

**RICHARD THE FIRST,
A ROMANTICK
PLAY. IN FIVE ACTS**

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Richard the First, a Romantick Play. In Five Acts by George Wightwick

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GEORGE WIGHTWICK

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A ROMANTICK
PLAY. IN FIVE ACTS**

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A ROMANTICK PLAY,
IN FIVE ACTS,



BY

GEORGE WIGHTWICK.

" Now, good angels preserve the King !"

25

LONDON:
SIMPKIN, MARSHALL, AND CO.

MDCCCLVIII.

[*Entered at Stationers' Hall.*]

TO

LIEUT.-COL. CHAS. HAMILTON SMITH,

K.H., K.W., &c., &c,

WHOSE VALUABLE ASSISTANCE, IN PROMOTING THE TRUTH OF
THE STAGE, BY ACCURACY OF COSTUME, HAS BEEN SO
LIBERALLY AFFORDED,

THIS DRAMATICK ATTEMPT,

AS AN HUMBLE TOKEN OF ADMIRATION AND ESTEEM,
IS AFFECTIONATELY DEDICATED

BY

GEORGE WIGHTWICK.

ADVERTISEMENT.

The flattering reception given to this Play, on its repeated performances at the THEATRE ROYAL, PLYMOUTH, in 1848, under the liberal management of J. R. NEWCOMBE, Esq., has encouraged the belief, that its appearance, in a printed form, may not be unacceptable; to those, at least, who were interested by its representation: nor can the Author forego this opportunity of expressing his sense of what is due to the PERFORMERS, who, so zealously and so efficiently, contributed to its success. He has also to acknowledge his obligations to COL. C. HAMILTON SMITH, who so kindly supplied drawings for the Costumes; and to MR. S. COOK, for his correct and beautiful Scenery.

ERRATA.

Page 48,	for "Soldership"	read "Soldiership."
48,	"WALLENBODR"	"D'ARGENTON."
62,	"SAXON"	"SAXONY."
74,	"Soldership"	"Soldiership."
98,	"Checks"	"Cheeks."

DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.

ENGLISH.

RICHARD THE FIRST, *King of England.*
PRINCE JOHN, *Richard's Brother.*
BLONDEL, *a Minstrel.*
D'ARGENTON, *a Nobleman.*
EARL OF LEICESTER.
FITZURSE.
Barons, Mayor of London, Citizens, &c.
BERENGARIA, *Richard's Queen.*
ELEANOR, *the Queen Mother.*

GERMAN.

HENRY, *Emperor of Germany.*
LEOPOLD, *Archduke of Austria.*
MEINHARD } *Counts.*
WALLENRODE }
JONAS, *a professor of Court Wisdom.*
SCHWANKER, *a Court Fool.*
ELECTOR OF SAXONY, *Nobles, Bishops, Soldiers, &c.*
TERESA, *an accomplished Girl of lowly birth.*
MARIANNA, *a Court Attendant.*

SCENE.

FOUR ACTS IN GERMANY.
THE FIFTH IN ENGLAND.

PROLOGUE

Spoken, in character, by the Performer of SCHWANKER.

Ladies and Gentlemen ; 't is still our way,
To usher in, with Prologue, a new Play ;
And, by old custom's order 't is, that I
The part of Prologue thus do briefly try.
SHAKESPEARE,—for *Richard*, number *Two*, and *Three*,—
Has done, what none could do, save only HE ;
And, now,—that, what is *to* do, may be *done*,—
We come to do our best for number *One*.
The *Second* Richard oft has mov'd our tears ;
The Tyrant *Third*, as often, stirr'd our fears :
Our Author fills a breach up, in the past ;
And, the *First* Richard makes his bow—at *last*.
Be gentle with him on his opening night,
For, 'tween ourselves, he 's in a royal fright.
Yield but to *him* his best intention 's due ;
And e'en his LION-HEART shall yield to *you*.