

**THE SOLILOQUIES
OF SHAKESPEARE; A
STUDY IN TECHNIC**

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The soliloquies of Shakespeare; a study in technic by Morris LeRoy Arnold

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MORRIS LEROY ARNOLD

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MORRIS LEROY ARNOLD

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This Monograph has been approved by the Department of English in Columbia University as a contribution to knowledge worthy of publication.

A. H. THORNDIKE,
Secretary.

PREFACE

To add another volume to the already overflowing library of Shakespearean criticism requires a word of apology. In defense of this study as a "contribution to knowledge," may I preface a brief plea—my conviction after four years' investigation of the subject?

In the first place, this, so far as I know, is the only collective study of all of Shakespeare's soliloquies. Again, with surprisingly few exceptions, this is the only technical examination of any of Shakespeare's soliloquies. Finally, although the soliloquy as a convention has been frequently treated of late years in some valuable magazine articles at home and some lengthy monographs abroad, this discussion really adds to our knowledge of the soliloquy. There is a new treatment, I believe, of the following topics: (1) definition of the soliloquy; (2) the data of Chapter II; (3) the expository soliloquy as a means of identification and disguising; (4) the soliloquy as an explanation of accompanying "business,"—such as sleep, suicide and death,—as an accompaniment of an entrance and of an exit, and as the "unconscious entrance"; (5) the classification and analysis of Shakespeare's comic soliloquies, showing their relation to conventional types; and (6) the collective study of Shakespeare's tragic soliloquies as revelations of thought and feeling, and, in particular, these aspects of the convention,—the apology for the introspective soliloquy, textual indications of introspection, the setting of the introspective soliloquy, and the "trance"; also, the evolution of the moralizing in Shakespeare's soliloquies, and the classification of the passions depicted by Shakespeare's soliloquizers. Notwithstanding the analytical method of this investigation, I trust that I have not entirely failed to "rise to the height of this great argument."

Whatever merit this dissertation may have is due in no small degree to the friendly criticism of the members of the English department of Columbia University. I am particularly grate-