

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-63277-6 - The Life of Henry, Third Earl of Southampton, Shakespeare's Patron

Charlotte Carmichael Stopes

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

The Life of
Henry, Third Earl of Southampton,
Shakespeare's Patron

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-63277-6 - The Life of Henry, Third Earl of Southampton, Shakespeare's Patron

Charlotte Carmichael Stopes

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-63277-6 - The Life of Henry, Third Earl of Southampton, Shakespeare's Patron

Charlotte Carmichael Stopes

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

The Life of
Henry, Third Earl of Southampton,
Shakespeare's Patron

BY

CHARLOTTE CARMICHAEL STOPES

Author of The Bacon-Shakespeare Question Answered, British Freewomen, Shakespeare's Family, Shakespeare's Warwickshire Contemporaries, William Hunnis and the Revels of the Chapel Royal, Burbage and Shakespeare's Stage, Shakespeare's Environment, Shakespeare's Industry, Editor of Shakespeare's Sonnets, etc.

CAMBRIDGE
AT THE UNIVERSITY PRESS

1 9 2 2

Cambridge University Press
978-1-107-63277-6 - The Life of Henry, Third Earl of Southampton, Shakespeare's Patron
Charlotte Carmichael Stopes
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.

It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781107632776

© Cambridge University Press 1922

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception and to the provisions of relevant collective licensing agreements, no reproduction of any part may take place without the written permission of Cambridge University Press.

First published 1922

First paperback edition 2014

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

ISBN 978-1-107-63277-6 Paperback

Cambridge University Press has no responsibility for the persistence or accuracy of URLs for external or third-party internet websites referred to in this publication, and does not guarantee that any content on such websites is, or will remain, accurate or appropriate.

PREFACE

It would have been more correct to have called this volume a collection of materials towards a *Life*. For anything approaching a real *life* can only be written by the subject himself, by an intimate friend, such as Fulke Greville was to Philip Sidney, or by one who has the command of a long series of private letters, heart-revealing writings, and contemporary information, such as Spedding had of Francis Bacon. Southampton kept no diaries, he did not pour forth his heart readily in effusive letters, he wrote no signed poems or papers, and few of his correspondents kept his epistles. The best that could be done was to arrange the facts concerning him in chronological order and set these in his natural surroundings, so that the work at best gives but a mosaic with many lacunae. I have not attempted to fill in the blanks as if with oil colours to make a complete “portrait”; I have attempted no oratory to move the feelings of others to judge him as I do. It is “but a plain blunt tale,” but it was necessary to tell it as a background to that of Shakespeare and to help forward the writing of the *Life of the Earl of Essex*, which awaits some eager student.

From a plain statement of facts, however, we may sometimes secure legitimate inferences. Hence I dwelt, some may think unduly, on his work in the Virginia Company. We find him there, always in the van, among all his anxieties. A troublesome minority made so much noise that the king crushed it “because of the disagreement among themselves,” but Southampton could have pulled it through had he been let alone. And from what we *know* of his actions there, we may argue back to the other “brawls” with which he has been credited, feeling sure he would always be on the side which he thought was right.

I must confess that I did not start this work for his sake, but in the hope that I might find more about Shakespeare, which hope has not been satisfied. In my earlier Shakespearean work, of course, I had read Drake, Malone, Gerald Massey, and Halliwell-Phillipps, and had collected a few *new* facts, but the person who impelled me to do this work in a thorough way was Mr Thomas Tylor. He first brought out the hypothesis which has been called

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-63277-6 - The Life of Henry, Third Earl of Southampton, Shakespeare's Patron
Charlotte Carmichael Stopes

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

vi

PREFACE

“the Herbert-Fitton theory” in a paper read at a meeting of the New Shakespeare Society in 1890. Everybody present (which does not mean all the members of the society) was in sympathetic admiration of such a neatly fitted group of interesting facts, supposed to be connected with each other, and they all, including Dr Furnivall, accepted it. As I said good-bye to Mr Tylor, I said “I hope I may live long enough to be able to contradict you!” “No, you won’t, for my theory is going down Time!” “Not if I live long enough,” said I, in full faith that evidence must be forthcoming to confute a theory so injurious to the good name of Shakespeare. Another relevant incident which I must relate happened some time afterwards (I forget how long). A small portrait, asserted to be contemporary, of the 3rd Earl of Pembroke had been offered to the then-existing holder of the title, for sale at a reasonable price. On the back a slip of paper was pasted containing the quotation from Sonnet LXXXI:

Your monument shall be my gentle verse
Which [eyes not yet created shall o’er-read].

The Earl of Pembroke invited certain leaders in art, literature, and criticism to meet at his house and give him their opinion. Dr Furnivall, having a card for himself and friend, took me as his “friend.” The portrait was handed round, examined, and accepted by all as genuine and worth buying. It was handed round for a second time, in regard to the inscription. I do not remember the remarks made. I was last, and when it reached me I said, “The ink which wrote that was made in 1832!” thinking of the publication of Boaden’s theory. This caused a commotion; Dr Furnivall laughingly cried “I forgot! Turn her out, turn her out. She is a Southamptonite. We are all Pembrochians here!” This made me go on all the more eagerly in my research and attempts to convert Dr Furnivall, which I eventually did, chiefly through two articles in *The Athenæum*, March, 1898, on “The Date of the Sonnets,” and another in August, 1900, “Who was Mr W. H.?”

In the collection of my materials I have many to thank. The officers of the British Museum and the Record Office have been unfailingly helpful and considerately patient with my troublesome enquiries. The Librarians of the Bodleian have been as good, though I troubled them on fewer occasions.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-63277-6 - The Life of Henry, Third Earl of Southampton, Shakespeare's Patron

Charlotte Carmichael Stopes

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

PREFACE

vii

I have to thank the Marquis of Salisbury for courteously allowing me to see his historical manuscripts, and his private secretary, Mr Gunton, who generously aided me in my search; the Duke of Portland for leave to include the Welbeck Abbey portraits; the Walpole Society for the loan of blocks used in the article on Wriothesley Portraits, by Mr R. W. Goulding, in their eighth volume; also Mrs Holman Hunt for the copyright of her treasured "Rubens portrait" of the Earl of Southampton. The Rev. Mr Matthews, formerly of Titchfield Church, not only admitted me to the Registers, but laid all his notes and photographs out before me that I might choose. Thanks are also due to Captain Charles Cottrell-Dormer of Rousham, Oxfordshire, for allowing me to spend a whole day among his manuscripts and to transcribe those concerning the Countess of Southampton. The Town Clerk of Southampton also cheerfully opened his Town-books, and Mr Chitty and Mr Jaggard sent me notes from Winchester. I have also to thank Mr R. F. Scott, Master of St John's College, Cambridge, for telling me where Thomas, the second son (and heir) of Southampton, was born, for the reprints of his articles in *The Eagle*, and for permission to use the College portrait of the Earl. Mr Previt e Orton, the Librarian of the College, and his assistant were most kind to me in trying to solve the puzzles of the donation of books to the Library.

CHARLOTTE CARMICHAEL STOPES.

HAMPSTEAD,

April 23rd, 1921.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-63277-6 - The Life of Henry, Third Earl of Southampton, Shakespeare's Patron

Charlotte Carmichael Stopes

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

HINTS TO READERS

1. All MSS. not referred to any other collection are to be found in the British Museum.

2. All legal cases, State Papers, etc., are in the Public Record Office.

3. All wills, unless otherwise noted, are in Somerset House.

4. P.C.C. means Prerogative Court of Canterbury; P.C.R., the Privy Council Register; L.C., Lord Chamberlain's Papers.

5. The *Cecil Papers* and *Salisbury Papers* are the same, all being at Hatfield. But the former are the originals, the latter the printed Calendars, where the same articles appear as abstracts in greater or less degree.

Before 1906 I did my work at Hatfield, where I have secured many originals, some of which, however, have been contracted by Mr Gunton or myself. Several volumes of the Calendar have come out since then; hence occasionally I give both references.

6. Many statements could have been referred back to several sources, but as I have lost so much of my work through the failure of my eyes and their inability to read even my own writing in *pencil* (which is used compulsorily in the Record Office), I have been unable to check various authorities, and have been forced to be contented occasionally with the one I could best secure.

7. My work strives to be accurate, above all things, but where, through long study and logical inference, I have used my imagination to fill up gaps, I always put such suggestions in large parentheses, to shew that I am aware that these passages contain an element of uncertainty, and are frequently controversial.

8. The limits of space have prevented my including many minor facts and allusions to the 3rd Earl of Southampton and his friends, as of course, I had to choose for publication the most significant.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-63277-6 - The Life of Henry, Third Earl of Southampton, Shakespeare's Patron

Charlotte Carmichael Stopes

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CONTENTS

| | PAGE |
|-------|------|
| | v |
| | viii |
| I | i |
| II | 7 |
| III | 24 |
| IV | 34 |
| V | 49 |
| VI | 62 |
| VII | 79 |
| VIII | 96 |
| IX | 114 |
| X | 139 |
| XI | 163 |
| XII | 172 |
| XIII | 186 |
| XIV | 206 |
| XV | 223 |
| XVI | 235 |
| XVII | 243 |
| XVIII | 255 |
| XIX | 279 |
| XX | 299 |

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-63277-6 - The Life of Henry, Third Earl of Southampton, Shakespeare's Patron

Charlotte Carmichael Stopes

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

| x | | CONTENTS | |
|---------|--|----------|------|
| CHAP. | | | PAGE |
| XXI | “SOME TO DISCOVER ISLANDS FAR AWAY” | . . . | 314 |
| XXII | THE OCCURRENTS IN ENGLAND | . . . | 334 |
| XXIII | A NOBLE GIFT TO ST JOHN’S COLLEGE LIBRARY | | 356 |
| XXIV | A LONG PROGRESS | . . . | 377 |
| XXV | WORK IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS | . . . | 397 |
| XXVI | “VIRGINIA BRITANNICA” | . . . | 416 |
| XXVII | THE FIFTY-SECOND YEAR | . . . | 447 |
| XXVIII | “HENCE THESE TEARS” | . . . | 461 |
| XXIX | THE HEIR OF ALL | . . . | 473 |
| ADDENDA | | | |
| I | THE PATERNAL ANCESTORS | . . . | 485 |
| II | THE MATERNAL ANCESTORS | . . . | 487 |
| III | THE SECOND EARL AND COUNTESS OF SOUTH-AMPTON | . . . | 499 |
| IV | SOUTHAMPTON’S CONTEMPORARIES IN ST JOHN’S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE | . . . | 528 |
| | NOTE TO CHAPTER XXI | . . . | 529 |
| | INDEX | . . . | 530 |

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-63277-6 - The Life of Henry, Third Earl of Southampton, Shakespeare's Patron

Charlotte Carmichael Stopes

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

ILLUSTRATIONS

| | | | |
|--|---------|------|-----|
| THE SOUTHAMPTON MONUMENT, TITCHFIELD CHURCH | TO FACE | PAGE | 6 |
| THE THIRD EARL OF SOUTHAMPTON AS A BOY (From the monument in Titchfield Church) | „ | | 16 |
| THE THIRD EARL OF SOUTHAMPTON IN A SUIT OF WHITE, WITH ARMOUR | „ | | 94 |
| (At Welbeck Abbey) | | | |
| ELIZABETH VERNON, MAID OF HONOUR TO QUEEN ELIZABETH | „ | | 114 |
| (At Hodnet Hall) | | | |
| THE THIRD EARL OF SOUTHAMPTON, WHILE A PRISONER IN THE TOWER | „ | | 252 |
| (At Welbeck Abbey) | | | |
| THE THIRD EARL OF SOUTHAMPTON IN HIS PRIME (Attributed to Rubens; Mrs Holman-Hunt's collection) | „ | | 362 |
| ELIZABETH VERNON, COUNTESS OF SOUTHAMPTON. (At Welbeck Abbey) | „ | | 378 |
| THE THIRD EARL OF SOUTHAMPTON | „ | | 449 |
| (At St John's College, Cambridge) | | | |