

# Henry IV, Part Two

Act II, sc. 2 (line 1 - Prose)

## PRINCE HAL

Before God, I am exceeding weary.

## *POINS*

*Is't come to that? I had thought weariness durst not have attached one of so high blood.*

## PRINCE HAL

Faith, it does me; though it discolours the complexion of my greatness to acknowledge it.

Doth it not show vilely in me to desire small beer?

## *POINS*

*Why, a prince should not be so loosely studied as to remember so weak a composition.*

## PRINCE HAL

Belike then my appetite was not princely got; for, by my troth, I do now remember the poor creature, small beer. But, indeed, these humble considerations make me out of love with my greatness. What a disgrace is it to me to remember thy name! or to know thy face to-morrow! or to take note how many pair of silk stockings thou hast, viz. these, and those that were thy peach-coloured ones! or to bear the inventory of thy shirts, as, one for superfluity, and another for use! But that the tennis-court-keeper knows better than I; for it is a low ebb of linen with thee when thou keepest not racket there; as thou hast not done a great while, because the rest of thy low countries have made a shift to eat up thy holland: and God knows, whether those that bawl out the ruins of thy linen shall inherit his kingdom: but the midwives say the children are not in the fault; whereupon the world increases, and kindreds are mightily strengthened.