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978-0-521-68743-0 - The First Part of King Henry IV: Updated edition

Edited by Herbert Weil and Judith Weil

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## THE FIRST PART OF KING HENRY IV

This updated edition offers a strongly theatrical perspective on the origins of Shakespeare's *The First Part of King Henry IV* and the history of its interpretation. The introduction clarifies the play's surprising, de-centred dramatic structure, questioning the dominant assumption that the drama focuses on the education of Prince Hal. It calls attention to the effects of civil war upon a broad range of relationships. Falstaff's unpredictable vitality is explored, together with important contemporary values of honour, friendship, festivity and reformation.

Extensive lexical glosses of obscure, ambiguous or archaic meanings make the rich word-play accessible. The notes also provide a thorough commentary on Shakespeare's transformation of his sources (particularly Holinshed's *Chronicles*) and suggest alternative stagings. This updated edition contains a new introductory section by Katharine A. Craik, which describes recent stage, film and critical interpretations, and an updated reading list.

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# THE FIRST PART OF KING HENRY IV

Updated edition

*Edited by*

HERBERT WEIL

*Emeritus Professor of English, University of Manitoba*

JUDITH WEIL

*Emeritus Professor of English, University of Manitoba*



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## PREFACE

This edition owes a special debt to a pair of scholars no longer here to read it: Philip Brockbank who followed his initial invitation with continuing encouragement and Richard David who criticised an earlier draft in the kindest possible light. Giorgio Melchiori shared many questions and concerns while he was editing *2 Henry IV*. With his learning and patience, Brian Gibbons has been responsible for improvements on almost every page. At Cambridge University Press, Sarah Stanton has astutely smoothed many ways over many years; Paul Chipchase and Margaret Berrill have provided expert advice. C. Walter Hodges at a very early stage vividly illustrated our inchoate suggestions. A. R. Humphreys and David Bevington, editors of the Arden and Oxford editions of *1 Henry IV*, helpfully answered our queries.

Among the many friends and colleagues who have listened, argued, criticised drafts, or sent us their own work in progress, we wish especially to thank Scott McMillin, Miriam Gilbert, Edward Pechter, Ernst Honigmann, Patrick Boyde, George Hunter, Barbara Hodgdon, Victor Cowie, Kenneth Muir, George Toles, Tom Roberts, Patricia Tatspaugh, and Inga-Stina Ewbank. At the Shakespeare Centre in Stratford-upon-Avon, Marian Pringle, Sylvia Morris, and Mary White gave invaluable help with illustrations and production records; the staff of the Cambridge English Faculty Library, too, has been exceptionally generous. We are also grateful to the staffs of the University of Manitoba Library, the Cambridge University Library, the Folger Library, and the Huntington Library. Lucia Flynn has often saved us with her skills at the computer. For financial support and research leaves, we are indebted to the University of Manitoba Faculty of Arts, the University of Manitoba Institute for the Humanities, and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. Clare Hall and Robinson College, Cambridge, helped us work in a stimulating environment.

We would also like to express our gratitude to the larger communities of critics, scholars, and directors who keep testing the value of Shakespeare's plays. Many of them have, in effect, questioned a widespread assumption that *1 Henry IV* presents an inclusive picture of society. But relative absences – particularly those of women, or of middle- and lower-class characters – may figure as important presences. By identifying such presences in small roles or in the transforming energies of language and action, we have tried to indicate some of the newer ways in which *1 Henry IV* continues to challenge its audience. Finally, we acknowledge that any errors or misguided opinions which remain here are our own.

We dedicate this edition to our son and daughter, Fred and Leslie Weil, who have grown up in the company of Shakespeare and Shakespearians, bearing our arguments and adventures with lively humour and grace.

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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 (Theobald, Duthie) unless they are the work of more than one editor. In such cases, an abbreviated series title is used (Cam.). When more than one edition by the same editor is cited, later editions are discriminated with a raised figure (Rowe<sup>3</sup>). All quotations from Shakespeare, except those from *1 Henry IV*, use the text and lineation of *The Riverside Shakespeare*, under the general editorship of G. Blakemore Evans.

## 1. 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>Lear</i>  | <i>King Lear</i>                                |
| <i>LLL</i>   | <i>Love's Labour's Lost</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>                          |

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## List of abbreviations and conventions

|             |                                   |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| <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. Other works cited and general references

|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| Abbott                       | E. A. Abbott, <i>A Shakespearian Grammar</i> , 1894 (references are to numbered paragraphs)   |
| <i>AEB</i>                   | <i>Analytical and Enumerative Bibliography</i>  |
| Auden                        | W. H. Auden, <i>The Dyer's Hand and Other Essays</i> , 1962   |
| Bailey                       | Nathaniel Bailey, <i>Dictionary of Cant Words</i> , added to <i>The New English Dictionary</i> , 4th edn, 1759  |
| Barber                       | C. L. Barber, <i>Shakespeare's Festive Comedy</i> , 1959  |
| Beaumont and Fletcher        | <i>Dramatic Works in the Beaumont and Fletcher Canon</i> , ed. Fredson Bowers, 1966   |
| Bevington                    | <i>Henry IV, Part I</i> , ed. David Bevington, 1987 (Oxford Shakespeare)  |
| Bullough                     | <i>Narrative and Dramatic Sources of Shakespeare</i> , ed. Geoffrey Bullough, IV, 1962  |
| Cam.                         | <i>The Works of William Shakespeare</i> , ed. W. G. Clark, J. Glover, and W. A. Wright, 9 vols., 1863–6 (Cambridge Shakespeare)   |
| Capell                       | <i>Mr. William Shakespeare his Comedies, Histories, and Tragedies</i> , ed. Edward Capell, 10 vols., 1767–8   |
| Cercignani                   | Fausto Cercignani, <i>Shakespeare's Works and Elizabethan Pronunciation</i> , 1981  |
| Chambers, <i>Shakespeare</i> | E. K. Chambers, <i>William Shakespeare: A Study of Facts and Problems</i> , 2 vols., 1930   |
| Chambers, <i>Stage</i>       | E. K. Chambers, <i>The Elizabethan Stage</i> , 4 vols., 1923  |
| Child                        | Harold Child, 'The stage history of <i>King Henry IV</i> ', in Wilson, pp. xxix–xlvi  |
| Collier                      | <i>The Works of William Shakespeare</i> , ed. John Payne Collier, 8 vols., 1842–4   |
| Collier <sup>3</sup>         | <i>Shakespeare's Comedies, Histories, Tragedies, and Poems</i> , 6 vols., 1858  |
| Colman                       | E. A. M. Colman, <i>The Dramatic Use of Bawdy in Shakespeare</i> , 1974   |
| conj.                        | conjecture  |
| corr.                        | corrected   |
| Cowl and Morgan              | <i>The First Part of King Henry the Fourth</i> , ed. R. P. Cowl and A. E. Morgan, 1930 (Arden Shakespeare)  |
| <i>CQ</i>                    | <i>Critical Quarterly</i>   |
| Daniel                       | Samuel Daniel, <i>The First Fowre Bookes of the Civile Wars Betweene the Two Houses of Lancaster and Yorke</i> , 1595. Excerpts from Book III reprinted in Bullough, pp. 208–15 |
| Davison                      | <i>The First Part of King Henry the Fourth</i> , ed. P. H. Davison, 1968 (New Penguin)  |

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- Dekker *The Non-Dramatic Works of Thomas Dekker*, ed. A. B. Grosart, 5 vols., 1884–6
- Dent R. W. Dent, *Shakespeare's Proverbial Language: An Index*, 1981 (references are to numbered proverbs)
- Dering MS. *The History of King Henry the Fourth as revised by Sir Edward Dering, Bart.* (1623), a facsimile edition, ed. G. Walton Williams and G. Blakemore Evans, 1974
- DNB* *Dictionary of National Biography*, 1953
- Drake Nathan Drake, *Shakespeare and his Times*, 1817
- Dyce *The Works of William Shakespeare*, ed. Alexander Dyce, 6 vols., 1857
- Dyce<sup>2</sup> *The Works of William Shakespeare*, ed. Alexander Dyce, 9 vols., 1864–7
- Empson William Empson, *Essays on Shakespeare*, 1986
- ESC English Shakespeare Company
- Evans *The Riverside Shakespeare*, ed. G. Blakemore Evans *et al.*, 1974
- F *Mr William Shakespeares Comedies, Histories, and Tragedies*, 1623 (First Folio)
- F2 *Mr William Shakespeares Comedies, Histories, and Tragedies*, 1632 (Second Folio)
- F3 *Mr William Shakespear's Comedies, Histories and Tragedies*, 1664 (Third Folio)
- F4 *Mr William Shakespear's Comedies, Histories and Tragedies*, 1685 (Fourth Folio)
- FV* *The Famous Victories of Henry the fifth*, 1598, reprinted in Bullough, pp. 299–343
- Geneva Geneva translation of the Bible, 1560
- Gibbons *Measure for Measure*, ed. Brian Gibbons, 1991 (New Cambridge Shakespeare)
- Gurr *King Richard II*, ed. Andrew Gurr, 1984 (New Cambridge Shakespeare)
- Gurr, *Stage* Andrew Gurr, *The Shakespearean Stage 1574–1642*, 3rd edn, 1991
- Hall Edward Hall, *The Union of the two noble and illustre famelies of Lancastre and Yorke*, 1548 and 1550; 1809 edn, reprinted 1965
- Hanmer *The Works of Shakespear*, ed. Thomas Hanmer, 6 vols., 1743–4
- Hazlitt *Characters of Shakespear's Plays*, ed. P. P. Howe, 1930
- Hemingway *Henry The Fourth, Part I*, ed. Samuel Burdett Hemingway, 1936 (New Variorum)
- Hinman *Henry the Fourth, Part I*, Shakespeare Quarto Facsimiles no. 14, ed. Charlton Hinman, 1966
- Holinshed *Holinshed's Chronicles of England, Scotland, and Ireland*, 6 vols., 1587, 1808 edn, reprinted 1965
- Humphreys *The First Part of King Henry IV*, ed. A. R. Humphreys, 1960 (Arden Shakespeare)

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## List of abbreviations and conventions

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| Johnson                  | <i>The Plays of William Shakespeare</i> , ed. Samuel Johnson, 8 vols., 1765   |
| T. Johnson               | <i>The Works of Mr William Shakespear</i> , pub. T. Johnson, 1710   |
| Jonson                   | <i>Ben Jonson</i> , ed. C. H. Herford and Percy Simpson, 11 vols., 1925–52  |
| KR                       | <i>Kenyon Review</i>  |
| Kittredge                | <i>Sixteen Plays of Shakespeare</i> , ed. George Lyman Kittredge, 1946  |
| Lyly                     | <i>The Complete Works of John Lyly</i> , ed. R. Warwick Bond, 3 vols., 1902   |
| Mahood, <i>Bit Parts</i> | M. M. Mahood, <i>Bit Parts in Shakespeare's Plays</i> , 1992  |
| Mahood, <i>Wordplay</i>  | M. M. Mahood, <i>Shakespeare's Wordplay</i> , 1957  |
| Malone                   | <i>The Plays and Poems of William Shakespeare</i> , ed. Edmond Malone, 10 vols., 1790                               |
| Marlowe                  | <i>The Complete Works of Christopher Marlowe</i> , ed. Fredson Bowers, 2 vols., 1973                                |
| McMillin                 | Scott McMillin, <i>Shakespeare in Performance: Henry IV, Part One</i> , 1991  |
| Melchiori                | <i>The Second Part of King Henry IV</i> , ed. Giorgio Melchiori, 1989 (New Cambridge Shakespeare)                   |
| MLN                      | <i>Modern Language Notes</i>  |
| MLQ                      | <i>Modern Language Quarterly</i>  |
| MLR                      | <i>Modern Language Review</i>   |
| Morgann                  | Maurice Morgann, <i>Shakespearean Criticism</i> , ed. Daniel A. Fineman, 1972                                       |
| Nashe                    | <i>The Works of Thomas Nashe</i> , ed. R. B. McKerrow, 5 vols., 1904–10; rev. edn F. P. Wilson, 1958                |
| N&Q                      | <i>Notes and Queries</i>  |
| Odell                    | George C. D. Odell, <i>Shakespeare from Betterton to Irving</i> , 2 vols., 1966                                     |
| OED                      | <i>The Oxford English Dictionary</i> , 20 vols., 1989   |
| Onions                   | C. T. Onions, <i>A Shakespeare Glossary</i> , revised by Robert D. Eagleson, 1986                                   |
| Oxford                   | <i>William Shakespeare: The Complete Works</i> , ed. Stanley Wells and Gary Taylor, 1986                            |
| Oxford OS                | <i>William Shakespeare: The Complete Works</i> , Original Spelling Edition, ed. Stanley Wells and Gary Taylor, 1987 |
| Partridge                | Eric Partridge, <i>Shakespeare's Bawdy</i> , 3rd edn, 1969  |
| Patterson                | Annabel Patterson, <i>Reading Holinshed's Chronicles</i> , 1994   |
| Pope                     | <i>The Works of Shakespear</i> , ed. Alexander Pope, 6 vols., 1723–5  |
| Pope <sup>2</sup>        | <i>The Works of Shakespear</i> , ed. Alexander Pope, 10 vols., 1728   |
| PBA                      | <i>Proceedings of the British Academy</i>   |
| PMLA                     | <i>Publications of the Modern Language Association</i>  |
| Q0                       | sig. C1–C4 <sup>v</sup> (fragment), 1598  |
| Q1                       | <i>The History of Henrie the Fourth</i> , 1598 (first quarto)   |
| Q2                       | <i>The History of Henrie the Fourth</i> , 1599 (second quarto)  |
| Q3                       | <i>The History of Henrie the Fourth</i> , 1604 (third quarto)   |
| Q4                       | <i>The History of Henry the Fourth</i> , 1608 (fourth quarto)   |
| Q5                       | <i>The History of Henrie the Fourth</i> , 1613 (fifth quarto)   |
| Q6                       | <i>The Historie of Henry the Fourth</i> , 1622 (sixth quarto)   |

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|---------------------------|--|
| Q7                        | <i>The Historie of Henry the Fourth</i> , 1632 (seventh quarto)  |
| Qq                        | quartos  |
| RES                       | <i>Review of English Studies</i>   |
| Rowe                      | <i>The Works of Mr William Shakespear</i> , ed. Nicholas Rowe, 7 vols., 1709   |
| Rowe <sup>3</sup>         | <i>The Works of Mr William Shakespeare</i> , ed. Nicholas Rowe, 3rd edn, 8 vols., 1714   |
| RSC                       | Royal Shakespeare Company  |
| Salgādo                   | Gāmini Salgādo, <i>Eyewitnesses of Shakespeare: First Hand Accounts of Performances 1590–1890</i> , 1975   |
| SB                        | <i>Studies in Bibliography</i>   |
| Schäfer                   | Jürgen Schäfer, <i>Documentation in the OED: Shakespeare and Nashe as Test Cases</i> , 1980  |
| SD                        | stage direction  |
| SH                        | speech heading   |
| Spenser                   | <i>The Works of Edmund Spenser</i> , ed. Edwin Greenlaw <i>et al.</i> , 8 vols., 1932–49 (Variorum)  |
| Sprague, <i>Histories</i> | Arthur Colby Sprague, <i>Shakespeare's Histories</i> , 1975  |
| Sprague and Trewin        | Arthur Colby Sprague and J. C. Trewin, <i>Shakespeare's Plays Today</i> , 1970   |
| SQ                        | <i>Shakespeare Quarterly</i>   |
| S.St.                     | <i>Shakespeare Studies</i>   |
| S.Sur.                    | <i>Shakespeare Survey</i>  |
| Staunton                  | <i>The Plays of Shakespeare</i> , ed. Howard Staunton, 3 vols., 1858–60  |
| Steevens                  | <i>The Plays of William Shakespeare</i> , notes by Samuel Johnson and George Steevens, 3rd edn, 10 vols., 1785                                       |
| Stow, <i>Chronicles</i>   | John Stow, <i>The Chronicles of England</i> , 1580. Excerpts reprinted in Bullough, pp. 215–19   |
| Stow, <i>Survey</i>       | John Stow, <i>A Survey of London</i> , ed. Charles L. Kingsford, 2 vols., 1908   |
| subst.                    | substantively  |
| Sugden                    | E. H. Sugden, <i>A Topographical Dictionary to the Works of Shakespeare and his Fellow Dramatists</i> , 1925   |
| <i>Textual Companion</i>  | Stanley Wells and Gary Taylor, with John Jowett and William Montgomery, <i>William Shakespeare: A Textual Companion</i> , 1987                       |
| Theobald                  | <i>The Works of Shakespeare</i> , ed. Lewis Theobald, 7 vols., 1733  |
| 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) |
| Trewin                    | J. C. Trewin, <i>Shakespeare on the English Stage</i> , 1964   |
| TSSL                      | <i>Texas Studies in Literature and Language</i>  |
| uncorr.                   | uncorrected  |
| Van Lennep                | William Van Lennep, ed., <i>The London Stage: 1660–1800, Part I 1660–1700</i> , 1965   |
| Var. 1773                 | <i>The Plays of William Shakespeare</i> , ed. Samuel Johnson and George Steevens, 10 vols., 1773   |
| Var. 1778                 | <i>The Plays of William Shakespeare</i> , ed. Samuel Johnson and George Steevens, 10 vols., 1778   |

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## List of abbreviations and conventions

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| Walker                  | William S. Walker, <i>A Critical Examination of the Text of Shakespeare</i> , 3 vols., 1860                           |
| Warburton               | <i>The Works of Shakespeare</i> , ed. William Warburton, 8 vols., 1747  |
| West                    | Gilian West, “Titan”, “onyers”, and other difficulties in the text of <i>1 Henry IV</i> , <i>SQ</i> 34 (1983), 330–33 |
| Wilson                  | <i>The First Part of the History of Henry IV</i> , ed. John Dover Wilson, 1946 (New Shakespeare)                      |
| Wilson, <i>Fortunes</i> | John Dover Wilson, <i>The Fortunes of Falstaff</i> , 1943   |
| Wright                  | <i>The First Part of King Henry IV</i> , ed. W. A. Wright, 1897 (Clarendon Press Series)                              |
| G. Wright               | George T. Wright, <i>Shakespeare’s Metrical Art</i> , 1991  |

Biblical quotations are from the Geneva edition, 1560, unless otherwise noted.