

SHAKESPEARE & STRATFORD

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Shakespeare & Stratford by Henry C. Shelley

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HENRY C. SHELLEY

**SHAKESPEARE
& STRATFORD**

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SHAKESPEARE & STRATFORD

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SHAKESPEARE'S TOMB IN STRATFORD CHURCH

SHAKESPEARE
&
STRATFORD

BY
HENRY C. SHELLEY

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CHAPTER I : THE BIRTHPLACE

“**W**ASN'T he foxy to choose a cute little place like that in which to write his plays?”

Perhaps it is hardly necessary to explain that the questioner was a daughter of Uncle Sam, but for the sake of elucidation it is needful to add that the “cute little place” referred to was a trim, half-timbered building in Henley Street, Stratford-on-Avon, and that the “he” was none other than William Shakespeare.!

It must be noted, however, that the picturesque question was not in accordance with knowledge or tradition. There is nothing to support the implied theory that “Hamlet” and the other plays were written in the Henley Street cottage, nor do any of the many legends clustering around that structure claim for it so high an honour. But to credit Shakespeare with the deliberate choice of a literary workshop is all of a piece with the uncertainty in which so much of his life-story is involved.