THE NEW CAMBRIDGE SHAKESPEARE

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TROILUS AND CRESSIDA

Troilus and Cressida, long considered one of Shakespeare’s most problematic plays, is both difficult and fascinating. Largely neglected during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, it has recently proved popular and rewarding on the stage as well as in the study. This edition questions certain received ideas about the play’s text, especially the relationship between Quarto and Folio, and offers several new readings of old problems. Dawson’s textual choices are often surprising but at the same time carefully grounded. He views the play from a performance perspective – frequently in the Commentary as well as in the detailed section on stage history in the Introduction. The Introduction also covers the cultural context in which the play was written, probes the controversy about its early performance, and provides extensive analysis of character, language, genre, and contemporary significance.
THE NEW CAMBRIDGE SHAKESPEARE

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The Taming of a Shrew: The 1594 Quarto, edited by Stephen Roy Miller
TROILUS AND CRESSIDA

Edited by

ANTHONY B. DAWSON
## CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>List of illustrations</td>
<td>vi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acknowledgements</td>
<td>vii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>List of abbreviations and conventions</td>
<td>ix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Style and genre: heap of rubbish, salty comedy, or what?</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The play in its time</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Symmetrical structures</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpreting the language</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cressida</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literary identity</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scepticism and speculation</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The play in performance</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Note on the text</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The 1609 epistle to the reader</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>List of characters</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THE PLAY</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Textual analysis</td>
<td>234</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix: Sources of the play</td>
<td>253</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading list</td>
<td>262</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ILLUSTRATIONS

1 Cressida is delivered to Diomedes in exchange for Antenor, from Thomas Hanmer’s edition (1744). page 2
2 Simon Russell Beale as Thersites in Sam Mendes’ production (RSC 1990). 18
3 Diomedes and Cressida, watched by Troilus, an engraving by Henry Fuseli, 1804. 20
4 Cressida greeted by the Greek generals, from Howard Staunton’s edition (1860). 30
5 Cassandra, by Byam Shaw, 1902. 40
6 Elspeth Keith as Thersites in William Poel’s production, 1912. 48
7 Pandarus, Helen, and Paris in Tyrone Guthrie’s Old Vic production, 1956. 49
8 Hector surrounded by Achilles and his Myrmidons, in the RSC production of 1960. 53
9 Combat of Ajax and Hector in John Barton’s 1968 RSC production. 54
10 Juliet Stevenson as Cressida faces the Greek generals (RSC 1985). 57
11 Pandarus and Cressida in Dieter Dorn’s production (Munich, 1986). Oda Sternberg, photo. 58
12 Cressida and Pandarus relaxing by the ‘pool’ in Sam Mendes’ production (RSC 1990). 60
13 The first ‘state’ of the quarto title page. 236
14 The second ‘state’ of the quarto title page. 237

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This edition has been gestating for a long time and it is gratifying now to be able to thank those many people who have helped bring it to the light of day. I have learned a great deal from the many previous editors of the play, most especially H. N. Hillebrand, whose monumental Variorum edition offers so much valuable information and keen analysis; I would also like to single out Alice Walker, the editor of the previous Cambridge Shakespeare version, G. B. Evans, my thesis supervisor of long ago, and Kenneth Palmer and David Bevington, editors of the second and third series Arden Shakespeare editions. Gratitude is due also to the Oxford editors, Stanley Wells and Gary Taylor, with whom I often found myself in fruitful disagreement; their work on the text and in William Shakespeare: A Textual Companion has proved indispensable to later editors.

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ABBREVIATIONS AND CONVENTIONS

Shakespeare’s plays, when cited in this edition, are abbreviated in a style modified slightly from that used in the Harvard Concordance to Shakespeare. Other editions of Shakespeare are abbreviated under the editor’s surname (Evans, Bevington) unless they are the work of more than one editor. In such cases, an abbreviated series name is used (Cam.). When more than one edition by the same editor is cited, later editions are discriminated with a raised figure (Rowe²). All quotations from Shakespeare, other than those from Troilus and Cressida, use the lineation of The Riverside Shakespeare, under the textual editorship of G. Blakemore Evans.

1. Shakespeare’s works

Ado || Much Ado About Nothing
Ant. || Antony and Cleopatra
AWW || All’s Well That Ends Well
AYLI || As You Like It
Cor. || Coriolanus
Cym. || Cymbeline
Err. || The Comedy of Errors
Ham. || Hamlet
1H4 || The First Part of King Henry the Fourth
2H4 || The Second Part of King Henry the Fourth
H5 || King Henry the Fifth
1H6 || The First Part of King Henry the Sixth
2H6 || The Second Part of King Henry the Sixth
3H6 || The Third Part of King Henry the Sixth
H8 || King Henry the Eighth
JC || Julius Caesar
John || King John
LLL || Love’s Labour’s Lost
Lear || King Lear
Luc. || The Rape of Lucrece
Mac. || Macbeth
MM || Measure for Measure
MND || A Midsummer Night’s Dream
MV || The Merchant of Venice
Oth. || Othello
Per. || Pericles
PP || The Passionate Pilgrim
R2 || King Richard the Second
R3 || King Richard the Third
Rom. || Romeo and Juliet
Shr. || The Taming of the Shrew
Son. || The Sonnets
STM || Sir Thomas More

ix
List of abbreviations and conventions

Temp. The Tempest
TGV The Two Gentlemen of Verona
Tim. Timon of Athens
Tit. Titus Andronicus
TN Twelfth Night
TNK The Two Noble Kinsmen
Tro. Troilus and Cressida
Wiv. The Merry Wives of Windsor
WT The Winter’s Tale

2. Other works cited and general references

Abbott E. A. Abbott, A Shakespearian Grammar, 3rd edn, 1870 (references are to numbered paragraphs)
Adams J. N. Adams, Latin Sexual Vocabulary, 1982
Bednarz James P. Bednarz, Shakespeare and the Poets’ War, 2001
Berger Harry Berger, Jr, ‘Troilus and Cressida: the observer as basilik’, Comparative Drama 2 (1968), 122–26
Bevington² Troilus and Cressida, ed. David Bevington, 1998 (Arden Shakespeare)
Bowen Barbara E. Bowen, Gender in the Theatre of War: Shakespeare’s Troilus and Cressida, 1993
Bowers Fredson Bowers, On Editing Shakespeare and the Elizabethan Dramatists, 1955
Bradshaw Graham Bradshaw, Shakespeare’s Scepticism, 1987
Bullough Narrative and Dramatic Sources of Shakespeare, ed. Geoffrey Bullough (8 vols., 1957–75), vol. vi, 1966
List of abbreviations and conventions

Caxton The Recuyell of the Historyes of Troye (written in French by Raoul Lefèvre, translated and printed by William Caxton, 1474), ed. H. Oskar Sommer, 1894
Charnes Linda Charnes, Notorious Identity: Materializing the Subject in Shakespeare, 1993
Chaucer Geoffrey Chaucer, Troilus and Criseyde, in The Riverside Chaucer, ed. Larry D. Benson, 1987
Collier Shakespeare’s Comedies, Histories, Tragedies, and Poems, ed. J. P. Collier (6 vols., 1858), vol. iv
conj. conjecture, conjectured by
corr. corrected
Crosse Gordon Crosse, unpublished MS. theatre diaries, Birmingham Public Library
Deighton Troilus and Cressida, ed. K. Deighton, 1906 (Arden Shakespeare)
Delius The Works of William Shakespeare, ed. Nicholas Delius (7 vols., 1864), vol. ii
Dent, PLED R.W. Dent, Proverbal Language in English Drama Exclusive of Shakespeare, 1495–1616, 1984
Donaldson E. Talbot Donaldson, The Swan at the Well: Shakespeare Reading Chaucer, 1985
ed., eds. editor(s), edited by
edn edition
Ellis-Fermor Una Ellis-Fermor, The Frontiers of Drama, 1946
Elton William R. Elton, Shakespeare’s ‘Troilus and Cressida’ and the Inns of Court Revels, 2000
Engle Lars Engle, Shakespearean Pragmatism: Market of His Time, 1993
List of abbreviations and conventions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Evans</td>
<td>The Riverside Shakespeare, ed. G. Blakemore Evans, 1974</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Mr. William Shakespeares Comedies, Histories &amp; Tragedies, 1623 (First Folio)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F2</td>
<td>Mr. William Shakespeares Comedies, Histories &amp; Tragedies, 1632 (Second Folio)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F3</td>
<td>Mr. William Shakespeares Comedies, Histories &amp; Tragedies, 1663–4 (Third Folio)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Greg, Documents</td>
<td>W. W. Greg, Dramatic Documents from the Elizabethan Playhouse, 2 vols., 1931</td>
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<td>Greg, Principles</td>
<td>W. W. Greg, Principles of Emendation in Shakespeare, 1928</td>
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<td>Hanmer</td>
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</tr>
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<td>Hinman</td>
<td>Charlton Hinman, The Printing and Proof-Reading of the First Folio of Shakespeare, 2 vols., 1963</td>
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<td>Barbara Hodgdon, ‘He do Cressida in different voices’, English Literary Renaissance 20 (1990), 254–86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holland</td>
<td>Peter Holland, English Shakespeares: Shakespeare on the English Stage in the 1990s, 1997</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**List of abbreviations and conventions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Honigmann</td>
<td>E. A. J. Honigmann, The Stability of Shakespeare’s Texts, 1965</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hortmann</td>
<td>Wilhelm Hortmann, Shakespeare on the German Stage: The Twentieth Century, 1998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hudson</td>
<td>The Works of Shakespeare, ed. H. N. Hudson (11 vols., 1851–9), vol. vii, 1854</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hulme</td>
<td>Hilda Hulme, Explorations in Shakespeare’s Language, 1962</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILN</td>
<td>Illustrated London News</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackson</td>
<td>Z. Jackson, Shakespeare’s Genius Justified, 1819</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James</td>
<td>Heather James, Shakespeare’s Troy: Drama, Politics, and the Translation of Empire, 1997</td>
</tr>
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<td>Johnson</td>
<td>The Plays of William Shakespeare, ed. Samuel Johnson (8 vols., 1765) vol. vii</td>
</tr>
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<td>Jones</td>
<td>Katherine Duncan-Jones, Ungentle Shakespeare: Scenes From His Life, 2001</td>
</tr>
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<td>Kennedy</td>
<td>Dennis Kennedy, Looking at Shakespeare: A Visual History of Twentieth-century Performance, 1993</td>
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<td>Kimbrough</td>
<td>Robert Kimbrough, Shakespeare’s ‘Troilus and Cressida’ and Its Setting, 1964</td>
</tr>
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<td>Kinnear</td>
<td>Benjamin G. Kinnear, Cruces Shakespearianae: Difficult Passages in the Works of Shakespeare, 1883</td>
</tr>
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<td>Kittredge</td>
<td>The Complete Works of Shakespeare, ed. George Lyman Kittredge, 1936</td>
</tr>
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<td>Lancaster</td>
<td>Ian Lancaster, ‘Probing Shakespeare’s idiolect in Troilus and Cressida’, University of Toronto Quarterly 68 (1999), 728–67</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
List of abbreviations and conventions [xiv]

- Maus Katharine E. Maus, Inwardness and Theater in the English Renaissance, 1995
- Montaigne Michel de Montaigne, The Essays of Montaigne (1603), trans. John Florio, 1933
- MS., MSS. manuscript, manuscripts
- Mulvey Laura Mulvey, ‘Visual pleasure and narrative cinema’ (1975), in Feminism and Film Theory, ed. Constance Penley, 1988, pp. 57–79
- n., nn. note, notes
- Noble Richmond Noble, Shakespeare’s Biblical Knowledge and Use of the Book of Common Prayer, 1935
- Nosworthy J. M. Nosworthy, Shakespeare’s Occasional Plays: Their Origin and Transmission, 1965
- Palmer Troilus and Cressida, ed. Kenneth Palmer, 1982 (Arden Shakespeare)
- Parker Patricia Parker, Shakespeare from the Margins: Language, Culture, Context, 1996
- Q The Historie of Troylus and Cresseida, 1609 (the quarto)
- Rann Joseph Rann, Dramatic Works (6 vols., 1786–94), vol. III, 1789
[xv]

List of abbreviations and conventions

rev. revised, revised by
Ritson Joseph Ritson, Remarks, Critical and Illustrative, on the Text and Notes of the Last Edition of Shakespeare, 1783
Rossiter A. P. Rossiter, Angel with Horns and Other Shakespeare Lectures, 1961
Rowe The Works of Mr. William Shakespeare, ed. Nicholas Rowe (6 vols., 1709), vol. IV
Rowe* The Works of Mr. William Shakespear, ed. Nicholas Rowe (8 vols., 1714), vol. V
rpt reprint, reprinted
RSC Royal Shakespeare Company
Rutter Carol Rutter, Enter the Body: Women and Representation on Shakespeare's Stage, 2001
Schmidt Alexander Schmidt, Shakespeare Lexicon, 2 vols., 1874, rpt 1971
sd stage direction
Sedgwick Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick, Between Men: English Literature and Male Homosocial Desire, 1985
sit speech heading
Singer MS. A copy of F2 formerly in S. W. Singer's possession, with seventeenth-century marginal corrections (cited in Variorum, pp. xv and 177)
Sonnets Katherine Duncan-Jones, ed. Shakespeare's Sonnets (Arden edition), 1997
Spevack Marvin Spevack, A Complete and Systematic Concordance to the Works of Shakespeare, 9 vols., 1968
SQ Shakespeare Quarterly
S. Str. Shakespeare Survey
S. St. Shakespeare Studies
Steevens The Plays of William Shakespeare, ed. Samuel Johnson and George Steevens (Variorum, 10 vols., 1773), vol. IX
Steevens2 The Plays of William Shakespeare, ed. Samuel Johnson and George Steevens (Variorum, 10 vols., 1778), vol. IX
Steevens3 The Plays of William Shakespeare, ed. Samuel Johnson and George Steevens (Variorum, 15 vols., 1793), vol. XI
subst. substantively
Swinburne Algernon C. Swinburne, A Study of Shakespeare (1886), 1965
Tannenbaum Samuel A. Tannenbaum ‘Notes on Troilus and Cressida’, Shakespeare Association Bulletin 7 (1932), 72–81
List of abbreviations and conventions

| Theobald       | The Works of Shakespeare, ed. Lewis Theobald (7 vols., 1733), vol. vii |
| Theobald²      | The Works of Shakespeare, ed. Lewis Theobald (8 vols., 1740), vol. vii |
| Thirlby        | S. Thirlby, Letters to Theobald, cited in the latter’s edition, 1733 |
| TLS            | Times Literary Supplement |
| Tylee          | Claire M. Tylee, ‘The text of Cressida and every ticklish reader: Troilus and Cressida, the Greek camp scene’, S. Sur. 41 (1989), 63–76 |
| Tyrwhitt       | Thomas Tyrwhitt, Observations and Conjectures upon Some Passages of Shakespeare, 1766 |
| uncorr.        | uncorrected |
| Walker         | Troilus and Cressida, ed. Alice Walker, 1957 (New Shakespeare) |
| Walker, Textual| Alice Walker, Textual Problems of the First Folio: Richard III, King Lear, Troilus and Cressida, 2 Henry VI, Hamlet, Othello, 1953 |
| Walton         | J. K. Walton, The Quarto Copy for the First Folio of Shakespeare, 1971 |
| White²         | Mr. William Shakespeare’s Comedies, Histories, Tragedies, and Poems, ed. R. G. White, 1883 (Riverside) |
| Williams, Dictionary | Gordon Williams, A Dictionary of Sexual Language and Imagery in Shakespearean and Stuart Literature, 3 vols., 1994 |
| Williams, Glossary | Gordon Williams, A Glossary of Shakespeare’s Sexual Language, 1997 |
| Woodbridge     | Linda Woodbridge, Women and the English Renaissance, 1986 |

Unless otherwise noted, quotations from the Bible are taken from the Geneva Bible (1560).