fawn
 fawning
 fear
 fears
 feared p., pp.
 to feed
 feed
 feeding
 fed p., pp.
 feel
 felt p.
 feign
 feigns
 feigning
 feigned pp.
 fenced pp.
 ferment
 (to) fetch
 fetch
 fetches
 fetched p.
 fettered
 fidges
 to fight
 fight
 fighting
 fought p.
 to fill
 fills
 filled p.
 to find
 find
 finds
 found p., pp.
 finished pp.
 fires
 fired pp.
 to fish
 fits
 fitted pp.
 to fix
 fix
 fixed p., pp.
 flash
 flatter
 flattered pp.
 fled p., pp.
 flinch
 flirting
 flitting
 floundering
 flow

flowed p.
 flush
 to fly
 fly
 flying
 foam
 to fob
 foiled pp.
 fold
 to follow
 follow
 follows
 followed p., pp.
 fond pres.
 fondled pp.
 foot
 to forbear
 forbear
 to forbid
 forbidding
 forbade p.
 forbid pp.
 forbidden pp.
 forbodes
 forboded p.
 (to) force
 force
 forcing
 forced pp.
 forego
 foreknows
 foreknew p.
 foresee
 foretells
 foretold p.
 forewarned pp.
 forfeit
 forge
 forged pp.
 forget
 forgot p., pp.
 forgive
 forgiving
 forgave p.
 form
 formed p., pp.
 forsake
 forsook p., pp.
 forsaken pp.
 forswear
 forswore pp.
 framed pp.
 to free
 free

freed pp.
 to freeze
 freeze
 freezing
 fret
 fright
 frights
 frightened p.
 to frighten
 frown
 frowns
 fry
 fulfill
 furbished pp.
 furl
 to furnish
 furnish
 furnished pp.
 furrows

G

gagged pp.
 to gain
 gain
 gains
 gaining
 gained p., pp.
 gaping
 gasps
 gasping
 to gather
 gather
 gathered pp.
 to gaze
 gaze
 to get
 get
 getting
 got p., pp.
 gild
 to give
 give
 giving
 gave p.
 given pp.
 gleam
 glimmer
 glory
 glow
 glue
 glut
 gnaws

gone p.
 goad
 to govern
 govern
 governs
 grace
 grafted pp.
 grant
 granted p.
 grasp
 grasped pp.
 to gratify
 gratified pp.
 to graze
 to greet
 grieve
 grieves
 grieved pp.
 to grin
 grin
 grind
 (to) groan
 groaning
 to ground
 to grow
 grow
 grows
 growing
 grew p.
 grown pp.
 grudged p.
 to guard
 guard
 guarded pp.
 guess
 guessed pp.
 guide

H

habited pp.
 hacked pp.
 had (to convey) pp.
 hamper
 to hand
 hang
 hangs
 hung p.
 hanged pp.
 happen
 harboured p., pp.
 hark
 harping

hearken
 to haste
 haste
 hasting
 hasted p.
 to hasten
 hasten
 hastened pp.
 to hate
 hate
 hates
 hated p.
 haunt
 haunted pp.
 ha'
 to have
 has
 hast
 have
 hath
 having
 had p.
 hadst
 hazard
 hazarded pp.
 to head
 head
 heal
 heaped pp.
 to hear
 hear
 hearing
 heard p., pp.
 heats
 heave
 heaves
 heaved p.
 hector
 heir
 helm
 to help
 help
 hemmed pp.
 hewed pp.
 to hide
 hide
 hid p., pp.
 higgie
 to hinder
 hinder
 hindering
 hindered p., pp.
 hiss

hit p., pp.
 hoist
 to hold
 hold
 holds
 honour
 to hook
 to hope
 hope
 hopes
 hoping
 hoped p.
 hover
 to howl
 hulling
 humble
 to humour
 hunts
 hunting
 hunted pp.
 to hurl
 hurry
 hurried pp.
 to hurt
 hurt pres., pp.
 husbanded p.
 hushed pp.
 huswife

I

to idolise
 imagine
 imaginest
 imitate
 implore
 implored p.
 imported p.
 importune
 importuned p.
 impose
 imprint
 to imprison
 improve
 impute
 incensed pp.
 inclose
 include
 to increase
 increase
 indite
 indited pp.
 indulged pp.
 infect.

infected pp.
 inflame
 inflames
 infuse
 to injure
 injure
 injured pp.
 (to) inquire
 inquire
 inquiring
 insinuated pp.
 insist
 inspect
 inspire
 inspires
 inspired p.
 (to) instruct
 instruct
 to insult
 insult
 intend
 intended pp.
 to intercept
 to interpose
 interpret
 interrupted p.
 to intrench
 to intrude
 intrude
 intrusted pp.
 invade
 invades
 invent
 invented pp.
 to invite
 invite
 invited pp.
 invoke

J

jades
 jarring
 to jilt
 join
 joins
 joined pp.
 jostled p.
 to judge
 judge
 judging
 judged pp.
 jumping
 justify

justifiest
 justified pp.

K

to keep
 keep
 keeps
 keeping
 kept p., pp.
 kicking
 to kill
 kill
 kills
 killed pp.
 kindle
 kindles
 kindled p.
 to kiss
 kiss
 kissing
 kissed pp.
 kneading
 kneel
 knit
 knocked p.
 knock
 knocks
 (to) know
 know
 knows
 knowest
 knowing
 knew
 knew'st
 known pp.

L

labour
 laboured p.
 lagged p.
 landed p.
 to languish
 languishes
 to lash
 to laugh
 laugh
 lay
 laying
 laid pp.
 lead
 led
 lean

leaned p.
 leant p.
 to leap
 to learn
 learn
 learned pp.
 learnt pp.
 to leave
 leave
 left p., pp.
 lend
 lent pp.
 lessened pp.
 let (to rent)
 let (to permit)
 letting
 libelled pp.
 to licence
 lick
 licked pp.
 to lie
 lie
 lies
 lay p.
 lying
 lie (falsify)
 lying
 to lift
 lift
 lifted pp.
 to light
 lighted p.
 lightened pp.
 to like
 like
 liked p.
 limits
 lined pp.
 lingered p.
 linked p.
 to live
 live
 lives
 livest
 living
 lived p., pp.
 (to) load
 loathe
 to lock
 locked pp.
 lodge
 lodged pp.
 long

longest
 longed p., pp.
 look
 looks
 looking
 looked p., pp.
 loose
 to lop
 lopt p.
 to lord
 lord
 to lose
 lose
 losing
 lost p., pp.
 to love
 love
 loves
 lovest
 loving
 loved p.
 lulls
 lulled pp.
 lured pp.

M

mads
 to maintain
 maintain
 maintained pp.
 to make
 make
 makes
 making
 made p., pp.
 man
 manage
 mangled pp.
 march
 marching
 marched p.
 to mark
 mark
 marked pp.
 to marry
 marry
 marrying
 married pp.
 masks
 to master
 matted pp.
 to match

match
 mean
 means
 meanst
 meant p.
 measures
 to mediate
 meddle
 to meet
 meet
 met p., pp.
 melts
 to mend
 mend
 mends
 mended pp.
 mentioned pp.
 to merit
 merit
 minced pp.
 mind
 minded pp.
 to mingle
 mingled pp.
 to miscarry
 miscarries
 misconstrue
 misgives
 misguides
 misjudge
 (to) mislead
 misleads
 misled p., pp.
 mismatched p.
 misses
 missing
 missed p., pp.
 to mistake
 mistake
 mistakes
 mistak'ist
 mistook p.
 mistaken pp.
 mistrust
 (to) mix
 mix
 mixed pp.
 moan
 moaned p.
 mocks
 mocked p.
 moistens

molested pp.
 mollify
 mortgaged pp.
 mortify
 mould
 to mount
 mount
 mounting
 mounted pp.
 (to) mourn
 mourn
 mourned p.
 to move
 move
 moves
 moving
 moved pp.
 mow
 mowed pp.
 multiply
 murder
 murdered pp.
 murmur
 murm'ring
 muster
 (to) mutter
 mutters

N

to name
 names
 named p., pp.
 nam'd p.
 new-names
 need
 needed p.
 neglected p.
 neighed p.
 nipped pp.
 nodded p.
 numbered pp.

O

to obey
 obey
 obeyed pp.
 oblige
 obliges
 obliged pp.
 to observe
 observed

obtain
 obtained pp.
 to offend
 offend
 offended p.
 offer
 offering
 offered p., pp.
 ogled p.
 opens
 opened p.
 oppose
 opposed p.
 oppress
 oppressed pp.
 ordained pp.
 to order
 ordered p.
 outface
 outgone
 outlive
 outlives
 outweighs
 o'ercast
 overcome
 overdo
 overflow
 to overhear
 o'erjoy
 overleaps
 to overlook
 o'erspread
 overstocked pp.
 overtake
 overtook p.
 owe
 owes
 owing
 owed p.
 to own
 own
 owned p., pp.

P

to pacify
 pacifying
 pacified pp.
 pack
 packed pp.
 paint
 to palliate
 panck

pant
 panting
 panted p.
 parched p.
 to pardon
 pardon
 pardoned p.
 parleys
 to part
 part
 parted pp.
 partakes
 partaking
 to pass
 pass
 passing
 passed p., pp.
 pawn
 to pay
 pay
 pays
 paying
 peeps
 peeping
 to perceive
 perceive
 perceiving
 perceived pp.
 perfect
 to perform
 perform
 performing
 performed pp.
 parish
 perjured pp.
 permit
 permitting
 permitted p.
 to persecute
 persecute
 personated p.
 to persuade
 persuaded pp.
 petition
 pick
 picks
 picked p.
 pierce
 pierced pp.
 pin
 to pinch
 pinches
 pining

pitch	praised p., pp.	proclaim
pitched p.	prates	proclaimed p.
to pity	prating	procreate
pity	to pray	procure
pitied p.	pray	procured p.
placed p., pp.	prays	produce
plague	praying	profaned pp.
plant	prayed p.	to proffer
planted pp.	pr'ythee	proffered p.
to play	preached pp.	profited p.
play	prefer	promise
playing	preferred pp.	promising
play'd pp.	(to) prepare	promised p., pp.
to plead	prepare	promote
plead	prepares	prompts
pleads	prepared pp.	pronounce
pleading	presage	pronounced
to please	prescribed pp.	prop
please	to present	propagated p.
pleases	present	prophesied p.
pleasing	presented pp.	to propitiate
pleased pp.	preserve	propose
pledge	preserves	proposed
plighted p., pp.	preserving	propound
plough	preserved pp.	to prosecute
plucked p.	presides	prosper
to plunder	to press	protect
plundering	press	protects
plunge	pressest	protest
plunged p.	pressed p.	to prove
ply	prest pp.	proved pp.
point	presume	to provide
pointed p.	pretend	provide
poison	pretends	providing
poisons	pretend'st	provided pp.
polished pp.	pretending	provoke
pollute	prevail	provoked pp.
popt p.	prevailing	pry
pooped pp.	prevailed pp.	prying
pose	to prevent	prunes
to possess	prevent	puffs
possess	prevented pp.	puffed pp.
possessing	to prey	pull
possessed pp.	prey	pulled pp.
possest p., pp.	to prick	to punish
post	prize	punish
pour	prizing	punished pp.
poured p.	prized pp.	purchased p.
to practise	(to) proceed	purged p.
practise	proceed	pursue
practised p.	proceeds	pursued pp.
to praise	proceeded	push
praise	to proclaim	pushes

pushed pp.
to put
put
puts
putting

Q

quaff
quaffed p.
quaking
to quarrel
quarrel
quarreling
quartered pp.
quench
quenched
(to) question
question
questioned pp.
quibbling
to quit
quit
quitted pp.
quivers
quivering
quops

R

racked p.
rage
rail
rails
to raise
raise
raises
raised pp.
rally
ransomed pp.
rants
to ratify
rave
raves
ravens
(to) ravish
ravish
ravished p., pp.
to reach
reach
reached pp.
(to) read
read pres., p.

to reap
reap
reaped pp.
rear
reared p.
reason
rebel
recall
to receive
receive
receives
received pp.
reclaim
recoiling
recollect
recommend
recommended pp.
recompense
reconciles
reconciled pp.
reconquer
recover
recovered pp.
reddens
to redeem
redeem
redeemed pp.
redouble
redress
redressing
redressed pp.
reduced pp.
refines
reflect
reform
reforming
refreshes
to refuse
refuse
refusing
refused p.
regain
regained pp.
regard
to reign
reigns
reigned p.
to rejoice
relapse
relate
to release
release
released pp.

relieve
relieves
relieved pp.
relish
remain
remains
remained p.
remember
to (re)mind
to remove
remove
removed pp.
render
renders
to renew
renewed pp.
to renounce
renounce
renouncing
renounced pp.
renowned pp.
rent (torn) pp.
rent
repair
to repay
repaid pp.
repeat
repel
to repent
repent
repenting
repented p., pp.
repine
repining
report
represent
represented p.
reproach
repulsed pp.
request
require
requires
required p.
requitted pp.
rescue
rescued p.
resembled p.
(to) reserve
reserve
reserves
reserved pp.
resign
resigned.

to resist
 resist
 resisted p.
 resolve
 resolved p.
 resort
 to rest
 rest
 (to) restore
 restore
 restored p., pp.
 restrains
 restrained p.
 resolve
 resume
 retain
 retained pp.
 to retire
 retire
 retiring
 retired pp.
 to retreat
 retreat
 (to) return
 return
 returned pp.
 to reveal
 revealed pp.
 revel
 revelled pp.
 to revenge
 revenge
 revenged pp.
 reversed pp.
 revives
 revoke
 revolt
 to reward
 reward
 to rid
 rid pp.
 to ride
 rides
 to right
 ring
 rung pp.
 ripened pp.
 to rise
 rise
 rising
 rose
 risen pp.
 rivalled p.

rivalled pp.
 roar
 roaring
 to rob
 rob
 robbed pp.
 roll
 rolled pp.
 rooking
 roots
 rouse
 roused pp.
 to row
 rowed p.
 rub
 ruffled pp.
 (to) ruin
 ruin
 ruined pp.
 rules
 ruled pp.
 rumbling
 to run
 run pres.
 runs
 ran p.
 to rush
 rush
 rushing
 rushed p.
 to rut.

S

sacrifice
 sacrificed pp.
 sailed p.
 sally
 to salute
 salutes
 sapped pp.
 satisfy
 satisfied pp.
 to save
 save
 saved p., pp.
 to say
 say
 says
 saying
 said p., pp.
 scatter
 scattered p., pp.

schools
 to scold
 scold
 scolded p.
 scorches
 scorched pp.
 scorn
 scorning
 scorned p.
 scotch
 scour
 scouting
 scowering
 scramble
 scratch
 scratched pp.
 seal
 sealed pp.
 to search
 search
 searched pp.
 to season
 seat
 second
 to secure
 secures
 secured p.
 seduce
 seducing
 seduced pp.
 to see
 see
 seeing
 saw p.
 seen pp.
 to seek
 seeks
 seeking
 sought p.
 seem
 seems
 seemest
 seeming
 seemed p.
 to seize
 seize
 seized pp.
 sell
 sells
 sold p.
 to send
 sending
 sent p., pp.

sentenced pp.	to sin	sour
to serve	sinned pp.	soured pp.
serve	sings	to sow
serves	sung p.	sow
served pp.	singe	spare
to set	singled pp.	spares
set pp.	to sink	spared p.
setting	sink	sparkle
settle	sinking	sparkles
settled pp.	sunk p., pp.	to speak
sew	sit	speak
to shadow	sits	speaks
shakes	sitting	speaking
shalt	sate p.	spoke p., pp.
shook p.	skulk	bespoke pp.
shamed pp.	slaughter	spoken pp.
share	slaughtered pp.	speed
shared p.	slew	spell
sharpens	slain pp.	spend
sharpened pp.	to sleep	spent p., pp.
to shed	sleep	to spill
shed	sleeping	to spoil
shift	slept p.	spoil
shifting	slide	spoiled p.
to shine	slight	spouts
shine	slip	to spread
shining	slipt p.	spread
shirted p.	slumber	spreads
shoot	smarts	spring
shot p.	smell	sprung p.
shortens	(to) smile	spy
shout	smiles	spying
shouted p.	smiled p.	spied pp.
to show	smoke	squeeze
show	smoked pp.	squeezing
shows	smother	squorn
showed p.	to snap	(to) stab
shown pp.	snarls	stabs
(to) shrink	to snatch	stagger
shrink	snatch	staggering
shrunk pp.	snatched p.	stained pp.
shuffles	snuff	stalk
shuffled pp.	soar	stamp
to shun	soften	stamped pp.
shun	softened pp.	to stand
shunned p.	solicits	stand
shut	soliciting	stood p.
shuts	soothe	start p.
sickens	soothing	starts
to sigh	soothed p.	stares
sighing	sounds	startles
sighed p..	sounding	to starve
signed pp.	sounded pp.	starve

starved pp.	struggling	sweep
to stay	struggled pp.	swell
stay	study	swells
stays	stupefied pp.	swerved pp.
staying	subjects	swims
stayed p.	submit	swoons
steal	to substitute	swooning
stole p.	succeed	swooned pp.
stolen pp.	succeeding	
steeled pp.	succour	<u>T</u>
to steer	suckle	(to) taint
steer	to sue	to take
(to) step	sue	take
step	to suffer	takes
stepping	suffer	tak'st
stepped p.	suffering	taking
stept p.	suffered pp.	took p.
sticks	sullied pp.	taken pp.
stuck pp.	sums	ta'en pp.
stifle	summed pp.	to talk
stifled p., pp.	to sup	talk
stings	superscribes	talks
stung pp.	to supply	talked p.
stinks	supply	tame
stir	supplies	taste
stirs	supplied p., pp.	tasting
stirring	suppose	tax
to stoop	supposed pp.	to teach
stooping	surfeits	teach
stop	surmounts	taught p., pp.
stopped p.	surprise	tear
storm	surprised pp.	tears
stormed p.	surrender	tore
stow	survey	torn pp.
stowed pp.	surveyed p.	to tell
straggling	survive	tell
strain	survived p.	tells
straining	to suspect	telling
stray	suspect	told p., pp.
stretch	suspected pp.	temper
stretched pp.	sustain	tempt
strew p.	swagger	tempts
stride	swallow	tempted pp.
striding	swallowed pp.	tend
strike	to sway	tender
to strip	swayed p., pp.	terminates
stripped pp.	to swear	to thank
strive	swear	thank
strove p.	swears	thanks
stroke pres.	swear'st	thaw
to struggle	sworn pp.	thickens
struggle	sweat	to think
struggles	sweats	

think
 thinks
 think'st
 thinking
 thought pp.
 methinks
 threaten
 threaten pp.
 thrive
 (to) throw
 throw
 threw
 thrown pp.
 thrust
 thundering
 thwart
 tickles
 ticklest
 tided pp.
 to tie
 to toil.
 toped pp.
 torments
 tormented pp.
 tortured pp.
 toss
 tossed p.
 (to) touch
 touch
 touching
 touched pp.
 towering
 toying
 traced p., pp.
 to train
 transfer
 transferred pp.
 (to) transgress
 transports
 travelled p.
 traverses
 tread
 trodding
 trod pp.
 trodden pp.
 to treat
 treat
 treated pp.
 tremble
 trembling
 trickles
 triumph

trouble
 troubles
 troubled pp.
 trudge
 to trust
 trust
 trusts
 trusting
 trusted pp.
 to try
 try
 trying
 tugged p.
 tumbled p.
 turn
 turning
 turned p., pp.
 twinkling

U

unbar
 unbeget
 unbend
 unbrace
 unbutton
 underwent
 undermine
 undermined p.
 to understand
 understands
 undo
 undone pp.
 to unfold
 unfold
 unhand
 united pp.
 unlading
 unloose
 unmake
 unmanned pp.
 unravel
 unseal
 unsealed pp.
 unused pp.
 upbraid
 upbraids
 up-dashed p.
 uphold
 upholds
 urge
 urgest

urged p.
 use (to) p.
 used (to) p., pp.
 usurp
 usurped pp.
 uttered p.

V

value
 valued p.
 vanish
 vanishing
 vanished pp.
 vanquished pp.
 vaunt
 vented
 venture
 ventures
 ventured p.
 vexes
 vexed pp.
 to view
 view
 viewing
 viewed pp.
 vindicate
 to violate
 visited pp.
 volunteering
 vouch
 vow
 vowed pp.

W

wafted pp.
 (to) wage
 to wait
 wait
 waits
 waited pp.
 wake
 waked p., pp.
 (to) walk
 walk
 walks
 walking
 walked p.
 walled p.
 to wander
 wanders
 waning

to want
 want
 wants
 wantst
 wanting
 wanted p.
 warms
 warmed pp.
 warn
 warned pp.
 warp
 warrant
 wash
 washed pp.
 waste
 to watch
 watch
 watching
 watched p., pp.
 wave
 waved p., pp.
 wavering
 weakens
 (to) wear
 wear
 wearing
 worn pp.
 wearied pp.
 (to) wed
 weds
 weep
 weeps
 weeping
 wept pp.
 to weigh
 weigh
 weighing
 weighed p., pp.
 welcome
 wenching
 wheedled pp.
 to whelm
 whining
 whipt pp.
 whispers
 whispering
 whispered p.
 whistle
 whistled p.
 whiz
 whooped pp.
 widowed pp.
 will.

wilt
 willing
 wouldst
 won't
 wonnot
 would
 wildered pp.
 win
 won pp.
 winds
 winding
 winged pp.
 wink
 winking
 wipe
 wish
 wishing
 wished p.
 wish'd pp.
 withdraw
 wither
 withstand
 witness
 wonder
 wondered p.
 to woo
 woo
 wooing
 wooed p.
 work
 worked
 wrought p.
 wormed pp.
 worship
 worsted pp.
 wound
 wracked pp.
 wrap
 wraps
 wreathe
 wrinkled pp.
 to write
 write
 write
 writing
 writ p., pp.
 written pp.
 to wrong
 wrong
 wronged p.

Y

yawning

yield
 yields
 yieldst
 yielding
 yielded p.

Appendix B

PARADIGMS

Infinitive to have

Present Indicative

Singular	Plural
have	Have
Hast, have	Have
Hath, has	Have

Preterite

Had	Had
Had, hadst	Had
Had	Had

Infinitive-to be

Present Indicative

Singular	Plural
Am	Are
Are, art	Are
Are	Are

Preterite

Was	Were
Were, wert	Were
Was	Were

Infinitive-to do

Present Indicative

Singular	Plural
Do	Do
Do, dost	Do
Does	Do

Participles-having, had

Subjunctive

Present, third, singular-have
Preterite, third, singular-had

Participles-being, been

Subjunctive

Present, third, singular and
plural-be
Preterite, third, singular-were

Participles-doing, done

Subjunctive-No examples

Infinitive-to eat	Participles-eating, eat/eaten
Present Indicative	Subjunctive-No examples
Singular	Plural
Eat	No examples
Eat	
No example	
Preterite	
Third person, singular-eat	Participles-living, lived
Infinitive-to live	Subjunctive-No examples
Singular	Plural
Live	Live
Live	No example
Lives	No example
Preterite	
Third person, plural-lived	

Appendix C

VARIATIONS IN VERB FORMS USED TO SHOW

A SINGLE GRAMMATICAL PERSON

I. Second Person, singular

are/art
were/wert
ask/askest
come/comest
deny/deny'st
entertain/entertain'st
favour/favour'st
have/hast
had/hadst
know/knowest
knew/knew'st
mean/mean'st
mistake/mistakest
press/pressesst
pretend/pretend'st
seem/seemest
think/think'st
urge/urgest
yield/yieldst
shall/shalt
do/dost
should/shouldst
will/wilt
dare/darest
would/wouldst
can/canst
love/lovest

II. Third person, singular

has/hath

VITA

Ellen Nadine Palmer

Candidate for the Degree of
Master of Arts

Thesis: VERB FORMS FROM SELECTED PLAYS OF JOHN DRYDEN

Major Field: English

Biographical:

Personal Data: Born near Calumet, Oklahoma, March 8, 1931, the daughter of Carl L. and Eunice Marie Palmer.

Education: Attended grade school in Chickasha, Oklahoma; graduated from Chickasha High School in 1949; received the Bachelor of Arts degree from Oklahoma College for Women, with a major in English, in May, 1953; completed requirements for the Master of Arts degree in May, 1961.

Professional experience: Taught English and Spanish for six years in Kansas public schools.