

**SHAKESPEARE'S  
WARWICKSHIRE  
CONTEMPORARIES**

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Shakespeare's Warwickshire Contemporaries by Charlotte Carmichael Stopes

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**CHARLOTTE CARMICHAEL STOPES**

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BY  
CHARLOTTE CARMICHAEL STOPES



SHAKESPEARE HEAD PRESS  
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### PREFATORY NOTE.

SOME years ago I thought that it might be of interest to the students of Shakespeare to know something of his Warwickshire contemporaries, and I wrote a series of twelve articles, one each month, for *The Stratford-upon-Avon Herald*, which were appreciated so far that the Editor reprinted them in book form in the following year. That edition sold out at once. I have since gone over the ground again very carefully, making so many corrections and additions that the present edition may fairly claim to be a new book.

I originally selected my subjects on account of some relation, real or imaginary, which I believed they might have had to Shakespeare, and I limited them to biographies that had not been fully treated. Hence I had not mentioned the famous Warwickshire poet Michael Drayton (whom we know that Shakespeare knew), because there were good lives of him. But in the comparative leisure of drawing up a second edition, I have thought it necessary to complete the cycle of the contemporaries by including Drayton. To do this as well as possible, I read through all his poems and editions, a voluminous task, nevertheless a

necessary one, because so much of his biography is wrapped up in his works.

No full account of the Clergy and the Schoolmasters has ever been given, and I have contributed chapters on these.

As I have done all my work, even where it has been treated before, from first-hand authorities, I trust I may have been able to glean not a few things that are new to my readers, and that, taken altogether, the series may help to form a background against which the facts of the Poet's life may be seen in their true proportions.

My thanks are due to Richard Savage, Esq., Secretary to the Trustees of Shakespeare's Birth-place, who read some of the proof-sheets and supplied me with valuable suggestions.

I regret that I did not note and correct in proof on page 45 the word "Welcombe," which had crept in for "Welford," and I regret still more that a late "find," which I thought might shed some light on the fortunes of Drayton's patrons, should accidentally have been interpolated on page 189, at a wrong date, and in apparent association with the elder Sir Henry Goodere. It really referred to his nephew.

C. C. S.



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