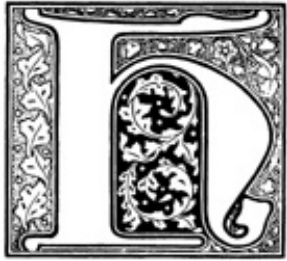


Edward Taylor  
(1645-1729)



## HOUSEWIFERY

Make me, O Lord, thy spinning wheel complete;  
    Thy holy word my distaff make for me.  
Make mine affections thy swift fliers neat,  
    And make my soul thy holy spool to be.  
My conversation make to be thy reel,  
    And reel the yarn thereon spun of thy wheel.

Make me thy loom then, knit therein this twine:  
    And make thy holy spirit, Lord, wind quills:  
Then weave the web thyself. The yarn is fine.  
    Thine ordinances make my fulling mills.  
    Then dye the same in heavenly colors choice,  
    All pinked with varnished flowers of paradise.

Then clothe therewith mine understanding, will,  
    Affections, judgment, conscience, memory;  
My words and actions, that their shine may fill  
    My ways with glory and thee glorify.  
    Then mine apparel shall display before ye  
    That I am clothed in holy robes for glory.