

**AS YOU LIKE IT**

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As You Like it by F. J. Furnivall

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**F. J. FURNIVALL**

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Spelling of the best Quarto and Folio Texts  
Edited by F. J. Furnivall and the late  
W. G. Boswell-Stone.



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[Shakespeare, William]

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EDITED BY

F. J. FURNIVALL, M.A., Ph.D., D.Litt.

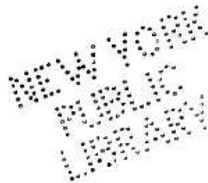
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INTRODUCTION AND NOTES

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TABLE

# As You Like It

## INTRODUCTION

### DATE

*As You Like It* was first entered in the Stationers' Register on August 4, 1600, together with *Much Ado*, *Henry V*, and Ben Jonson's *Every Man in his Humour*. To all of them the curious note 'to be stayed' was attached, and it is difficult to understand the reason for this: three of these plays were printed within a few months of this entry, but *As You Like It* made its first appearance in the Folio of 1623. The entry, however, forms a later limit for the composition of *As You Like It*, while an earlier limit is suggested by the fact that it is not mentioned by Meres in his famous enumeration of Shakespeare's works in his *Palladis Tamia* of 1598. There are many passages in the play which have been thought to bear a topical significance: of these the most important is the famous allusion to Marlowe,

'Dead shepherd, now I find thy saw of might  
Whoever loved that loved not at first sight,'

in the fifth scene of the third act.

The second line of this couplet is a quotation from Marlowe's *Hero and Leander* which was printed in 1598. This goes to confirm the negative evidence supplied by Meres to fix 1598 as a lower limit. The reference to 'Diana in the fountain' has been thought to have been suggested by the erection of a statue of Diana in West Cheap in 1596: the description, however, is not an accurate one and this allusion cannot be accepted as proved when we consider how very frequently Diana was the figure chosen to ornament fountains in Elizabeth's time. Various editors have seen references to the statute prohibiting the use of