THE NEW CAMBRIDGE SHAKESPEARE

GENERAL EDITOR
Brian Gibbons

ASSOCIATE GENERAL EDITOR
A. R. Braunmuller, University of California, Los Angeles

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.

THE TAMING OF THE SHREW

This is the third New Cambridge edition of The Taming of the Shrew, one of Shakespeare’s most popular yet controversial plays. Ann Thompson considers its reception in the light of the hostility and embarrassment that the play often arouses, taking account of both scholarly defences and modern feminist criticism. For this version, the editor pays lively attention to the problematic nature of debates about the play and its reception in the twenty-first century. She discusses recent editions and textual, performance and critical studies.
THE NEW CAMBRIDGE SHAKESPEARE

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The First Quarto of Othello, edited by Scott McMillin
The First Quarto of Romeo and Juliet, edited by Lukas Erne
The Taming of a Shrew: The 1594 Quarto, edited by Stephen Roy Miller
THE TAMING OF THE SHREW

Third Edition

Edited by
ANN THOMPSON
King’s College London (Emeritus)
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
Founding General Editor
For Susanna and Judith
CONTENTS

List of Illustrations page viii
Preface to the Third Edition ix
Abbreviations and Conventions x
Introduction 1
  Date and Theatrical Context 1
  The Shrew in the Context of Shakespeare’s Own Work 4
Sources 9
The Taming of the Shrew on Stage 17
Critical Approaches 25
Postscript: Working on the Play 41
Textual, Critical and Performance Interpretations, 1984–2016 42
Note on the Text 59
List of Characters 62
THE PLAY 64
Textual Analysis 173
Appendixes:
  1: Passages from The Taming of a Shrew 193
  2: The Staging of Induction 2 199
  3: Music in the Play and Hortensio’s Gamut (3.1.64–75) 204
Reading List 207
ILLUSTRATIONS

1 A possible staging of Induction 2 with the use of a gallery or upper stage. Drawing by C. Walter Hodges page 4
2 A possible staging of Induction 2 on the main stage. Drawing by C. Walter Hodges 5
3 Holman Hunt’s painting of Bianca, Patroness of Heavenly Harmony (reproduced by permission of Worthing Museum and Art Gallery) 16
4 Douglas Fairbanks as Petruchio in the wedding scene. A publicity still from the 1929 film version (reproduced by permission of United Artists) 23
5 Sir John Gilbert’s painting of the ‘taming-school’ (reproduced by courtesy of Birmingham City Museums and Art Gallery) 27
6 Elizabethan fashions: Kate’s cap and gown and Tranio’s copatain hat. Drawings by C. Walter Hodges 33
8 Propeller all-male production, 2006, revived 2013, directed by Edward Hall. Petruchio: Vince Leigh; Kate: Dan Wheeler. Reproduced by permission of the Propeller Theatre Company 50
PREFACE TO THE THIRD EDITION

The first version of this edition was published in 1984 when I was teaching at the University of Liverpool. I expressed my thanks to the General Editors, especially Robin Hood and Philip Brockbank, and to my Liverpool colleagues, Kenneth Muir and Philip Edwards, as well as to the secretarial staff at Liverpool, Catherine Rees and Joan Welford (in those days, office staff still typed work for academics). I also benefitted from expert advice from Richard Proudfoot and Gary Taylor. I had worked on the play at the British Library, the Birmingham Reference Library, the Shakespeare Centre Library in Stratford-upon-Avon and the Henry E. Huntington Library in California.

This updated version has been completed in London after my retirement from King’s College, with input from the current General Editors, Brian Gibbons and Al Braunmuller. I have worked on it at the Folger Shakespeare Library and am particularly grateful to Alden and Virginia Vaughan for making this possible by kindly letting me stay at their apartment on Capitol Hill. While updating my knowledge of the play over the past year I have given a number of talks on it at Chawton House, Shakespeare’s Globe Education Department, King’s College Alumni Weekend and the London Shakespeare Seminar, and I’d like to thank those who invited me and those who attended the talks and made helpful and encouraging comments. Support has been continuous from 1984 until now from Sarah Stanton at Cambridge University Press and from my husband, John Thompson.

In 1984, the most recent editions of The Taming of the Shrew were those of Brian Morris for Arden 2 (1981) and H. J. Oliver for Oxford (1982). In the new section of the Introduction, this time I have been able to take into account several others, including those of Elizabeth Schafer for the Cambridge ‘Shakespeare in Production’ series (2002), Dympna Callaghan for Norton Critical Editions (2009) and Barbara Hodgdon for Arden 3 (2010). I have also been able to study numerous recent productions and adaptations and I have attempted to extend the range of the Introduction beyond the usual Anglo-American focus. The voices of female directors and actors as well as those of female critics have been prominent in ongoing lively debates about this play, which remains surprisingly popular despite its apparently rebarbative subject matter. I am grateful to Cambridge University Press for allowing me to update the Introduction and I hope my work will be useful to readers.

A. T.

London, 2016

ix
ABBREVIATIONS AND CONVENTIONS

1. Shakespeare’s plays

The abbreviated titles of Shakespeare’s plays have been modified from those used in the Harvard Concordance to Shakespeare. All quotations and line references to plays other than The Taming of the Shrew are to G. Blakemore Evans (ed.), The Riverside Shakespeare, 1974, on which the Concordance is based.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
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<td>Much Ado about Nothing</td>
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<td>Ant.</td>
<td>Antony and Cleopatra</td>
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<td>AWW</td>
<td>All’s Well That Ends Well</td>
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<td>AYLI</td>
<td>As You Like It</td>
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<td>Coriolanus</td>
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<td>Err.</td>
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<td>1H4</td>
<td>The First Part of King Henry the Fourth</td>
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<td>2H4</td>
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<td>King Henry the Fifth</td>
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<td>JC</td>
<td>Julius Caesar</td>
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<td>MND</td>
<td>A Midsummer Night’s Dream</td>
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<td>The Merchant of Venice</td>
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<td>Oth.</td>
<td>Othello</td>
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<td>Per.</td>
<td>Pericles</td>
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<td>R2</td>
<td>King Richard the Second</td>
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<td>R3</td>
<td>King Richard the Third</td>
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<td>Rom.</td>
<td>Romeo and Juliet</td>
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<td>Shr.</td>
<td>The Taming of the Shrew</td>
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<td>STM</td>
<td>Sir Thomas More</td>
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<td>Temp.</td>
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<td>TGV</td>
<td>The Two Gentlemen of Verona</td>
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<td>Tim.</td>
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<td>Tit.</td>
<td>Titus Andronicus</td>
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<td>Twelfth Night</td>
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<td>TNK</td>
<td>The Two Noble Kinsmen</td>
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Abbreviations and Conventions

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<tr>
<td>Tro.</td>
<td>Troilus and Cressida</td>
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<td>Wiv.</td>
<td>The Merry Wives of Windsor</td>
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<td>WT</td>
<td>The Winter's Tale</td>
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2. Editions

Editions of Shakespeare are abbreviated under the name of the editor unless they are the work of more than one editor, when an abbreviated series name is used, e.g. Cam., Riverside. When more than one edition by the same editor is cited, later editions are discriminated by a raised figure, e.g. Rowe³. This list includes all editions referred to in the collation and Commentary. It is not a complete list of editions collated.

- **Alexander**
- **Bond**
  *The Taming of the Shrew*, ed. R. Warwick Bond, 1904; rev. edn, 1929 (Arden Shakespeare)
- **Cam.**
- **Capell**
  *Mr William Shakespeare his Comedies, Histories, and Tragedies*, ed. Edward Capell, 1768
- **Collier**
- **Dyce**
- **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 Shakespeares Comedies, Histories, and Tragedies*, 1664 (Third Folio)
- **F⁴**
  *Mr William Shakespeares Comedies, Histories, and Tragedies*, 1685 (Fourth Folio)
- **Gentleman**
  *Bell's Edition of Shakespeare's Plays*, ed. F. Gentleman, 1774
- **Halliwell**
- **Hammer**
  *The Works of Shakespeare*, ed. Thomas Hamner, 1744
- **Hibbard**
- **Hudson**
- **Irving**
- **Johnson**
  *The Plays of William Shakespeare*, ed. Samuel Johnson, 1765
- **Keightley**
  *The Plays of William Shakespeare*, ed. Thomas Keightley, 1864
- **Kittredge**
  *The Complete Works of Shakespeare*, ed. George Lyman Kittredge, 1936
- **Knight**
The Taming of the Shrew

Malone
The Plays and Poems of William Shakespeare, ed. Edmond Malone, 1790

Morris
The Taming of the Shrew, ed. Brian Morris, 1981 (Arden Shakespeare)

NS
The Taming of the Shrew, ed. Sir Arthur Quiller-Couch and John Dover Wilson, 1928 (New Shakespeare)

Neilson

Oliver
The Taming of the Shrew, ed. H. J. Oliver, 1982 (Oxford Shakespeare)

Pelican

Pope

Pope²
The Works of Shakespeare, ed. Alexander Pope, 2nd edn, 1728

Q
A Wittie and Pleasant Comedie Called The Taming of the Shrew 1631 (quarto)

Rann

Reed
The Plays of William Shakespeare, ed. Isaac Reed, 1803

Riverside
The Riverside Shakespeare, textual ed. G. Blakemore Evans, 1974

Rowe
The Works of Mr William Shakespeare, ed. Nicholas Rowe, 1709

Rowe³
The Works of Mr William Shakespeare, ed. Nicholas Rowe, 2nd edn, 1709

Rowe⁴
The Works of Mr William Shakespeare, ed. Nicholas Rowe, 3rd edn, 1714

Singer
The Dramatic Works of William Shakespeare, ed. Samuel Weller Singer, 1826

Sisson

Steevens
The Plays of William Shakespeare, ed. Samuel Johnson and George Steevens, 1773

Stockdale
Stockdale’s Edition of Shakespeare, ed. J. Stockdale, 1784

Theobald
The Works of Shakespeare, ed. Lewis Theobald, 1733

Warburton
The Works of Shakespeare, ed. William Warburton, 1747

3. Other works, periodicals, general references

Abbott
E. A. Abbott, A Shakespearian Grammar, 1869 (references are to numbered paragraphs)

Bullough, Sources
Geoffrey Bullough (ed.), Narrative and Dramatic Sources of Shakespeare, 8 vols., 1957–75

conj. conjecture

ELR
English Literary Renaissance

ES
English Studies

Greg
W. W. Greg, The Shakespeare First Folio, 1955
### Abbreviations and Conventions

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<td>HLQ</td>
<td><em>Huntington Library Quarterly</em></td>
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<td>Hosley</td>
<td>Richard Hosley, ‘Sources and analogues of <em>The Taming of the Shrew</em>, HLQ 27 (1963–4), 289–308</td>
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<td>JEGP</td>
<td><em>Journal of English and Germanic Philology</em></td>
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<td>Kökeritz</td>
<td>Helge Kökeritz, <em>Shakespeare’s Pronunciation</em>, 1953</td>
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<td>MLQ</td>
<td><em>Modern Language Quarterly</em></td>
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<td>MLR</td>
<td><em>Modern Language Review</em></td>
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<td>MLS</td>
<td><em>Modern Language Studies</em></td>
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<td>NE&amp;Q</td>
<td><em>Notes and Queries</em></td>
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<td>OED</td>
<td><em>Oxford English Dictionary</em></td>
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<td>Partridge</td>
<td>Eric Partridge, <em>Shakespeare’s Bawdy</em>, 1948</td>
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<td>PMLA</td>
<td><em>Publications of the Modern Language Association of America</em></td>
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<td>stage direction</td>
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<td>SJ</td>
<td><em>Shakespeare Jahrbuch</em></td>
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<td>SQ</td>
<td><em>Shakespeare Quarterly</em></td>
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<td><em>Shakespeare Studies</em></td>
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<td><em>Shakespeare Survey</em></td>
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<td>subst.</td>
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<td>M. P. Tilley, <em>A Dictionary of the Proverbs in England in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries</em>, 1950 (references are to numbered proverbs)</td>
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<td>TLS</td>
<td><em>Times Literary Supplement</em></td>
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<td>Tyrwhitt</td>
<td>Thomas Tyrwhitt, <em>Observations and Conjectures upon some Passages of Shakespeare</em>, 1766</td>
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<td>Walker</td>
<td>W. S. Walker, <em>A Critical Examination of the Text of Shakespeare</em>, 1860</td>
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