

**DID SHAKESPEARE WRITE
"TITUS ANDRONICUS"? A
STUDY IN ELIZABETHAN
LITERATURE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649109876

Did Shakespeare write "Titus Andronicus"? A study in Elizabethan literature by John M. Robertson

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JOHN M. ROBERTSON

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JOHN M. ROBERTSON



LONDON:

WATTS & CO.,

17, JOHNSON'S COURT, FLEET STREET, E.C.

1905

GENERAL

PR 293
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ERRATA

- Page 25, note. For "Brahine" read "Brabine."
Page 38, line 2. For "at" read "of."
Page 39, line 11 from bottom. For "iv" read "iii, 200-1."
Page 73, line 10. For "ii, 3" read 66.
Page 73, last line of text. For "ii" read "83."
Page 77, line 19. Delete "checkcred."
Page 78, line 7. For "True-succeeding" read "Truc-divining."
Page 93, line 3 from bottom. Add "(111, ii)."
Page 122, line 10. "Shipwreck" is wrongly cited as special to
Titus in the Shakespeare concordance.
Page 173, line 6. For "I" read "II."
Page 201, line 17. For "ii" read "70."

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PROLOGUE

IT may be useful to preface the present treatise with a brief account of its evolution. Always unable to see that *Titus Andronicus* exhibited any of the characteristics of Shakespeare's work, I was long content to rest on the general consensus of English critics of the same way of thinking. Finding that attitude loudly challenged, however, I undertook, some years ago, to seek for grounds of a fully-reasoned opinion, for or against. Beginning, with that aim, to re-read the Elizabethan drama, I ere long framed the provisional hypothesis that *Titus* was the work of the "author" of *Lochrine*, and that that writer was the author likewise of the *Spanish Tragedy*. Finding subsequently that this theory had been put forward in the eighteenth century by so good a critic as Farmer, and endorsed by Ritson, I naturally thought the better of it. When, however, I sought to reduce it to precision, I found it inadequate to the phenomena. The problem had been expanded, not solved.

On a wider survey, equally unaware that Mr. F. G. Fleay and Mr. A. W. Verity had suggested Peele as the author of *Titus*, I found plain proof of