

**HEATH'S ENGLISH  
CLASSICS. THE LIFE  
OF HENRY THE FIFTH**

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Heath's English Classics. The Life of Henry the Fifth by William Shakespeare & G. C. Moore  
Smith

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**WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE & G. C. MOORE SMITH**

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OF HENRY THE FIFTH**



Heath's English Classics

THE LIFE  
OF  
HENRY THE FIFTH

EDITED BY

G. C. MOORE SMITH, M. A.

FORMERLY SCHOLAR OF ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE CAMBRIDGE

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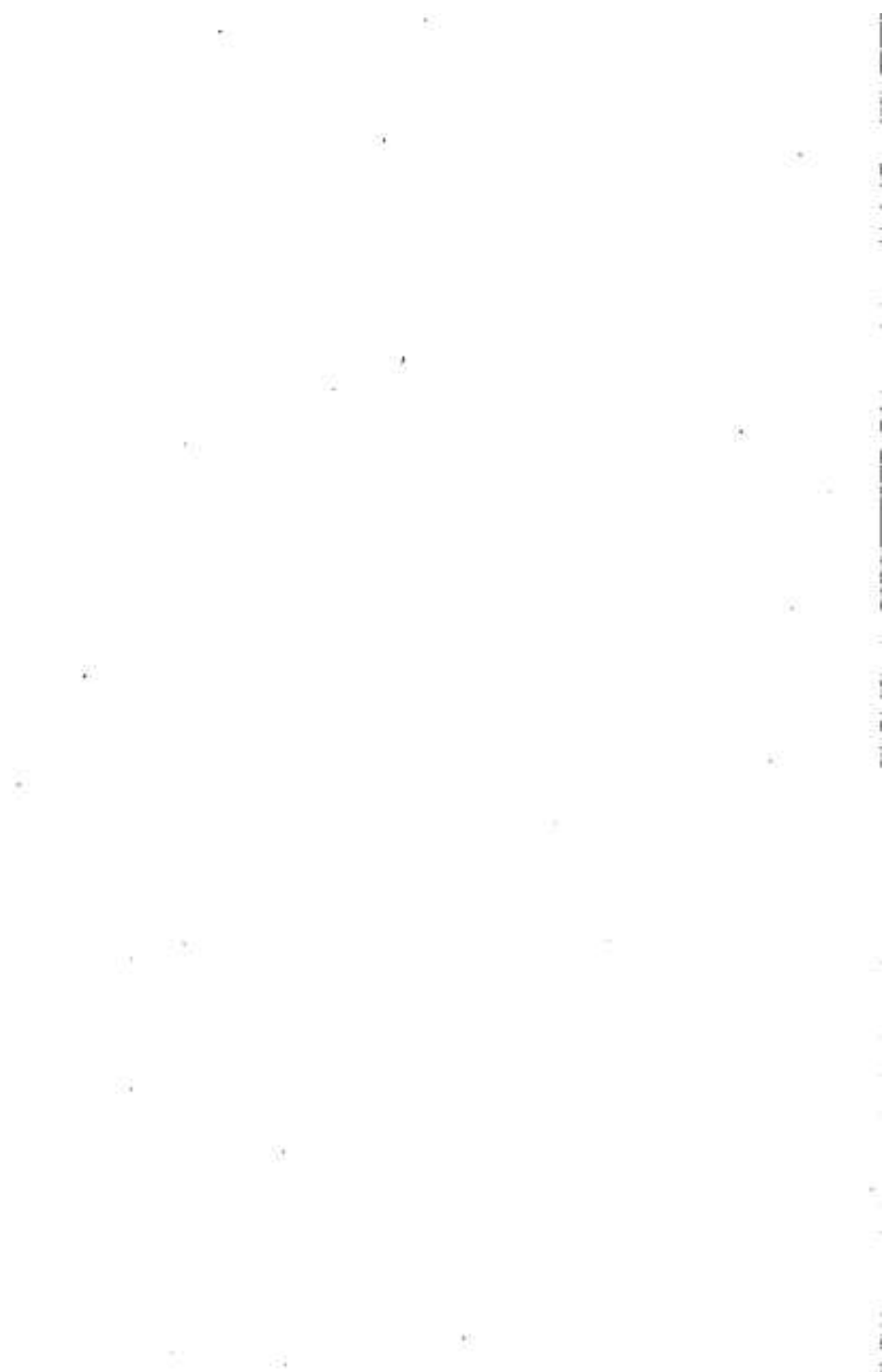
## GENERAL PREFACE.

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IN this edition of SHAKESPEARE an attempt is made to present the greater plays of the dramatist in their literary aspect, and not merely as material for the study of philology or grammar. Criticism purely verbal and textual has only been included to such an extent as may serve to help the student in the appreciation of the essential poetry. Questions of date and literary history have been fully dealt with in the Introductions, but the larger space has been devoted to the interpretative rather than the matter-of-fact order of scholarship. Aesthetic judgments are never final, but the Editors have attempted to suggest points of view from which the analysis of dramatic motive and dramatic character may be profitably undertaken. In the Notes likewise, while it is hoped that all unfamiliar expressions and allusions have been adequately explained, yet it has been thought even more important to consider the dramatic value of each scene, and the part which it plays in relation to the whole. These general principles are common to the whole series; in detail each Editor is alone responsible for the play or plays that have been intrusted to him.

Every volume of the series has been provided with a Glossary, an *Essay upon Metre*, and an *Index*; and Appendices have been added upon points of special interest, which could not conveniently be treated in the Introduction or the Notes. The text is based by the several Editors on that of the *Globe* edition: the only omissions made are those that are unavoidable in an edition likely to be used by young students.

By the systematic arrangement of the introductory matter, and by close attention to typographical details, every effort has been made to provide an edition that will prove convenient in use.



## EDITOR'S PREFACE.

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I cannot let this edition go forth without a few words of acknowledgment of help received.

For the interpretation and illustration of the text of the play, I am indebted above all to the indispensable *Shakespeare Lexicon* of Alexander Schmidt, and next to the labours of my predecessors, the earlier and later editors. Among the latter, I must especially mention Mr. W. Aldis Wright and Mr. K. Deighton.

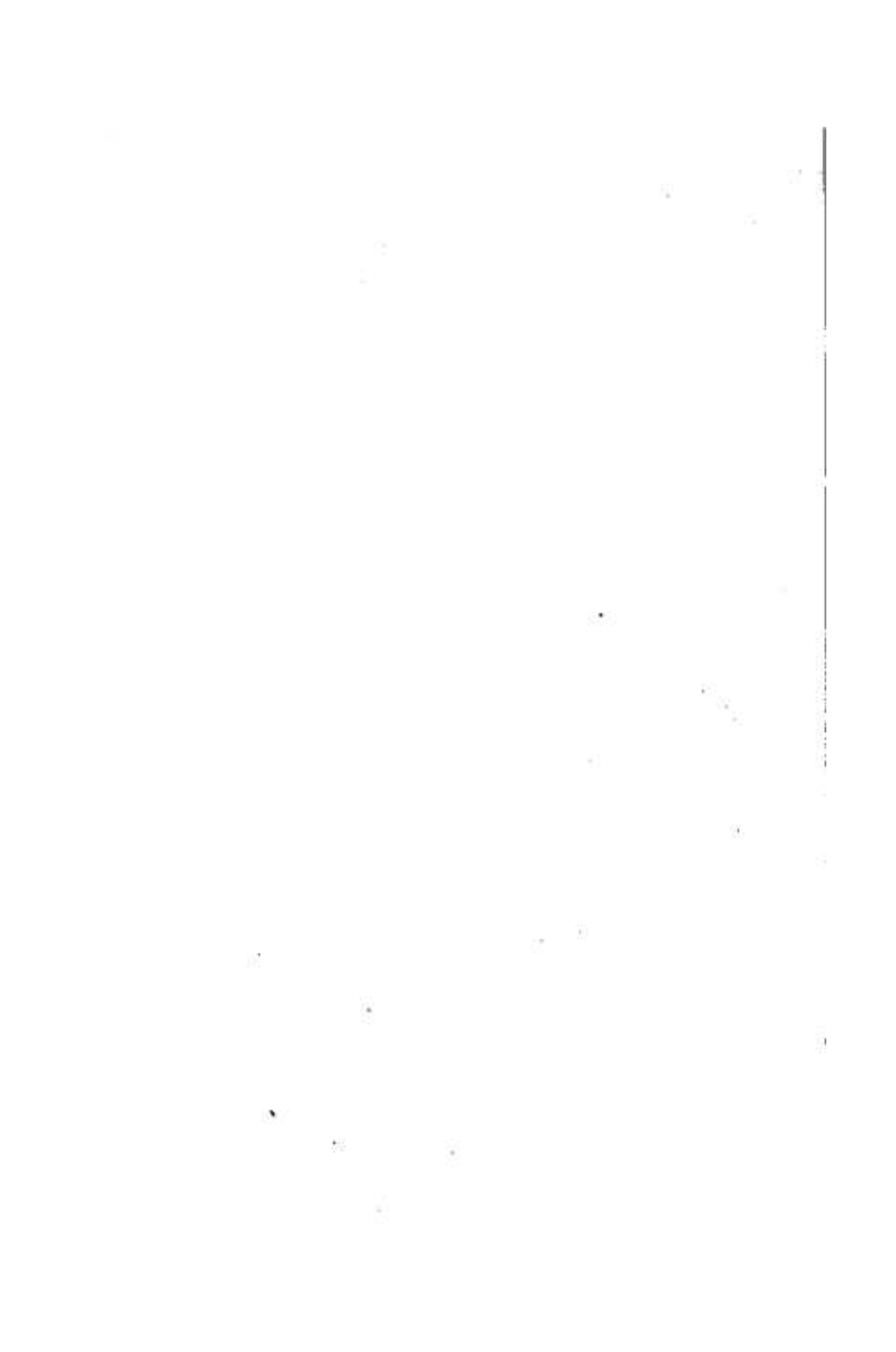
In regard to etymology, I have followed Dr. Murray's *New English Dictionary* for such words as are contained in the parts of the Dictionary already published; for most others, Professor Skeat, who has thus increased a debt which I owed him before for much valuable teaching.

In many respects, notably in my treatment of Shakespeare's prosody and of his obligations to his authorities, I have availed myself of the example set me by Professor Herford, the editor of *Richard II.*, the first volume of this series. Where I have been led to depart from his authority, I have done so with great diffidence.

Lastly, I owe very special thanks to my friend Mr. Walter Worrall, B.A., Worcester College, Oxford, for most kindly reading through my proofs, and giving me the full benefit of his exact scholarship and delicate literary taste.

G. C. M. S.





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