

**SHAKESPEARE'S THE
COMEDY
OF ERRORS**

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Shakespeare's The Comedy of Errors by William Shakespeare & William J. Rolfe

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WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE & WILLIAM J. ROLFE

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OF ERRORS**

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THE COMEDY OF ERRORS

EDITED, WITH NOTES

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THE COMEDY OF ERRORS.

W. P. I.

PREFATORY NOTE

THIS play, which I first edited in 1881, has now been very thoroughly revised on the same general plan as the earlier volumes in the series. The Notes have been materially enlarged.

310-112

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SYRACUSE.



CORINTH

INTRODUCTION TO THE COMEDY OF ERRORS

THE HISTORY OF THE PLAY

THE precise order of the early comedies cannot be definitely settled, but *The Comedy of Errors* probably followed *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*, though some critics believe that it preceded that play. All agree that it was one of the earliest of the plays, though first printed in the folio of 1623. It is quite certainly the "*Comedy of Errors*, like to Plautus his *Menechmus*," which, according to the *Gesta Grayorum*, was played at Gray's Inn, in December, 1594. The pun in iii. 2. 121 on France "making war against her heir" would seem to show that the play was written between August, 1589, when the civil war about the succession of Henry IV.