

BACON VERSUS SHAKSPERE; A PLEA FOR THE DEFENDANT

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Bacon Versus Shakspeare; A Plea for the Defendant by Thomas D. King

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THOMAS D. KING

**BACON VERSUS
SHAKSPERE; A PLEA
FOR THE DEFENDANT**

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BACON

VERSUS

SHAKSPERE:

A PLEA FOR THE DEFENDANT.

BY

THOMAS D. KING.

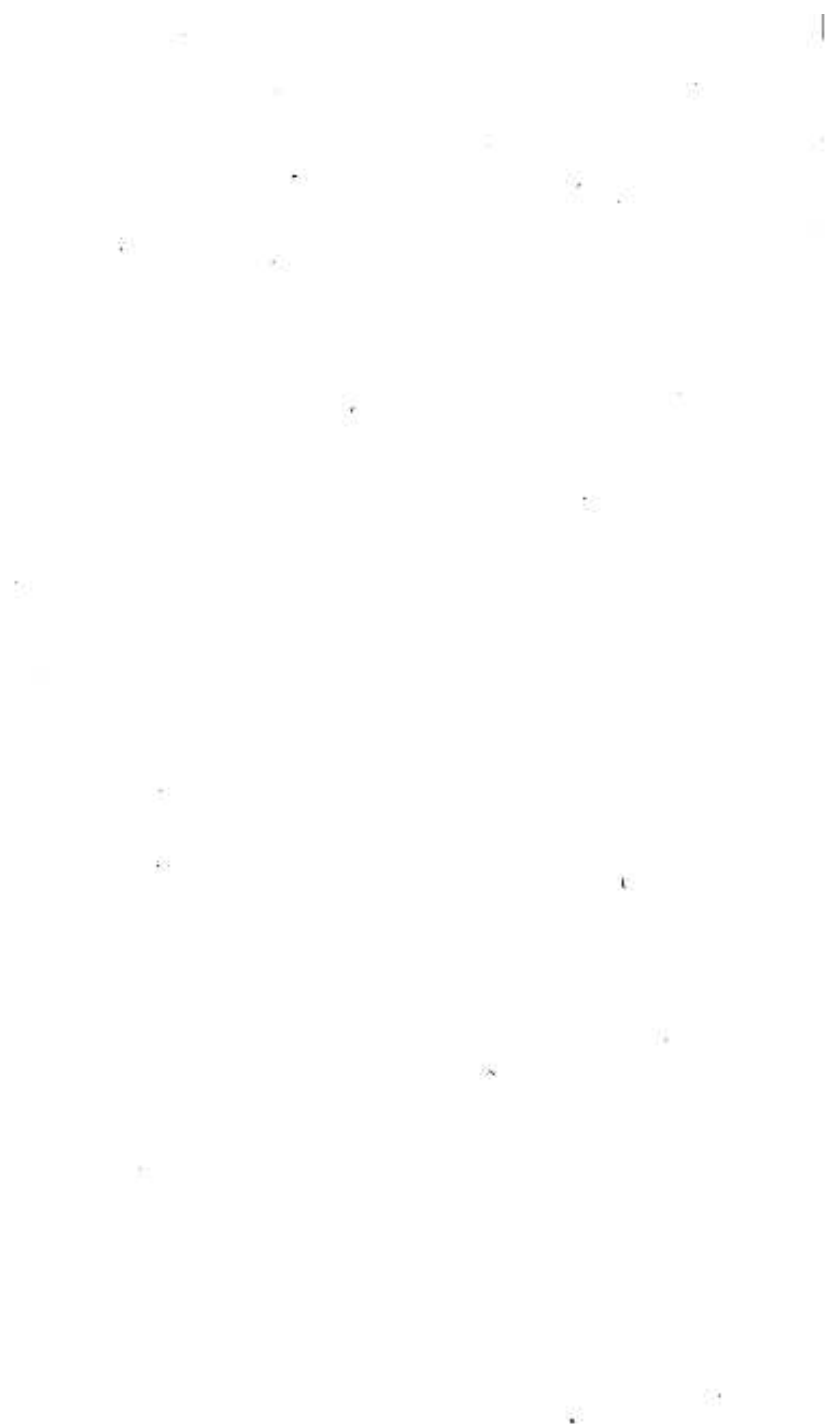
. "The end crowns all ;
And that old, common ARBITRATOR, Time,
Will one day end it."

Troilus and Cressida, Act iv., Sc. 5.

—:—

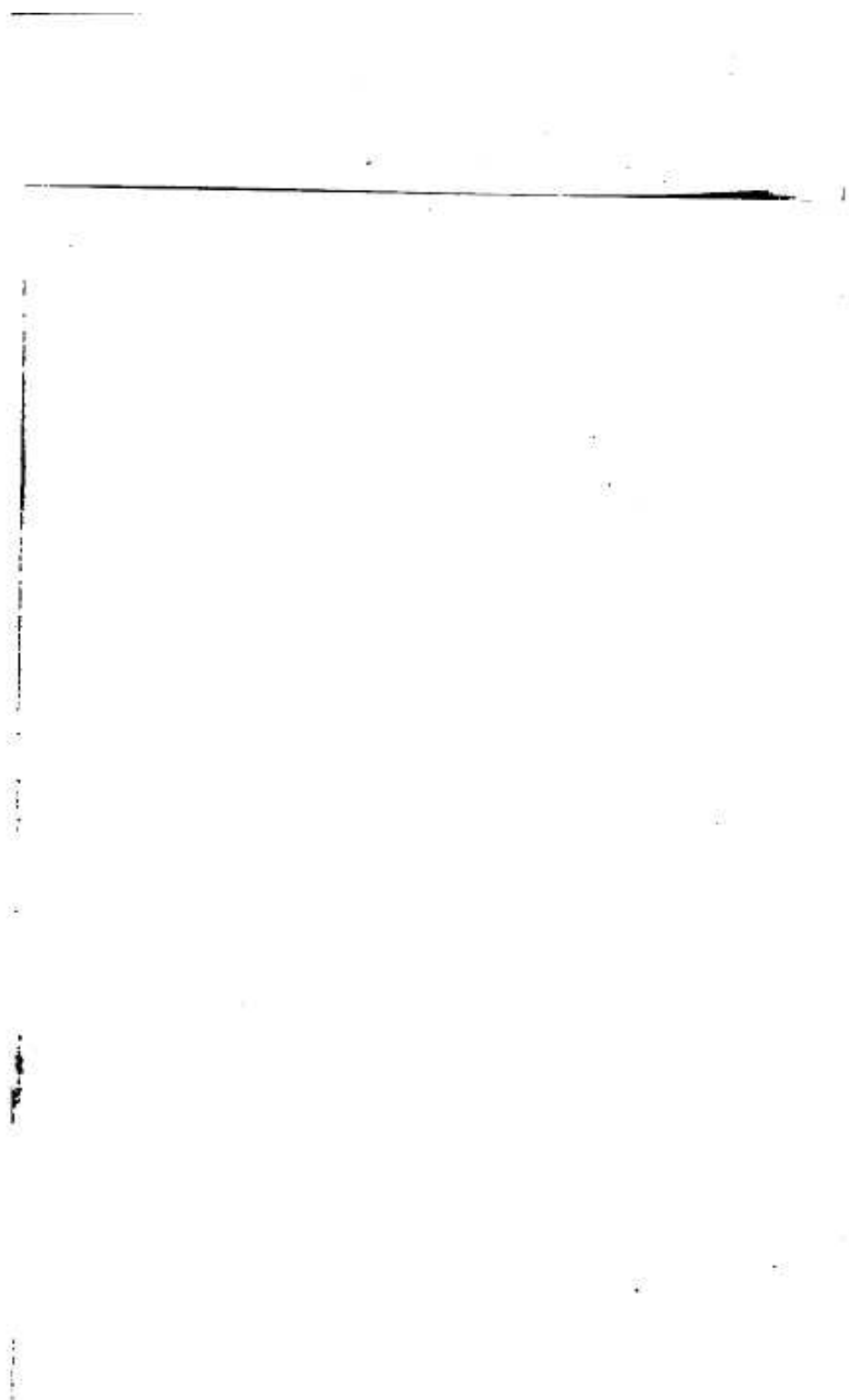
MONTREAL AND ROUSES POINT, N. Y.:
LOVELL PRINTING AND PUBLISHING COMPANY,
1875.

TO
THE HONOURABLE SAMUEL CORNWALLIS MONK,
ONE OF THE JUSTICES
OF HER MAJESTY'S COURT OF APPEALS
OF THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC IN THE DOMINION OF CANADA,
TO WHOSE PERSONAL KINDNESS AND
ENCOURAGEMENT IN LETTERS THE AUTHOR IS INDEBTED,
THIS BROCHURE IS DEDICATED,
NOT ONLY AS DUE IN FRIENDSHIP,
BUT ALSO AS A TRIBUTE TO HIS EMINENT ENDOWMENTS, AND TO
HIS ATTAINMENTS AS A JURIS-CONSULT,
WITH THIS REGRET,
THAT THE WORK IS NOT COMMENSURATE WITH THE ESTEEM THE
AUTHOR HAS SO LONG HELD FOR ONE SO DISTINGUISHED
FOR HIS RIPE AND SOUND SCHOLARSHIP.



ERRATA.

| | | | | |
|-------------|------|------------|--------------|----|
| For unque | read | ungue, | page 18 line | 7 |
| " quoted | " | granted, | " 50 " | 3 |
| " cast | " | casts | " 69 " | 6 |
| " perennus | " | perennius, | " 74 " | 18 |
| " dose | " | does | " 75 " | 8 |
| " rich | " | needy | " 78 " | 14 |
| " Of fall | " | Of all. | " 85 " | 3 |
| " is it not | " | it is not | " 94 " | 10 |
| " jealously | " | jealousy, | " 95 " | 20 |
| " salaces | " | palaces, | " 105 " | 6 |
| " all at | " | at all, | " 125 " | 11 |
| " selves | " | selves | " 145 " | 17 |
| " replies | " | reply | " 169 " | 17 |
| " minion | " | minim | " 170 " | 4 |
| " ambiguos | " | ambiguas | " 183 " | 9, |



PREFACE.

He who opens this little book under the expectation of finding an exhaustive defence of Shakspeare against the "*Baconian Theorists*," and an absolute establishment of his authorship had better close it, because it has no pretensions to be a complete thesis on the subject, although the various arguments follow some kind of order though perhaps, irregular.

The writer has simply given expression to his belief in Shakspeare as the author of "the best plays in our language," and his unbelief in Bacon's authorship of them.

He lays no claim to originality, because most of his arguments must have presented themselves to many readers and students of both Shakspeare and Bacon, though they may not have been publicly expressed.

He lays no claim to scholarship, neither is he desirous to appear learned, nor to be puffed up with the vanity of authorship, but he is desirous—as every man should be, to defend his friend from "*back-wounding-calumny*"—to

shield the character of Shakspeare, from the shafts of malice aimed at his reputation as a man and an author.

The calumny of Nathaniel Holmes and the "*Baconian Theorists*" would soon "starve and die of itself if nobody took it in and gave it lodging;" but as it is to be found in the libraries of Jurists and Scholars, in the closets of Divines and Students, on the book-shelves of Skeptics, and in the drawing-rooms of the Dilettanti, the writer hopes this plea for Shakspeare, will prove an antidote to slander's "poison'd shot."

MONTREAL,
February 27, 1875.