

**THE TRAGICALL  
HISTORIE OF HAMLET,  
PRINCE OF DENMARKE**

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The Tragicall Historie of Hamlet, Prince of Denmarke by William Shakespeare

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**WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE**

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THE  
TRAGICALL HISTORIE  
OF  
**HAMLET,**  
PRINCE OF DENMARKE,

BY  
WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE.

EDITED  
ACCORDING TO THE FIRST PRINTED COPIES, WITH THE  
VARIOUS READINGS, AND CRITICAL NOTES,

BY  
F. H. STRATMANN.

LONDON: N. TRÜBNER AND CO. KREZFELD: E. GEHRICH AND CO.

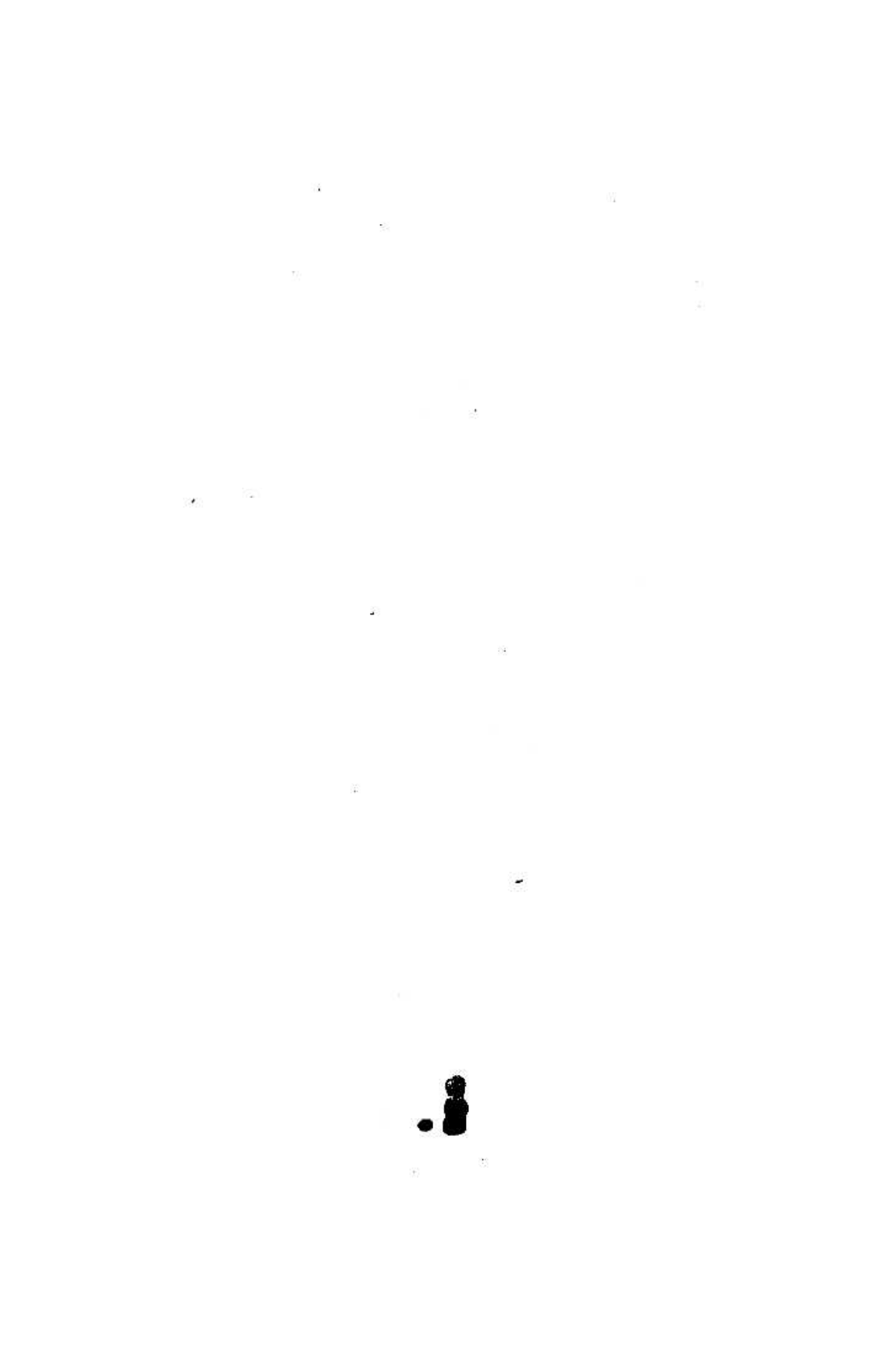
1869

## TO THE READER.

It is strange, that, among so many editions of Shakespeare's works, there is not one that gives their original form. Every editor thinks himself entitled to alter the text according to his time and fancy. A genuine Shakespeare, therefore, is a want which, by the present edition, I shall endeavour to supply.

Krefeld, October 4th, 1869.

F. H. STRATMANN.



## EDITIONS

USED FOR THE PRESENT TEXT.

### A\*

The Tragicall Historie of Hamlet Prince of Denmarke By William Shake-speare. As it hath bene diuerse times acted by his Highnesse seruants in the Cittie of London: as also in the two Vniuersities of Cambridge and Oxford, and else-where At London printed for N. L. and Iohn Trundell. 1603. [4to.]

[A careless, perhaps surreptitious, edition of, it seems, an earlier version of this play.]

### A

The Tragicall Historie of Hamlet, Prince of Denmarke. By William Shakespeare. Newly imprinted and enlarged to almost as much againe as it was, according to the true and perfect Coppie. At London, Printed by I. R. for N. L. and are to be sold at his shoppe vnder Saint Dunstons Church in Fleetstreet. 1604. [4to.]

### B\*

The Tragicall Historie of Hamlet, Prince of Denmarke. By William Shakespeare. Newly imprinted and enlarged to almost as much againe as it was, according to the true and perfect Coppie. At London, Printed by I. R. for N. L. and are to be sold at his shoppe vnder Saint Dunstons Church in Fleetstreet. 1605. [4to.]

[A mere reimpression of A.]

### B

The Tragedy of Hamlet Prince of Denmarke. By William Shakespeare. Newly imprinted and enlarged to almost as much againe as it was, according to the true and perfect Coppy. At London, Printed for Iohn Smethwicke, and are to be sold at his shoppe in Saint Dunstons Church yeard in Fleetstreet. Vnder the Diall. 1611. [4to.]

[Such is the title of the copy in the British Museum, which agrees with that in the library of Zürich, but differs from that given in Steevens' Twenty of the Plays of Shakespeare, London 1766.]

### C

The Tragedy of Hamlet Prince of Denmarke. Newly Imprinted and enlarged, according to the true and perfect Copy lastly Printed. By William Shakespeare. London, Printed by W. S. for Iohn Smethwicke, and are to be sold at his Shop in Saint Dunstans Church-yard in Fleetstreet: Vnder the Diall. [4to.]

[This edition is supposed by Collier to be that entered on the Register of the Stationers' Company in 1607, but internal evidence proves it to be subsequent to B.]



*D*

Mr. William Shakespeares Comedies, Histories, & Tragedies. Published according to the True Originall Copies. London Printed by Isaac Iaggard, and Ed. Blount. 1623. [fol.]

[In this volume "The Tragedie of Hamlet, Prince of Denmarke" occupyes p. 152—182 (misprinted 280) of the division of Tragedies.]

*E*

Mr. William Shakespeares Comedies, Histories, and Tragedies. Published according to the true Originall Copies. The second Impression. London, Printed by Tho. Cotes, for Robert Allot, and are to be sold at his shop at the signe of the Blacke Beare in Pauls Church-yard. 1632. [fol.]

*F*

The Tragedy of Hamlet Prince of Denmark. Newly imprinted and enlarged, according to the true and perfect Copy last Printed. By William Shakespeare. London, Printed by R. Young for John Smethwicke, and are to be sold at his Shop in Saint Dunstons Church-yard in Fleet-street, under the Diall. 1637. [4to.]

Actus Primus. Scena Prima.

*Enter Bernardo, and Francisco, two centinels.*

*Ber.* Who's there?

*Fran.* Nay answere me. Stand and unfolde  
Your selfe.

*Ber.* Long live the king.

*Fran.* Bernardo?

*Ber.* He.

*Fran.* You come most carefully upon your houre.

*Ber.* 'Tis now strooke twelwe, get thee to bed Francisco.

*Fran.* For this reliefe much thanks: 'tis bitter cold, 5  
And I am sick at heart.

*Ber.* Have you had quiet guard?

*Fran.* Not a mouse stirring.

*Ber.* Well, good night:

If you doe meete Horatio and Marcellus,  
The rivals of my watch, bid them make hast. 10

*Enter Horatio and Marcellus.*

*Fran.* I thinke I heare them. Stand ho, who is there?

*Hor.* Friends to this gound.

*Mar.* And lecgemen to the Dane.

*Fran.* Give you good night.

*Mar.* O, farewell honest soldier,

Who hath reliev'd you?

*Fran.* Bernardo hath my place; *Exit Fran.*  
Give you good night.

*Various readings:*

Actus Primus Scena Prima. *D.* not in *ABCF.* 1 Whole *ABC.* answer *BCDEF.* unfold *BCD* unfold *EF.* 2 you selfe *B.* Bernardo *ABCDEE.* Hee *ABCF.* 1—2 printed as prose in *ABCDEE.* 4 'Tis *AB.* strook *D* struck *E.* twelue *BCD* twelve *EE.* 5 reliefe *D.* thanks *DE.* 6 hart *A.* 7 prose in *ABCDEE.* 9 do *D.* meet *DEE.* 10 rivals *AC* rivals *F.* partners (*for* rivals) *A\*.* halte *F.* 11 them, stand *ABC.* Stand: who's *DE.* 12 Leedgemen *A* Leige-men *D* Liege-men *E* Liegemen *F.* 13 farwell *A* farwel *DE.* fouldier *A\** fouldiers *ABCF.* 14 releued *A\** relieved *F.* ha's *DE.*

- Mar.* Holla, Bernardo.
- Ber.* Say, 15
- What is Horatio there?
- Hor.* A peece of him.
- Ber.* Welcome Horatio, welcome good Marcellus.
- Mar.* What, ha's this thing appear'd againe to night?
- Ber.* I have scene nothing.
- Mar.* Horatio sayes 'tis but our fantasie, 20
- And will not let beleefe take hold of him,  
Touching this dreaded sight, twice scene of us,  
Therefore I have intreated him along  
With us, to watch the minutes of this night,  
That if againe this apparition come, 25
- He may approve our eyes and speake to it.
- Hor.* Tush, tush, 'twill not appeare.
- Ber.* Sit downe a while,  
And let us once againe assaile your eares,  
That are so fortified against our story,  
What we have two nights scene.
- Hor.* Well, sit we downe, 30
- And let us heare Bernardo speake of this.
- Ber.* Last night of all,  
When yond same starre that's westward from the pole,  
Had made his course t'illumine that part of heaven  
Where now it burnes, Marcellus and my selfe, 35
- The bell then beating one.
- Enter Ghost.*
- Mar.* Peace, breake thee off: looke where it comes againe.
- Ber.* In the same figure, like the king that's dead.
- Mar.* Thou art a scholler, speake to it Horatio.
- Ber.* Lookes it not like the king? Marke it Horatio. 40
- Hor.* Most like: it harrowes me with feare and wonder.
- Ber.* It would be spoke to.
- Mar.* Speake to it Horatio.
- Hor.* What art thou that usurp'st this time of night,  
Together with that faire and warlike forme,  
In which the majesty of buried Denmarke 45
- Did sometimes march? by heaven I charge the speake.

15 Say what, *B*. 18 *Hor.* (for *Mar.*) *ABCF*. hath *A\**. 20 faies *AD*. a (for our) *BCF*. phantastic *EF*. 21 beliefe *ACF*. holde *A*. 22 by vs, *A\**. 23 entreated *F*. 24 minuts *AB*. 25 apparition *A*. 26 approue *A*. 27 awhile *B* a-while *D*. 30 wee *B*. we two Nights haue *DE*. 33 (for *CE*. thats *ABC*. 34 illumine *C* illumine *A\*F*. 37 of *AD*. 39 Scholar *F*. 40 omitted in *BCF*. a (for it) *A*. 41 horrowes *ABCF* horrors *A\**. 42 Question it *A\*D*. 45 Maistie *A*. 46 march, *A* march: *BCE* walke? *A\**. by *ABCF*. speak *C*.