

**THE DIGBY PLAYS: WITH AN
INCOMPLETE 'MORALITY' OF
WISDOM, WHO IS CHRIST (PART OF
ONE OF THE MACRO MORALITIES).
THE DIGBY MYSTERIES**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649562497

The Digby Plays: With an Incomplete 'Morality' of Wisdom, Who Is Christ (Part of One of the Macro Moralities). The Digby Mysteries by F. J. Furnivall

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F. J. FURNIVALL

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39870

The Higby Plays

WITH AN INCOMPLETE 'MORALITY'

OR

Wisdom, who is Christ

(PART OF ONE OF THE *MACRO MORALITIES*).

RE-ISSUED FROM THE PLATES OF THE TEXT EDITED BY

F. J. FURNIVALL

FOR THE *NEW SHAKSPEARE SOCIETY* IN 1882.

LONDON:

PUBLISHT FOR THE EARLY ENGLISH TEXT SOCIETY
BY KEGAN PAUL, TRENCH, TRÜBNER & CO.,
PATERNOSTER HOUSE, CHARING-CROSS ROAD.

1896.

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1892

Extra Series, LXX.

RICHARD CLAY & SONS, LIMITED, LONDON & BUNGAY.

NOTICE.

THESE Digby Plays are a necessary part of the Early Play Series which the Early English Text Society has had to take up, because the New Shakspeare Society had not money enough to bring them out before it stopt. Advantage has therefore been taken of the opportunity of making a cast of the New Shakspeare Society's plates of the Digby Plays, without the lines round them which put them into the quarto form in which that Society issued them in 1882. The money thus saved in providing a book for the Early English Text Society's Extra Series in 1896 will be devoted to the Society's general object—the printing of MSS. and reprinting of old books.

The end of the Morality of *Wisdom* has not been added to this volume,—though Mr. Gurney has allowed the E.E.T.S. to copy it,—because it will appear in a few years in the Society's edition of the complete *Macro Moralities*,

F. J. F.

May 18, 1896.

THE DIGBY MYSTERIES.

TO
MRS GEORGE WHERRY,
Corpus Buildings, Cambridge.

MY DEAR MRS WHERRY,

You and I once studied SHAKSPERE for a time together.

I well recollect your capital acting of Nerissa in the *Merchant of Venice*, and the arch way in which you tost up your handkerchief when you heard the news that Bassanio was coming, as if you divined that the right man was near.

Some friends asserted that you actually winkt at him, to let him know which were the wrong caskets, and which the right; but that was doubtless a libel. At any rate you chafft delightfully that saucy *Gratiano*—the impertinent!—who dared to say that it was a 'youth,' a little scrubbed boy, to whom he gave your Ring.

Then you left such merrymaking to nurse "the speachleffe sicke," "enforce the maimed impotent to smile"; and for two years you toiled in the Hospitals.

You have your reward in your pretty, happy home, in the affection of the able and accomplisht gentl:man to whom you have linkt your life—the tender of the suffering, the helper of the poor, "who are Christ's friends," as Chaucer says.

I think of your choice and lot with pleasure, and I venture to dedicate to you this edition of a few of the Early Religious Dramas before Shakspeare's time, as just a reminder of the days when his triumphant art was the subject of our mutual work. Believe me to be,

Always sincerely yours,

F. J. FURNIVALL.

THE
DIGBY MYSTERIES.

1. THE KILLING OF THE CHILDREN.
2. THE CONVERSION OF ST PAUL.
3. MARY MAGDALENE.
4. CHRIST'S BURIAL AND RESURRECTION,

WITH AN INCOMPLETE
MORALITY
OF
WISDOM, WHO IS CHRIST
(PART OF ONE OF THE *MACRO MORALITIES*).

EDITED FROM THE MSS.
BY
F. J. FURNIVALL,
FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR OF THE NEW SHAKSPERE SOCIETY, ETC.

PUBLISHT FOR
The New Shakspeare Society
BY N. TRÜBNER & CO., 57, 59, LUDGATE HILL,
LONDON, E.C., 1882.