

**THE TRAGEDY OF JULIUS CAESAR;
WITH CRITICAL COMMENTS,
SUGGESTIONS AND PLANS FOR STUDY,
SPECIMENS OF EXAMINATION PAPERS,
AND TOPICS FOR ESSAYS**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649723232

The Tragedy of Julius Caesar; With Critical Comments, Suggestions and Plans for Study,
Specimens of Examination Papers, and Topics for Essays by William Shakespeare & Homer B.
Sprague

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WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE & HOMER B. SPRAGUE

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THE purpose of Playing, whose end, both at the first and now, was and is, to hold, as 'twere, the Mirrour up to Nature; to show Vertue her owne Feature, Scorne her owne Image, and the verie Age and Bodis of the Time, his forme and pressure.

—HAMLET.

SHAKESPEARE'S
TRAGEDY OF
JULIUS CÆSAR.

EDITED, WITH NOTES,

BY

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WITH

CRITICAL COMMENTS, SUGGESTIONS AND PLANS FOR
STUDY, SPECIMENS OF EXAMINATION PAPERS,
AND TOPICS FOR ESSAYS.

SILVER, BURDETT & CO., PUBLISHERS,
New York . . . BOSTON . . . CHICAGO.

1895.

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By SILVER, BURDETT & COMPANY.

Northwest Press:
J. S. Cushing & Co. — Berwick & Smith.
Boston, Mass., U.S.A.

PREFACE.

THIS edition of *Julius Cæsar* is especially intended for teachers and students, but it is hoped that the general reader may find it useful. It is not expected that all the notes will be alike valuable to all; but it is believed that most readers, whatever their object may be in reading the play, will find in them something helpful. In the following respects it will be found to differ from other school editions:—

1. The notes are all designed to stimulate rather than supersede thought.
2. The results of the latest etymological and critical researches, for the most part, are given.
3. It states concisely the opinions of some of the best critics on nearly every disputed interpretation.
4. It presents some of the best methods of studying English literature.
5. It contains a chronological table of the important events in Cæsar's life.

It is proper to add that we adhere more closely than other editors to the earliest approved texts. In some cases, as in Act I, sc. iii, line 10, the original reading imparts wonderful vividness and power.¹

As in our editions of *Hamlet*, *Macbeth*, and *The Merchant of Venice*, we follow Rolfe in the numbering of the lines.

¹ By changing the text, the editors, with hardly an exception, have taken the very life out of the passage.

Grateful to the public for its kind reception of these editions, and especially grateful to those scholars who have pointed out occasional imperfections of any kind, the editor wishes success to every attempt to make Shakespeare better known and more highly appreciated.

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