RELIQUES OF STRATFORD-ON-AVON: A SOUVENIR OF SHAKESPEARE'S HOME

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Reliques of Stratford-On-Avon: A Souvenir of Shakespeare's Home by William Shakespeare & A. E. Way & Thomas R. Way

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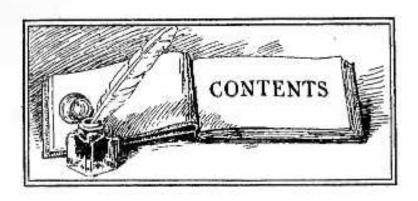


SHAKESPEARE'S BIRTH-PLACE.

RELIQUES OF STRATFORD-ON-AVON: A SOUVENIR OF SHAKESPEARE'S HOME & COMPILED BY A. E. WAY WITH LITHOGRAPHS BY & THOMAS R. WAY



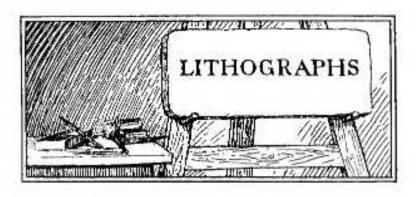
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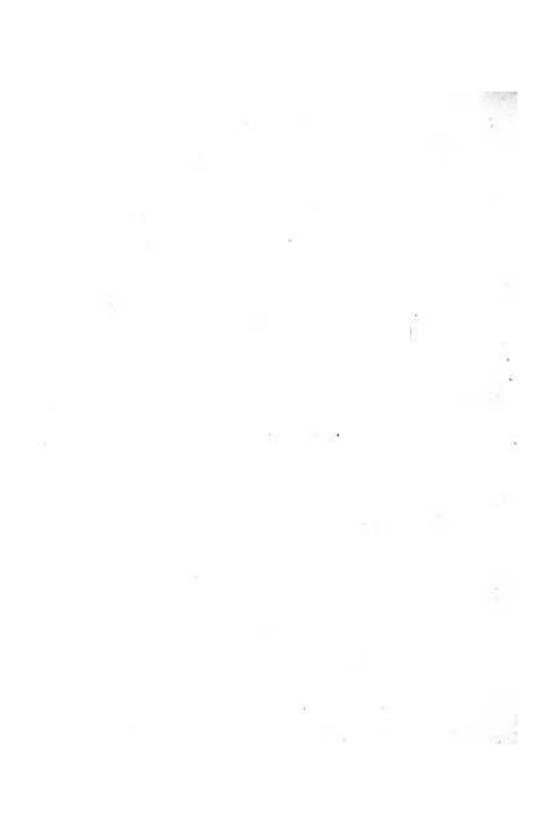
LIFE OF SHAKESPEA	RE	65 56	83	Page	11
SELECTIONS :					
"Tell me where is Fa	ncy br	ed".	30	11	25
"All the world's a sta	ge "	ec 3	97	**	26
Sonnet XVII .	\$6 B	. 12	8	.,,	29
"By shallow rivers"	8 5 8	· 10	300	319	30
"Plenteous rivers"	()		*	n	30
"There is a willow"	40 50				20

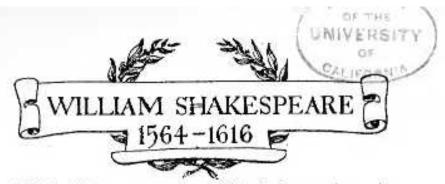
William Shakespeare

"The sands are number'd"		90	(5400)	Page	33
"And then, the justice"	÷	70	4	"	33
"Let me not live" .	125	33	122	92	34
"His years are young"		93	200	,,	34
"Fear no more the heat o'	the	sun	127	33	37
Sonnet LXXXI	47	20	5.50	22	41
Sonnet LV	14	w	7040	244	42



Shakespeare's Birthplace, Exterior		rior	26	Frontispiece			
The Birth-room .	•	S.	20	58	12	Page	13
Anne Hathaway's Co	ttag	٠.	0	¥6	33	93	17
King Edward's Gram	mar	Sch	ool		74	,,	27
The River Avon.	50	125	œ	50	23	n	31
The Guild Chapel	•	::::	70	800	$\widetilde{\mathcal{A}}$	33	35
Holy Trinity Church	4	4	27		٠	**	39
The Monument .	÷	9.50	25	07	26	29	43





In the little country town of Stratford-upon-Avon, in Warwickshire, Shakespeare was born on April 22nd, 1564, and so the place attained to the greatest honour which any town in the British Isles can lay claim to: that in it first saw the light the poet of poets and the dramatist of all time.

Stratford had quietly existed for centuries before, and was very little affected by its good fortune; and even at the present day it is but little changed from

Shakespeare's time.

How different from the London to which he came, in his early days, to acquire that fame which so quickly became his. Could he now revisit the two places, he would hardly recognise a building in the London of to-day, certainly none in his old haunts in Southwark. But at Stratford, how different! Three and a half centuries have not altered it to any great extent, and it is still easy to realise something of his life in the town where he was born, educated, and married, and whither he returned, after a moderate interval in London, to settle down and enjoy the latter end of his all too brief career.