THE NEW HUDSON SHAKESPEARE. THE COMEDY OF THE TEMPEST

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The New Hudson Shakespeare. The Comedy of the Tempest by William Shakespeare & Henry Norman Hudson

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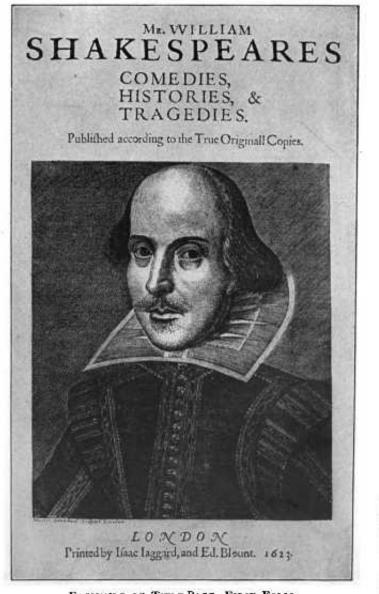
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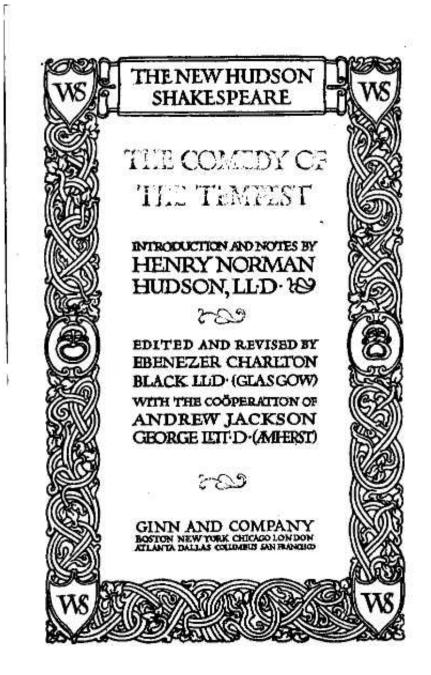
WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE & HENRY NORMAN HUDSON

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Trieste



FACSIMILE OF TITLE-PAGE, FIRST FOLIO



PREFACE

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The text of this edition of The Tempest is based upon a collation of the seventeenth century Folios, the Globe edition, and that of Delius. As compared with the text of the earlier editions of Hudson's Shakespeare, it is conservative. Exclusive of changes in spelling, punctuation, and stage directions, very few emendations by eighteenth century and nineteenth century editors have been adopted ; and these, with every variation from the First Folio, are indicated in the textual notes. These notes are printed immediately below the text, so that a reader or student may see at a glance the evidence in the case of a disputed reading and have some definite understanding of the reasons for those differences in the text of Shakespeare which frequently surprise and very often annoy. A consideration of the more poetical, or the more dramatically effective, of two variant readings will often lead to rich results in awakening a spirit of discriminating interpretation and in developing true creative criticism. In no sense is this a textual variorum edition. The variants given are only those of importance and high authority.

The spelling and the punctuation of the text are modern, except in the case of verb terminations in -ed, which, when the e is silent, are printed with the apostrophe in its place. This is the general usage in the First Folio. Modern

iv THE NEW HUDSON SHAKESPEARE

spelling has to a certain extent been followed in the text variants, but the original spelling has been retained wherever its peculiarities have been the basis for important textual criticism and emendation.

With the exception of the position of the textual variants, the plan of this edition is similar to that of the old Hudson Shakespeare. It is impossible to specify the various instances of revision and rearrangement in the matter of the Introduction and the interpretative notes, but the endeavor has been to retain all that gave the old edition its unique place and to add the results of what seems vital and permanent in later inquiry and research.

While it is important that the principle of suum cuique be attended to so far as is possible in matters of research and scholarship, it is becoming more and more difficult to give every man his own in Shakespearian annotation. The amount of material accumulated is so great that the identityorigin of much important comment and suggestion is either wholly lost or so crushed out of shape as to be beyond recognition. Instructive significance perhaps attaches to this in editing the works of one who quietly made so much of materials gathered by others. But the list of authorities given on page li will indicate the chief source of much that has gone to enrich the value of this edition. Especial acknowledgment is here made of the obligations to Dr. William Aldis Wright and Dr. Horace Howard Furness, whose work in the collation of Folios and the more important English and American editions of Shakespeare has been of such value to all subsequent editors and investigators.

PREFACE

With regard to the general plan of this revision of Hudson's Shakespeare, Professor W. P. Trent, of Columbia University, has offered valuable suggestions and given important advice; and to Mr. M. Grant Daniell's patience, accuracy, and judgment this volume owes both its freedom from many a blunder and its possession of a carefully arranged index.

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v

• 13.

ा

CONTENTS

44

٠

INTRODUCTION

I. SOURCES						ix
THE MAIN PLOT						x
AN UNKNOWN ROMANCE		٠.				
THE HISTORY OF WITOLD	•	10		x:		xi
Die Schöne Sidea						xii
LAS NOCHES DE INVIERNO				10		xiii
THOMAS'S HISTORYE OF ITALYE.	÷.	25	÷	•3		xiv
STORM AND SHIPWRECK				•		xlv
STRACHEV'S TRUE REPORTORY .						xv
JOURDAN'S DISCOVERY		8		2		xvi
A TRUE DECLARATION			\mathbf{x}	\mathbf{e}		xvi
RICH'S NEWES FROM VIRGINIA .			200	×		xvii
GONZALO'S COMMONWEALTH						
"THAT FOUL CONSPIRACY," IV, I, 139		3				xviii
THE MASQUE			•	ŝ.		xix
PROSPERO'S SPEECH, IV, I, 151-156 .				•		xx
PROSPERO'S INVOCATION, V, i, 33-50						
NAMES OF PERSONS AND PLACES .		•		•		xxi
II. DATE OF COMPOSITION		4				xxii
EXTERNAL EVIDENCE						xxii
INTERNAL EVIDENCE			÷			xxiii
III. EARLY EDITIONS		2		28	1	xxiv
Folios		12	*			xxiv
DRVDEN'S VERSION						XXV
Rowe's Editions		1				xxvii
vii		13	33.			

:

PAGE