

**THE GOLDEN AND SILVER AGES: TWO
PLAYS; REPORT OF THE COUNCIL OF THE
TENTH ANNUAL
MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE
SHAKESPEARE SOCIETY, HELD ON THE
26TH OF APRIL, 1851**

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The Golden and Silver Ages: Two Plays; Report of the Council of the Tenth Annual Meeting of the Members of the Shakespeare Society, Held on the 26th of April, 1851 by Thomas Heywood

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THOMAS HEYWOOD

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THE
GOLDEN AND SILVER AGES.

TWO PLAYS

BY

THOMAS HEYWOOD.

WITH AN INTRODUCTION AND NOTES,

BY

J. PAYNE COLLIER, ESQ.



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INTRODUCTION.

It is only necessary to say a few words, by way of preface to the following plays.

Heywood wrote four dramas connected in subject and founded upon the mythology of the ancients; viz. :—

1. "The Golden Age," which came from the press in 1611, 4to;
2. "The Silver Age," which came from the press in 1613, 4to;
3. "The Brazen Age," which also came from the press in 1613, 4to.; and
4. "The Iron Age," which did not come from the press until 1632, 4to.

The two first are comprised in our present volume; and, as none of them were reprinted, these have been the sole copies consulted, in our re-impression. All have the name of the author upon the title-page.

The three first probably were in existence when "The Silver Age" appeared; but "The Iron Age" seems to have been of later composition, and to have been called for by the success of its predecessors. The characters in all were extremely numerous; and

in the address "to the Reader," before "The Iron Age," the Author states that, for their due representation, it had been necessary to unite two companies of performers. It will be obvious, also, that the stage-appliances of the time must have been severely taxed; and we may, perhaps, wonder, in some scenes, that, in the simplicity of our early theatres, adequate means of exhibition could have been afforded.

The popularity of the works is undoubted, and is testified, among other things, by the Author himself.

Our next issue, in pursuance of our design to republish the whole of Heywood's dramatic works, will be the Brazen and Iron Ages. The last consists of two parts.

The Shakespeare Society is indebted to the Duke of Devonshire for the use of the old editions of these Plays in his Grace's library.

J. P. C.

THE
G O L D E N A G E :

OR,

The liues of Jupiter and Saturne, with
the defining of the Heathen Gods.

As it hath beene sundry times acted at the Red
Bull, by the Queenes Maiesties Seruants.

Written by THOMAS HEYWOOD.

L O N D O N,

Printed for *William Barrenger*, and are to be sold at his
Shop neare the great North-doore of *Pauls*. 1611.