

**EPICHAIRS: AN
HISTORICAL
TRAGEDY**

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Epichairs: An Historical Tragedy by Thomas Henry Lister

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THOMAS HENRY LISTER

**EPICHAIRS: AN
HISTORICAL
TRAGEDY**

Ann de Cuthbert

EPICCHARIS.

LONDON:
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EPICCHARIS,

AN HISTORICAL TRAGEDY.

BY

THE AUTHOR OF GRANBY.

REPRESENTED FOR THE FIRST TIME AT DRURY LANE
THEATRE, OCTOBER 14, 1829.

LONDON:

HENRY COLBURN AND RICHARD BENTLEY,
NEW BURLINGTON STREET.

1829.

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FROM
THE BEQUEST OF
EVENT JANSSEN WENDELL
1818

Lister Thomas Henry

PREFACE.

THE following Tragedy is founded on the history of *Piso's Conspiracy*, as related in the fifteenth Book of the *Annals* of *Tacitus*. The deviations from the historical narrative are principally these:—a change of the scene of interview between *Epicharis* and *Proculus* from the neighbourhood of *Misenum* to *Rome*—the contraction of the time occupied by the events—and the manner of the deaths of some of the personages introduced, which were such as could not have been exhibited on the stage, and are therefore represented in a manner more suitable to dramatic usage. The part which *Rufus* is made to bear, though not historically true, is nevertheless countenanced by its resemblance to the fact related by *Tacitus*, that “it was he that frustrated the bold purpose of *Subrius Flavius*, who while he attended, and demanded by signs whether he should draw his sabre, and in the heat of the inquest perpetrate the assassination, was by contrary signs from *Rufus* forbid, and his ardour checked, when already his hand grasped the hilt.”



DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.

NERO, *Emperor of Rome*MR. COOPER.

CONSPIRATORS.

CAIUS PISO, *a Patrician*MR. WALLACK.

FENIUS RUFUS, *Præfect of the Præto-
rian Guard*} MR. AITKEN.

SUBBIUS FLAVIUS, *Military Tribune*....MR. YOUNG.

SULPICIUS ASPER, *Centurion*MR. YOUNGE.

FLAVIUS SCEVINUS, } *Senators.* { MR. LEE.

AFRANIUS QUINCTIANUS, } { MR. CATHIE.

ANTONIUS NATALIS, } *Knights*..... { MR. THOMPSON.

TULLIUS SENECIO, } { MR. YARNOLD.

VOLUSIUS PROCULUS, *Chiliarch of the
Fleet*.....} MR. J. VINING.

A CENTURION.....MR. HOWELL.

PHAON, *Freedman and favourite of Nero*.MR. C. JONES.

DEMETRIUS, *Servant of Piso*.....MR. HONNER.

Guards, Lictors, Attendants, &c.

EPICHRIS, *a Grecian Freedwoman,
betrotted to Flavius*.....} MISS PHILLIPS.

SCENE—Rome.