

THE NEW CAMBRIDGE SHAKESPEARE

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From the publication of the first volumes in 1984 the General Editor of the New Cambridge Shakespeare was Philip Brockbank and the Associate General Editors were Brian Gibbons and Robin Hood. From 1990 to 1994 the General Editor was Brian Gibbons and the Associate General Editors were A. R. Braunmuller and Robin Hood.

KING JOHN

King John had a distinguished life on the eighteenth- and nineteenth-century stage but for most of this century the play has been undervalued.

The introduction to Professor Beaurline's edition presents the fullest account to date of the stage history, with accompanying illustrations to suggest the dramatic potential of the script. The play's political importance, its rich and varied language, and its skilful design suggest that *King John* deserves a high place among Shakespeare's historical tragedies. Professor Beaurline points out that late in the play the Bastard Falconbridge's character assumes some of the attitudes of Montaigne, especially his mixed feelings about the affairs of this world.

The textual analysis examines several disputed emendations to the text. In the appendix Professor Beaurline surveys the arguments about the dating of Shakespeare's *King John* and the anonymous *Troublesome Reign of King John*, and presents new evidence for the possibility that Shakespeare's play was written first. In that case, *King John* would be an early composition and *Troublesome Reign* an adaptation of it.

THE NEW CAMBRIDGE SHAKESPEARE

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KING JOHN

Edited by

L. A. BEAURLINE



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THE NEW CAMBRIDGE SHAKESPEARE

The *New Cambridge Shakespeare* succeeds *The New Shakespeare* which began publication in 1921 under the general editorship of Sir Arthur Quiller-Couch and John Dover Wilson, and was completed in the 1960s, with the assistance of G. I. Duthie, Alice Walker, Peter Ure and J. C. Maxwell. *The New Shakespeare* itself followed upon *The Cambridge Shakespeare*, 1863–6, edited by W. G. Clark, J. Glover and W. A. Wright.

The New Shakespeare won high esteem both for its scholarship and for its design, but shifts of critical taste and insight, recent Shakespearean research, and a changing sense of what is important in our understanding of the plays, have made it necessary to re-edit and redesign, not merely to revise, the series.

The *New Cambridge Shakespeare* aims to be of value to a new generation of playgoers and readers who wish to enjoy fuller access to Shakespeare's poetic and dramatic art. While offering ample academic guidance, it reflects current critical interests and is more attentive than some earlier editions have been to the realisation of the plays on the stage, and to their social and cultural settings. The text of each play has been freshly edited, with textual data made available to those users who wish to know why and how one published text differs from another. Although modernised, the edition conserves forms that appear to be expressive and characteristically Shakespearean, and it does not attempt to disguise the fact that the plays were written in a language other than that of our own time.

Illustrations are usually integrated into the critical and historical discussion of the play and include some reconstructions of early performances by C. Walter Hodges. Some editors have also made use of the advice and experience of Maurice Daniels, for many years a member of the Royal Shakespeare Company.

Each volume is addressed to the needs and problems of a particular text, and each therefore differs in style and emphasis from others in the series.

PHILIP BROCKBANK
General Editor

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PREFACE

My debt to former editors is far greater than the notes can record, especially to E. A. J. Honigmann and to R. L. Smallwood. Both kindly read a draft of the introduction, and Professor Honigmann read the appendix. When I began thinking about the vexing problems in *King John*, I was influenced by the critical studies of Emrys Jones and Wilbur Sanders, and that respect has deepened steadily. Stanley Wells's judicious books *Modernizing Shakespeare's Spelling* (1979) and *Re-Editing Shakespeare for the Modern Reader* (1984) have shaped many decisions in the text.

My friends and colleagues, Verdel Kolve, David Vander Muelen, Daniel Kinney, Gordon Braden, Fredson Bowers and Arthur Kirsch have answered questions about the text and interpretation. Special thanks go to Mike Stanford, Scott Boltwood, and Brent Harris, who helped check the commentary, and to Deborah Shea for putting the text and commentary on a word processor.

Professor Philip Brockbank helped me generously with the unruly introduction, and at Cambridge University Press Paul Chipchase's copy-editing has improved almost every page of this edition.

Staff at the Folger Library, the Harvard Theatre Collection, the Huntington Library, the Royal Shakespeare Gallery, the Victoria and Albert Museum, the Weimar National Theatre, Yale University Art Gallery, and the British Museum Department of Prints and Drawings have found fugitive material and have generously allowed me to reproduce pictures from their collections. The most delightful part of making this edition has been the spirited correspondence with Walter Hodges. His splendid drawings and his fund of theatrical knowledge have enriched the edition incomparably.

My deepest debt is to my wife, who has put up with my groans and questions for more than seven years. If there are any good sentences in the introduction, she has shaped them.

University of Virginia

L. A. B.

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 (Honigmann, Capell), or, in certain cases, under the series title (Cam., Oxford). When more than one edition by the same editor is cited, later editions are discriminated with a raised figure (Rowe²). All quotations from Shakespeare, except those from *King John*, use the text and lineation of *The Riverside Shakespeare*, under the general editorship of G. Blakemore Evans.

i. Shakespeare's plays

<i>Ado</i>	<i>Much Ado About Nothing</i>
<i>Ant.</i>	<i>Antony and Cleopatra</i>
<i>AWW</i>	<i>All's Well That Ends Well</i>
<i>AYLI</i>	<i>As You Like It</i>
<i>Cor.</i>	<i>Coriolanus</i>
<i>Cym.</i>	<i>Cymbeline</i>
<i>Err.</i>	<i>The Comedy of Errors</i>
<i>Ham.</i>	<i>Hamlet</i>
<i>1H4</i>	<i>The First Part of King Henry the Fourth</i>
<i>2H4</i>	<i>The Second Part of King Henry the Fourth</i>
<i>H5</i>	<i>King Henry the Fifth</i>
<i>1H6</i>	<i>The First Part of King Henry the Sixth</i>
<i>2H6</i>	<i>The Second Part of King Henry the Sixth</i>
<i>3H6</i>	<i>The Third Part of King Henry the Sixth</i>
<i>H8</i>	<i>King Henry the Eighth</i>
<i>JC</i>	<i>Julius Caesar</i>
<i>John</i>	<i>King John</i>
<i>LLL</i>	<i>Love's Labour's Lost</i>
<i>Lear</i>	<i>King Lear</i>
<i>Mac.</i>	<i>Macbeth</i>
<i>MM</i>	<i>Measure for Measure</i>
<i>MND</i>	<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>
<i>MV</i>	<i>The Merchant of Venice</i>
<i>Oth.</i>	<i>Othello</i>
<i>Per.</i>	<i>Pericles</i>
<i>R2</i>	<i>King Richard the Second</i>
<i>R3</i>	<i>King Richard the Third</i>
<i>Rom.</i>	<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>
<i>Shr.</i>	<i>The Taming of the Shrew</i>
<i>STM</i>	<i>Sir Thomas More</i>
<i>Temp.</i>	<i>The Tempest</i>
<i>TGV</i>	<i>The Two Gentlemen of Verona</i>
<i>Tim.</i>	<i>Timon of Athens</i>
<i>Tit.</i>	<i>Titus Andronicus</i>
<i>TN</i>	<i>Twelfth Night</i>

<i>TNK</i>	<i>The Two Noble Kinsmen</i>
<i>Tro.</i>	<i>Troilus and Cressida</i>
<i>Wiv.</i>	<i>The Merry Wives of Windsor</i>
<i>WT</i>	<i>The Winter's Tale</i>

2. Editions and general references

Abbott	E. A. Abbott, <i>A Shakespearian Grammar</i> , rev. edn, 1870 (references are to numbered paragraphs)
Alexander	<i>William Shakespeare, The Complete Works</i> , ed. Peter Alexander, 1951
Baker	Herschel Baker, explanatory notes to <i>King John</i> in Riverside
Cam.	<i>The Works of William Shakespeare</i> , ed. W. G. Clark, John Glover, and W. A. Wright, 1863–6 (Cambridge Shakespeare)
Capell	<i>Mr William Shakespeare His Comedies, Histories, and Tragedies</i> , ed. Edward Capell, 1767–8
Collier	<i>The Works of William Shakespeare</i> , ed. J. P. Collier, 1842–4
Collier ²	<i>The Plays of Shakespeare</i> , ed. J. P. Collier, 1853
Collier MS.	Manuscript emendations in Perkins's Second Folio (1632), Huntington Library
conj.	conjecture
Cotgrave	Randle Cotgrave, <i>A Dictionarie of the French and English Tongues</i> , 1611
Davies	Thomas Davies, <i>Dramatic Miscellanies</i> , 3 vols., 1784
Dent	R. W. Dent, <i>Shakespeare's Proverbial Language: An Index</i> , 1981 (references are to numbered proverbs)
Dyce	<i>The Works of William Shakespeare</i> , ed. Alexander Dyce, 1857
Dyce ²	<i>Works</i> , 2nd edn, 1864–7
<i>Edward III</i>	<i>The Reign of King Edward III</i> , in <i>The Shakespeare Apocrypha</i> , ed. C. F. Tucker Brooke, 1908
<i>EIC</i>	<i>Essays in Criticism</i>
<i>ELH</i>	<i>ELH: A Journal of English Literary History</i>
<i>ESC</i>	<i>English Studies in Canada</i>
F	<i>Mr William Shakespeares Comedies, Histories, & Tragedies</i> , 1623 (First Folio)
F2	Second Folio, 1632
F3	Third Folio, 1664
F4	Fourth Folio, 1685
Farmer and Henley	John Farmer and W. E. Henley, <i>Slang and its Analogues</i> , 7 vols., 1890–1904
Fleay	<i>King John</i> , ed. F. G. Fleay, 1878 (Collins Classics)
Foxe	John Foxe, <i>Acts and Monuments</i> , 1583 edn
<i>FQ</i>	Edmund Spenser, <i>The Faerie Queene</i> , ed. A. C. Hamilton, 1977
Furness	<i>A New Variorum Edition of Shakespeare, The Life and Death of King John</i> , ed. H. H. Furness, 1919
Halliwell	<i>The Complete Works of William Shakespeare</i> , ed. J. O. Halliwell, 1853–65
Hanmer	<i>The Works of Shakespear</i> , ed. Thomas Hanmer, 1743–4
Heath	Benjamin Heath, <i>A Revisal of Shakespeare's Text</i> , 1765
Hibbard	G. R. Hibbard, <i>The Making of Shakespeare's Dramatic Poetry</i> , 1981
Hinman	Charlton Hinman, <i>The Printing and Proof-Reading of the First Folio of Shakespeare</i> , 2 vols., 1963
Holinshed	<i>Holinshed's Chronicles of England, Scotland, and Ireland</i> (1587), a photo-facsimile of Henry Ellis's edn, 6 vols., 1807–8, with an introduction by Vernon Snow, 1965

King John

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- Honigmann *King John*, ed. E. A. J. Honigmann, 1954 (Arden Shakespeare)
 John *King John*, ed. Ivor John, 1904 (Arden Shakespeare)
 Johnson *The Plays of William Shakespeare*, ed. Samuel Johnson, 1765
 Jones, *Origins* Emrys Jones, *The Origins of Shakespeare*, 1977
 Keightley *The Plays of Shakespeare*, ed. Thomas Keightley, 1864
 Kemble *Shakespeare's King John, A Historical Play*, revised by J. P. Kemble, 1804
 (*John Philip Kemble Prompt Books*, vol. 5, ed. Charles Shattuck, 1974)
 Kittredge *The Complete Works of Shakespeare*, ed. George Lyman Kittredge, 1936
 Knight *The Pictorial Edition of the Works of Shakespeare*, ed. Charles Knight, 1839–43
 Kökeritz Helge Kökeritz, *Shakespeare's Pronunciation*, 1953
 Malone *The Plays and Poems of William Shakespeare*, ed. Edmond Malone, 1790
 Matchett *King John*, ed. William H. Matchett, 1966
 Maxwell J. C. Maxwell's emendations of *King John*, *Notes & Queries* 195 (1950), 75–6; 473–4
 Moore Smith *King John*, ed. G. C. Moore Smith, 1900 (Heath's English Classics)
 MSR Malone Society Reprint
 Neilson *The Complete Dramatic and Poetic Works of William Shakespeare*, ed. William A. Neilson, 1906
 ODEP *The Oxford Dictionary of English Proverbs*, 3rd edn, rev. F. P. Wilson, 1970
 OED *Oxford English Dictionary*
 Onions C. T. Onions, *A Shakespeare Glossary*, 1911, rev. edn, 1953
 Oxford *William Shakespeare: The Complete Works*, ed. Stanley Wells and Gary Taylor, 1986
 PBA *Proceedings of the British Academy*
 PBSA *Papers of the Bibliographical Society of America*
 Pope *The Works of Shakespeare*, ed. Alexander Pope, 1723–5
 RES *Review of English Studies*
 Riverside *The Riverside Shakespeare*, ed. G. Blakemore Evans, Harry Levin *et al.*, 1974
 Roderick R. Roderick, *Remarks on Shakespeare*, in T. Edwards, *Canons of Criticism*, 7th edn, 1765
 Rowe *The Works of Mr William Shakespear*, ed. Nicholas Rowe, 1709
 Rowe² *Works*, 2nd edn, 1709
 Rowe³ *Works*, 3rd edn, 1714
 SB *Studies in Bibliography*
 Schmidt Alexander Schmidt, *Shakespeare Lexicon*, 3rd edn, 2 vols., 1901
 SD stage direction
 SEL *Studies in English Literature*
 SH speech heading
 Sider *The Troublesome Raigne of John, King of England*, ed. J. W. Sider, 1979
 Sisson C. J. Sisson, *New Readings in Shakespeare*, 2 vols., 1956
 SJH *Shakespeare-Jahrbuch* (Heidelberg)
 SJW *Shakespeare-Jahrbuch* (Weimar)
 Smallwood *King John*, ed. R. L. Smallwood, 1974 (New Penguin)
 SN *Studia Neophilologica*
 SP *Studies in Philology*
 SQ *Shakespeare Quarterly*
 S.St. *Shakespeare Studies*
 S.Sur. *Shakespeare Survey*

Staunton	<i>The Plays of Shakespeare</i> , ed. H. Staunton, 1858–60
Steevens	<i>The Plays of William Shakespeare</i> , ed. George Steevens (with Johnson), 1773
Steevens ²	<i>Plays</i> , 2nd edn, 1778
Steevens ³	<i>Plays</i> , 4th edn, 1793
subst.	substantively
Theobald	<i>The Works of Shakespeare</i> , ed. Lewis Theobald, 1733
Theobald ²	<i>Works</i> , 2nd edn, 1740
Tilley	M. P. Tilley, <i>A Dictionary of the Proverbs in England in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries</i> , 1950 (references are to numbered proverbs)
TLS	<i>The Times Literary Supplement</i>
TR	<i>The Troublesome Raigne of John, King of England</i> , 1591 (scene and line numbers are keyed to Sider's edn (<i>see above</i>))
Tyrwhitt	Thomas Tyrwhitt, <i>Observations and Conjectures upon Some Passages of Shakespeare</i> , 1766
Upton	John Upton, <i>Critical Observations on Shakespeare</i> , 1746
UTQ	<i>University of Toronto Quarterly</i>
Vaughan	H. H. Vaughan, <i>New Readings and New Renderings of Shakespeare's Tragedies</i> , vol. 1, 1878
Walker	William Sidney Walker, <i>A Critical Examination of the Text of Shakespeare</i> , 3 vols., 1860
Warburton	<i>The Works of Shakespear</i> , ed. William Warburton, 1747
White	<i>The Works of William Shakespeare</i> , ed. Richard Grant White, 1857–66
Whiting	Bartlett Jere Whiting, <i>Proverbs, Sentences, and Proverbial Phrases; from English Writings Mainly before 1500</i> , 1968 (references are to numbered proverbs)
Wilson	<i>King John</i> , ed. John Dover Wilson, 1936 (New Shakespeare)
Wright	<i>King John</i> , ed. W. Aldis Wright, 1886 (Clarendon Shakespeare)

Quotations from the Bible are from the Geneva version unless otherwise specified.