

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.

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 TAMING OF THE SHREW

Third Edition

Edited by ANN THOMPSON

King's College London (Emeritus)





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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 Founding General Editor



For Susanna and Judith



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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

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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.

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

The First Part of King Henry the Fourth
 The Second Part of King Henry the Fourth

H5 King Henry the Fifth

The First Part of King Henry the Sixth
 The Second Part of King Henry the Sixth
 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 Mac. Macbeth

MM Measure for Measure
MND A Midsummer Night's Dream
MV The Merchant of Venice

Oth. Othello Per. Pericles

R2 King Richard the Second
R3 King Richard the Third
Rom. Romeo and Juliet
Shr. The Taming of the Shrew
STM Sir Thomas More

Temp. The Tempest

TGV The Two Gentlemen of Verona

Tim. Timon of Athens
Tit. Titus Andronicus
TN Twelfth Night

TNK The Two Noble Kinsmen

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More Information

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Abbreviations and Conventions

Troilus and Cressida Tro

The Merry Wives of Windsor Wiv.

WTThe Winter's Tale

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. Rome³. This list includes all editions referred to in the collation and Commentary. It is not a complete list of editions collated.

Alexander William Shakespeare, The Complete Works, ed. PeterAlexander,

Bond The Taming of the Shrew, ed. R. Warwick Bond, 1904; rev.

edn, 1929 (Arden Shakespeare)

Cam. The Works of William Shakespeare, ed. William George

Clark and John Glover, 1863–6 (Cambridge Shakespeare)

Capell Mr William Shakespeare his Comedies, Histories, and

Tragedies, ed. Edward Capell, 1768

Collier The Works of William Shakespeare, ed. J. Payne Collier,

1842-4

The Works of William Shakespeare, ed. Alexander Dyce, Dyce

1857

Mr William Shakespeares Comedies, Histories, and Tragedies,

1623 (First Folio)

Mr William Shakespeares Comedies, Histories, and Tragedies, F2

1632 (Second Folio)

Mr William Shakespeares Comedies, Histories, and Tragedies, F3

1664 (Third Folio)

Mr William Shakespeares Comedies, Histories, and Tragedies, F4

1685 (Fourth Folio)

Gentleman Bell's Edition of Shakespeare's Plays, ed. F. Gentleman, 1774 Halliwell The Complete Works of Shakespeare, ed. James O. Halliwell,

Hanmer The Works of Shakespear, ed. Thomas Hanmer, 1744 Hibbard

The Taming of the Shrew, ed. G. R. Hibbard, 1968 (New

Penguin Shakespeare)

The Complete Works of William Shakespeare, ed. H. N. Hudson, Hudson

1881 (Harvard Shakespeare)

Irving The Works of William Shakespeare, ed. Henry Irving and

F. A. Marshall, 1888-90 (Irving Shakespeare)

The Plays of William Shakespeare, ed. Samuel Johnson, 1765 Johnson The Plays of William Shakespeare, ed. Thomas Keightley, Keightley

1864

Kittredge The Complete Works of Shakespeare, ed. George Lyman

Kittredge, 1936

Knight The Pictorial Edition of the Works of Shakspere, ed. C. Knight,

1839-42



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The Taming of the Shrew

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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)

 $Neils on \qquad \qquad \textit{The Complete Dramatic and Poetic Works of William Shakes peare},$

ed. W. A. Neilson, 1906

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

Shakespeare)

Pelican William Shakespeare: The Complete Works, ed. A. Harbage,

1956 (Pelican Shakespeare)

Pope The Works of Shakespear, ed. Alexander Pope, 1723-5 Pope² The Works of Shakespear, ed. Alexander Pope, 2nd edn,

1728

Q A Wittie and Pleasant Comedie Called The Taming of the

Shrew 1631 (quarto)

Rann The Dramatic Works of Shakespeare, ed. Joseph Rann,

1786–94

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 Shakespear, ed. Nicholas Rowe,

1709

Rowe² The Works of Mr William Shakespear, ed. Nicholas Rowe,

2nd edn, 1709

Rowe³ The Works of Mr William Shakespear, ed. Nicholas Rowe,

3rd edn, 1714

Singer The Dramatic Works of William Shakespeare, ed. Samuel

Weller Singer, 1826

Sisson William Shakespeare: The Complete Works, ed. C. J. Sisson,

1954

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



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xiii Abbreviations and Conventions

Hinman, The Printing and Proof-Reading of the

First Folio of Shakespeare, 2 vols., 1963

HLQ Huntington Library Quarterly

Hosley, 'Sources and analogues' Richard Hosley, 'Sources and analogues of The Taming of

the Shrew', HLQ 27 (1963-4), 289-308

JEGP Journal of English and Germanic Philology

Kökeritz, Pronunciation Helge Kökeritz, Shakespeare's Pronunciation, 1953

MLQ Modern Language Quarterly
MLR Modern Language Review
MLS Modern Language Studies

Muir, Sources Kenneth Muir, The Sources of Shakespeare's Plays, rev. edn,

1977

NGQ Notes and Queries
OED Oxford English Dictionary

Partridge, Bawdy Eric Partridge, Shakespeare's Bawdy, 1948

PMLA Publications of the Modern Language Association of America

REL Review of English Literature
RES Review of English Studies
SB Studies in Bibliography
SD stage direction

SEL Studies in English Literature

SH speech heading

Sisson, New Readings C. J. Sisson, New Readings in Shakespeare, 1956

SJ Shakespeare Jahrbuch
SQ Shakespeare Quarterly
S.St. Shakespeare Studies
S.Sur. Shakespeare Survey
subst. substantively

Tilley M. P. Tilley, A Dictionary of the Proverbs in England in the

Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries, 1950 (references are to

numbered proverbs)

Tillyard E. M. W. Tillyard, 'Some consequences of a lacuna in *The*

Taming of the Shrew', ES 43 (1962), 330-5

TLS Times Literary Supplement

Tyrrwhitt Thomas Tyrrwhitt, Observations and Conjectures upon some

Passages of Shakespeare, 1766

Vickers, Prose Brian Vickers, The Artistry of Shakespeare's Prose, 1968
Walker W. S. Walker, A Critical Examination of the Text of

Shakespeare, 1860

Wells Stanley Wells and Gary Taylor, Modernizing Shakespeare's

Spelling, with Three Studies in the Text of 'Henry V', 1979



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