

**THE FAMOUS HISTORY OF  
THE LIFE OF  
KING HENRY THE EIGHTH,  
A HISTORICAL PLAY**

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The Famous History of the Life of King Henry the Eighth, a Historical Play by William Shakespeare

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**WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE**

**THE FAMOUS HISTORY OF  
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THE FAMOUS HISTORY OF THE LIFE  
OF  
KING HENRY VIII.  
BY  
WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE.



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OF  
KING HENRY  
THE EIGHTH,

A HISTORICAL PLAY

BY

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

AS ARRANGED FOR THE STAGE

BY

HENRY IRVING,

AND PRESENTED AT

THE LYCEUM THEATRE,

5th JANUARY, 1892.



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LONDON





## PREFACE.

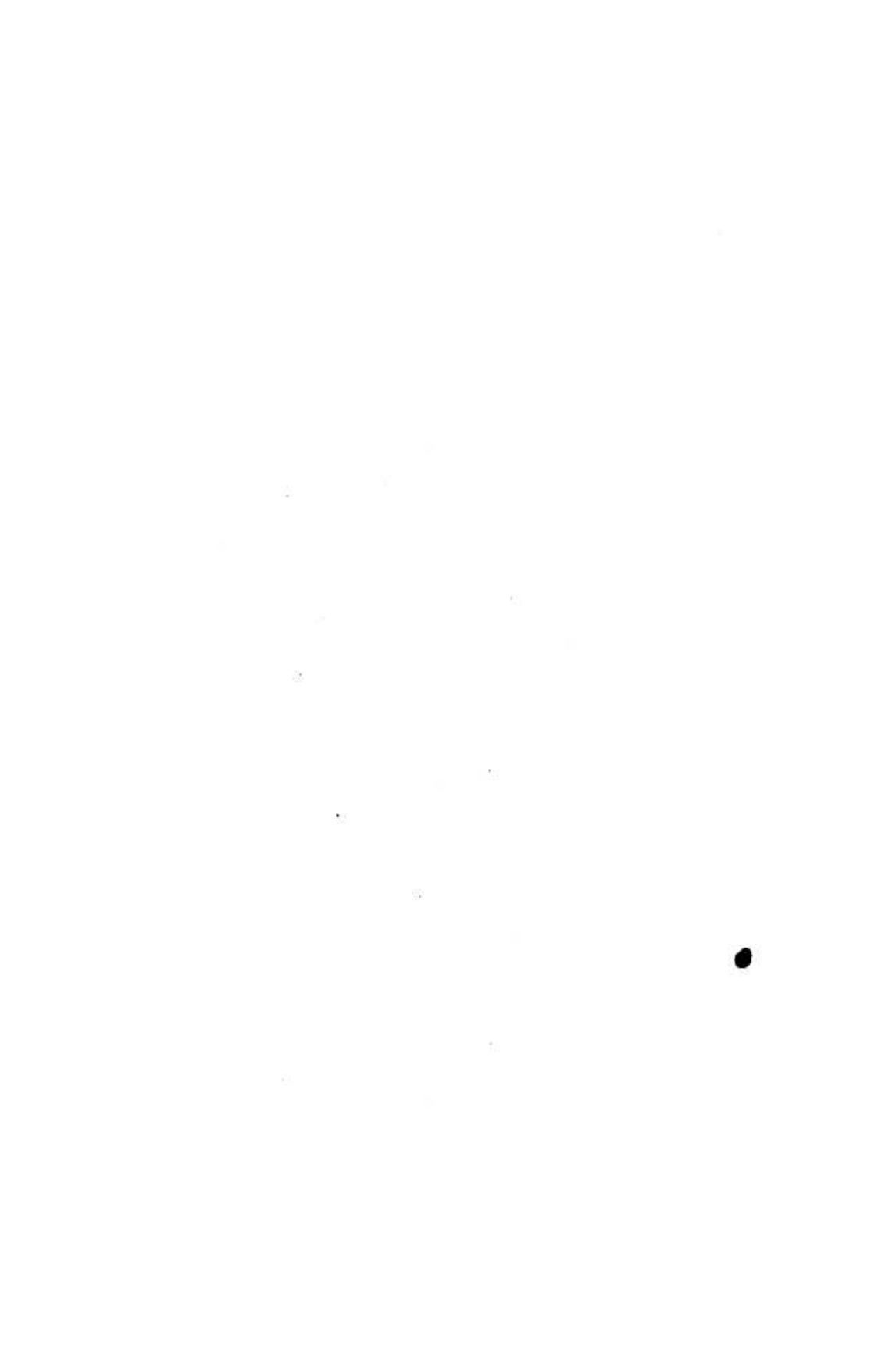
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"The Famous History of the Life of King Henry VIII." is not the least popular of Shakespeare's historical plays. It is held by many that Shakespeare was assisted in the composition of this play by a younger dramatist, Fletcher. There is no direct evidence whatever of this; the opinion has been formed from a comparison of certain scenes in the play with the style and metre of Fletcher's work. Of this I am assured, that the play is touched by Shakespeare's genius; and if Fletcher was associated in the work, he must have been, as Mr. Hudson says, surprised out of himself. The picture of the Tudor period is so vivid, and the characterization at times so remarkable, that the revival of the play will, I trust, be welcome.

The tragic interest ceases with the death of Katharine; but it will doubtless be recognised that the intention of the poet is to contrast, in the christening of Elizabeth, the sorrowful death of the divorced Queen with the brief triumph of Anne Bullen.

I wish to express my indebtedness to Mr. Seymour Lucas, for his patient research and artistic skill, and to the many others who have rendered me valuable aid.

HENRY IRVING.



## DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.

King Henry VIII.	.. ..	Mr. WILLIAM TERRISS.
Cardinal Wolsey .. ..	.. ..	Mr. IRVING.
Cardinal Campeius .. ..	.. ..	Mr. BEAUMONT.
Capucius	{ <i>Ambassador from Charles V.</i> }	Mr. TABB.
Cranmer	{ <i>(Archbishop of Canterbury)</i> }	Mr. ARTHUR STIRLING.
Duke of Norfolk .. ..	.. ..	Mr. WENMAN.
Duke of Buckingham .. ..	.. ..	Mr. FORBES ROBERTSON.
Duke of Suffolk .. ..	.. ..	Mr. TYARS.
Earl of Surrey .. ..	.. ..	Mr. CLARENCE HAGUE.
Lord Chamberlain .. ..	.. ..	Mr. ALFRED BISHOP.
Gardiner	{ <i>(afterswards Bishop of Winchester)</i> }	Mr. LACY.
Lord Sands .. ..	.. ..	Mr. GILBERT FARQUHAR.
Sir Henry Guildford .. ..	.. ..	Mr. HARVEY.
Sir Thomas Lovell .. ..	.. ..	Mr. STEWART.
Sir Anthony Denny .. ..	.. ..	Mr. DAVIS.
Sir Nicholas Vaux .. ..	.. ..	Mr. BELMORE.
Cromwell .. <i>(Servant to Wolsey)</i> ..	.. ..	Mr. GORDON CRAIG.
Griffith	{ <i>(Gentleman-Usher to Queen Katharine)</i> }	Mr. HOWE.
Gentlemen .. ..	.. ..	{ Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. ARCHER.
Garter King-at-Arms .. ..	.. ..	Mr. BELFORD.
Surveyor to Duke of Buckingham	.. ..	Mr. HAVILAND.
Brandon .. ..	.. ..	Mr. SELDON.
Sergeant-at-Arms .. ..	.. ..	Mr. POWELL.
A Messenger .. ..	.. ..	Mr. LORRIS.
A Scribe .. ..	.. ..	Mr. REYNOLDS.
A Secretary .. ..	.. ..	Mr. CUSHING.
Queen Katharine .. ..	.. ..	Miss ELLEN TERRY.
Anne Bullen .. ..	.. ..	Miss VIOLET VANBRUGH
An Old Lady .. ..	.. ..	Miss LE THIÈRE.
Patience .. ..	.. ..	Mrs. PAUNCEFORT.

*Lords, Ladies, Archbishops, Bishops, Judges, Lord Mayor and Aldermen, Barons of the Cinque Ports, Doctors of Divinity, Doctors of Law, Chaplains, Priests, Monks, Secretaries, Gentlemen, Choristers, Pursuivants, Vergers, Rowers, Tipstaves, Guards, Trumpeters, Hensmen, Torchbearers, Drummers, Fifers, Mace-bearers, Gentlemen Ushers, Pillar-bearers, Cross-bearers, Footmen, Citizens, Soldiers, Executioner, &c., &c.*

*The Overture, Entractes, and incidental Music have been composed by*  
MR. EDWARD GERMAN.