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**Produced by María F. García-Bermejo Giner**

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VNiVERSITAS  
STVDII  
SALAMANTINI

**ALEXANDER GILL'S  
LOGONOMIA ANGLICA  
(1619)  
PART II  
BIOGRAPHICAL AND  
BIBLIOGRAPHICAL INTRODUCTIONS  
NOTES  
BY BROR DANIELSSON  
AND  
ARVID GABRIELSON  
TRANSLATION  
BY  
ROBIN C. ALSTON**

**ALMQVIST & WIKSELL STOCKHOLM**

The Salamanca Corpus: "Machiavelli, the Villain".

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And so that we may not always quote the Sidneys and Spensers, note the epilogue of a story written in the Northern dialect entitled "Machiavelli the Villain."

Mächil is hanged  
And brended is hiz bvks.  
Ðoh Mächil iz hanged,  
Yit hī iz not wranged.

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Ðe dīl haz 'im fanged  
In hiz krvked klvks.  
Mächil iz hanged,  
And brended iz hiz bvks.\*

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\*The anti-Machiavellian stanza ("the epilogue to a tale in the north-country dialect called *Machiavelli the Criminal*") does not seem to be extant elsewhere, either in print or in manuscript, except for a quotation by William Somner in his *Dictionarium Saxonico-Latino-Anglicum* (Oxford 1659), s. v. Fangen:

"A poet of our own, in the Northerne Dialect, of Machiavell thus \_

*Machil* is hanged  
And brended is his buks.  
Thogh *Machil* is hanged,  
Yet he is not wranged:  
The Dil has 'im fanged  
In his kruked kluks."

Whether Somner quoted from Gill's *Logonomia* or used an independent source is impossible to decide.

But a satire on John Penry called "An ancient Epitaph on Martin Mar-Prelate" in Sir John Mennes' *Recreation for ingenious head-peeeces* (London 1650; Wing M 1713), No. 166, seems to have been modelled on the stanza quoted by Gill:

The Welshman is hanged,  
Who at our Kirk Flanged,  
And at her State banded,  
And brended are his Bukes:  
And though he bee hanged,  
Yet he is not wranged,

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The Devill has him fanged  
In his kruked kluks

Cf. also *Doctour Double ale* (ca. 1540, STC 7071), sig. A 4<sup>v</sup>:

Some wolde he shuld be hanged  
Or else he shoulde be wranged

In *An Etymological Dictionary of the Scottish Language* (A New Edition by J. Longmuir and D. Donaldson, Edinburg 1879, I, p. 449, s. v. *Cleuck*) John Jamieson, commenting on *cleuck* (2. Often used in *pl.* as synon. with E. *clutches*, S. ), has the following statement:

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"It has occurred to me that the verses quoted from Somner, under this word, as referring to Machiavellin, are most probably misapplied "They are written, " he says, "by a poet of our own, in the northerne dialect." I can scarcely think that Machiavelli's writing were so generally known in England by the year 1659, that any poet could with propriety introduce them in the vulgar language of a northern county. It is more likely that *Machil* is a corr. of the name of the celebrated Sir Michael Scott of Balwearie, whose name was well known as a celebrated necromancer, not in S. only, but through all the *north contree*. The pronunciation by the vulgar is still q. *Mitchel*, not very distant from that of *Machil*."

The verse is typical of a satire or pasquil of the sixteenth century, many of which have been collected in the two volumes called *Satirical Poems of the Reformation* (ed. J. Cranston for the Scottish Text Society 1891-3). Machiavelly was certainly well-known and read in the 1550-1570 period in Scotland and is frequently mentioned. Maitland of Lethington also, Queen Mary's Secretary (died 1573), was nicknamed Machiavelly, sometimes deformed into "Mitchel Wylie." It is possible that the verse may have been circulated in reference to him. In *Rhyme in Defence of the Queen of Scots* (Calendar of Scottish Papers, Vol. II, 1564-1569, No. 914, p. 573) Lethington is called a "faulse Machyvillion" and Murray and he, with Morton, are charged with the murder of Darnley, sacrilege, etc., etc. in very bitter language.

