# THE RIVERSIDE LITERATURE SERIES; THE ESSAYS OF FRANCIS BACON; EDITED WITH INTRODUCTION AND NOTES

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The Riverside Literature Series; The Essays of Francis Bacon; Edited with Introduction and Notes by Clark Sutherland Northup

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## **CLARK SUTHERLAND NORTHUP**

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S: Francis Dacon, knight.

LORDE HIGHE CHANCELLOVE OF ENGLANDE, and one of his Maties most hone in privite counsell.

## The Riverside Literature Beries

# THE ESSAYS OF FRANCIS BACON

## EDITED WITH INTRODUCTION AND NOTES

BY

## CLARK SUTHERLAND NORTHUP, Ph.D. Assistant Professor of the English Language and Literature in Carnell University



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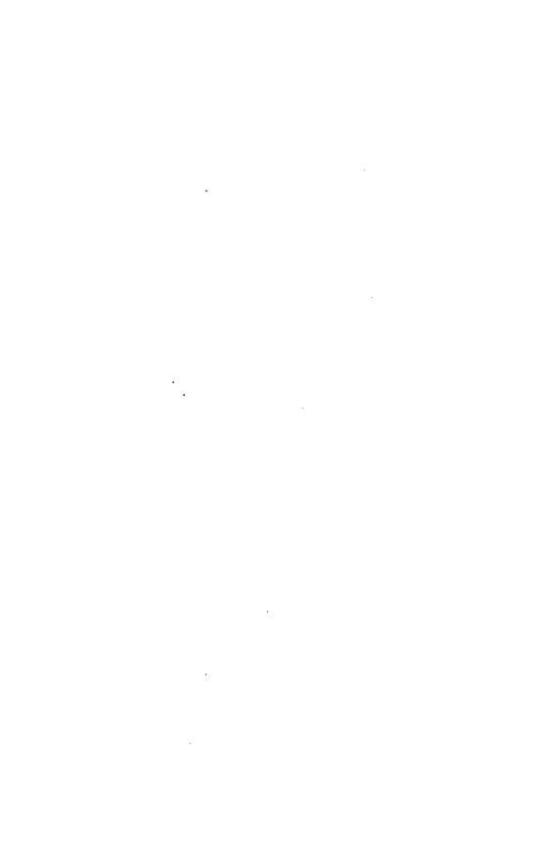
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#### PREFACE

THE text of this edition of Bacon's Essays is based on that of Spedding, carefully collated with Arber's, and constantly compared with the texts of Wright and Reynolds. The spelling and capitalization have been more thoroughly modernized than in most other texts, though some familiar archaic spellings have been kept; and the punctuation has been somewhat simplified. In the majority of instances I have retained Spedding's virile translations of the quotations from foreign languages. In writing on the vexed question of Bacon's character, I have been much indebted, as every careful student of Bacon will always be, to the epochmaking researches of Spedding, who, while unconsciously minimizing, perhaps, the significance of some unpleasant facts, has given us on the whole the justest narrative of Bacon's life that we have. In the notes, while assuming that the student will have access to a good unabridged dictionary. I have nevertheless kept in mind the fact that for many large classes there are not reference books enough to go around, and hence students must rely largely upon the notes for explanations of all kinds of difficulties. My constant indebtedness to the commentators mentioned above, as well as to Dr. Abbott, will be evident, and I acknowledge it with gratitude. I must also record my obligation to my colleague, Professor William Strunk, Jr., for the use of notes generously proffered, and to the authorities of the Harvard University Library for the loan of Holland's Plutarch.

C. S. N.

CORNELL UNIVERSITY, ITHACA, N. Y., October, 1907.



### THE

## ESSAYES OR COVNSELS,

## CIVILL AND MORALL,

OF

FRANCIS LO. VERVLAM, VISCOVNT ST. ALBAN.

NEWLY ENLARGED.

### LONDON:

Printed by JOHN HAVILAND, for HAMBI BARRET and RICHARD WEITLERS
And are to be sold at the signe of the King's Head, in
Paul's Churchyard.
1625.

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