

**IN MEMORIAM; TRIBUTES  
TO THE MEMORY OF THE  
LATE SIR HENRY IRVING**

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In memoriam; tributes to the memory of the late Sir Henry Irving by Charles F. Forshaw

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**CHARLES F. FORSHAW**

**IN MEMORIAM; TRIBUTES  
TO THE MEMORY OF THE  
LATE SIR HENRY IRVING**



In Memoriam.

TRIBUTES

TO THE MEMORY OF THE LATE

Sir HENRY IRVING,

LITT. D. LL.D.

PRESIDENT OF THE ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

EDITED BY

CHAS. F. FORSHAW, LL.D.

F.R.S.L. F.R. Hist. S.

HONORARY DENTAL SURGEON TO THE ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

1905.

LONDON :

ELLIOT STOCK,

62, PATERNOSTER ROW.



DEDICATION.

TO

Sir ALBERT K. ROLLITT,

M.P. LL.D. LITT. D. D.C.L.

AND TO

Sir CHARLES WYNDHAM

*Vice-President of the Actors' Association.*

These pages are inscribed with every  
expression of profound esteem and  
respect. . . .







## FOREWORD

BY

SIR ALBERT KAYE ROLLIT,

LL.D. D.C.L. LITT. D. M.P.

President of the Society of Yorkshiremen, 1903-5.

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**T**HE Editor, Dr. Forshaw, has asked me to write a Prefatory Note for this his Book of Poetical Tributes to Sir Henry Irving.

To do so is to me a privilege, and a very sorrowful pleasure; for I know, judging from experience, that Dr. Forshaw's book will be worthy of his subject, while his subject itself appeals to my inmost and intensest feelings of admiration for Sir Henry Irving during his life and work and of honour and respect for his memory after his death, and after his Nation's loss,

a loss the sense of which it has most worthily marked by the decree of its supremest approach to the gift of immortality by entombment in Westminster Abbey.

Never shall I forget that World's Tribute within and without the Abbey! In numbers, in rank (in its best sense), in its representation of the realms of Letters and Art and Science; in quiet and solemn grief for greatness departed; in outward expressions of poignant regret and respect; in marks of suppressed sorrow;—the tribute was such as I have never before witnessed at any State funeral.

The memory of the Actor's Art has been said to be of all Arts the most ephemeral; yet that scene, that concourse, that committal of his ashes to the Company of the Immortals—that moment of silent sorrow—will last in memory and in history for ever.

So also will the story of Henry Irving's rise in the Republic of Art and Letters, of which he was a President, remain in the hearts and minds of the people.

To Irving we owe the highest and best interpretation, in our days and age, of dramatic literature; to him we owe our familiarity with the greatest master-

pieces of dramatic and imaginative art; to him the world owes its clearest insight into the perfect beauties, and the mysteries, of Shakespeare's Plays. No more, nothing higher, can be said of any man.

R. I. P.

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DECEMBER, 1905.