

ACT ONE

Scene 2 : Poor man at the gate

(THE DUKE AND LORD CHANDOS ARE NOW AT HOME. ENTER THREE
TENANT FARMERS)

LORD CHANDOS: Sir, nothing tends more certainly to ruin and
misery than the distress of our farm labourers who are
driven, some to despair and some to violence. These farmers
have come. They've been sent threatening letters.

DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM: You've been sent letters, signed Captain
Swing?

FIRST FARMER: My Lord, this letter has been sent to me -Sir, This
is to acquaint you that if your thrashing machines are not
destroyed by you directly, we shall commence our labours.
Signed on behalf of the whole. Swing...