

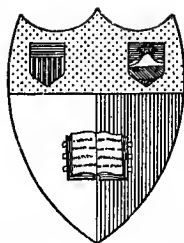
www.libtool.com.cn

Shakespeare in Limerick

By BRAINERD McKEE

PR
2878
S52

www.libtool.com.cn



Cornell University Library

Ithaca, New York

FROM THE
BENNO LOEWY LIBRARY

COLLECTED BY
BENNO LOEWY
1854-1919

BEQUEATHED TO CORNELL UNIVERSITY

www.libtool.com.cn

Cornell University Library
PR 2878.S52

Shakespeare in limerick,



3 1924 013 144 864

010



Cornell University Library

The original of this book is in
the Cornell University Library.

There are no known copyright restrictions in
the United States on the use of the text.

www.libtool.com.cn
Shakespeare
in Limerick



BY
BRAINERD McKEE

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY
JOHN P. MORTON & COMPANY
INCORPORATED

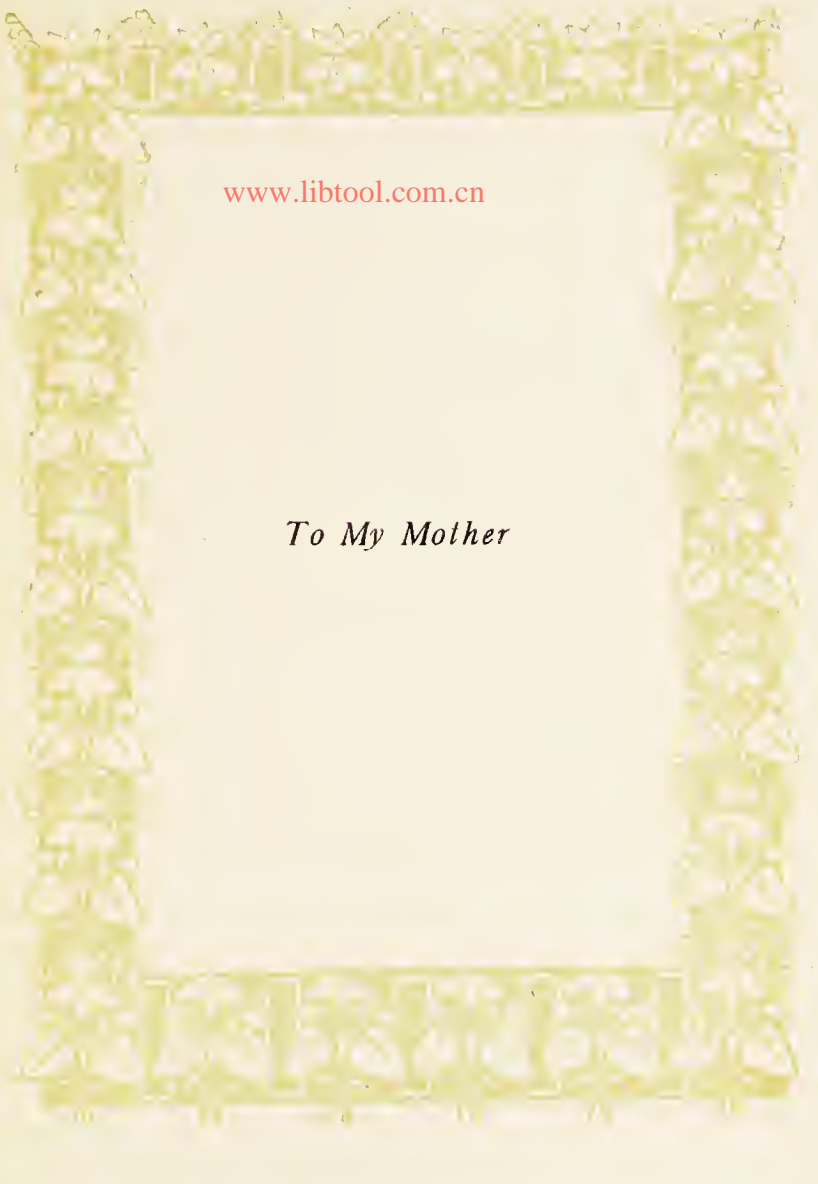
1910

www.libtool.com.cn

A. 613786

Copyright, 1910

By BRAINERD McKEE



www.libtool.com.cn

To My Mother

www.libtool.com.cn

www.libtool.com.cn

www.libtool.com.cn

Table of Contents



- I. THE TEMPEST.
- II. TWO GENTLEMEN OF VERONA.
- III. THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR.
- IV. MEASURE FOR MEASURE.
- V. THE COMEDY OF ERRORS.
- VI. MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING.
- VII. LOVE'S LABOR'S LOST.
- VIII. A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM.
- IX. THE MERCHANT OF VENICE.
- X. AS YOU LIKE IT.
- XI. THE TAMING OF THE SHREW.
- XII. ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL.
- XIII. TWELFTH NIGHT. *
- XIV. THE WINTER'S TALE.
- XV. KING JOHN.
- XVI. KING RICHARD II.
- XVII. KING HENRY IV.

www.libtool.com.cn

www.libtool.com.cn

- XVIII. KING HENRY V.
XIX. KING HENRY VI.
XX. KING RICHARD III.
XXI. KING HENRY VIII.
XXII. ROMEO AND JULIET.
XXIII. OTHELLO.
XXIV. KING LEAR.
XXV. MACBETH.
XXVI. TIMON OF ATHENS.
XXVII. HAMLET.
XXVIII. TROILUS AND CRESSIDA.
XXIX. CYMBELINE.
XXX. CORIOLANUS.
XXXI. JULIUS CÆSAR.
XXXII. ANTONY AND CLEOPATRA.
XXXIII. PERICLES.
XXXIV. VENUS AND ADONIS.
XXXV. LUCRECE.
XXXVI. SONNETS.
XXXVII. A LOVER'S COMPLAINT.
XXXVIII. THE PASSIONATE PILGRIM.

www.libtool.com.cn



www.libtool.com.cn

Shakespeare in Limerick

www.libtool.com.cn

www.libtool.com.cn

I.

THE TEMPEST

There once was a girl named Miranda
Who flirted with one Ferdinand, a
Shipwrecked young prince
Who, after a rinse,
Played chess with her on the veranda.

II.

TWO GENTLEMEN OF VERONA

There once were two gents from Verona
Who both tried to telephone a
Message of love
To the same turtle-dove,
And in their warm hearts to enthrone her.

www.libtool.com.cn

www.libtool.com.cn

III.

THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR

There was a fat man they called Falstaff:
When he walked he carried a tall staff,
And this made him lean—
That is—I mean—
It made him lean on the tall staff.

IV.

MEASURE FOR MEASURE

There once was a Duke of Vienna
Who dressed in a costume of senna:
A reformer was he;
And he worked like a bee
To save the old town from Gehenna.

www.libtool.com.cn

www.libtool.com.cn

V.

THE COMEDY OF ERRORS

There once was a couple of twins
Who looked as alike as two pins—
Pardon me, please—
I should have said “p’s”
But the rhyme there required the pins.

VI.

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

There once was a miserly bachelor
Who carried his heart in a satchel or
Small trunk, perhaps,
Secured well by straps,
Till ’twas stole by a maid from said
bachelor.

www.libtool.com.cn

www.libtool.com.cn

VII.

LOVE'S LABOR'S LOST

Some men once engaged in love's labor :
They didn't use pickaxe or sabre :
Their labor was lost :
When they counted the cost,
'T was the price of a pipe and a tabor.

VIII.

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

There was an Athenian weaver
Who worked at his trade like a beaver,
Till one night 't was his luck
To become stage-struck,
Mistaking the stage for a lever.

www.libtool.com.cn

www.libtool.com.cn

IX.

THE MERCHANT OF VENICE

There once was a covetous Jew :
When some money he lent became due,
And his man couldn't pay,
The Jew then did say,
“For a pound of your flesh I will sue.”

X.

AS YOU LIKE IT

There once was a forest called Arden
Where one day there strolled a bard in
And tacked verses on trees—
He was chased by some bees
And was also pursued by the warden.

www.libtool.com.cn

www.libtool.com.cn

XI.

THE TAMING OF THE SHREW

A tinker named Christopher Sly,
Who drank too much liquor when dry,
Dreamed of taming a shrew ;
But it didn't come true,
For he hadn't the courage to try.

XII.

ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL

There once was a girl they called Helen,
And she was in trouble—yes, well in ;
But though in so tight,
She got out all right ;
So it didn't much matter she fell in.

www.libtool.com.cn

www.libtool.com.cn

XIII.

TWELFTH NIGHT

There once was a girl in Illyria,
Whose flirting so greatly did weary a
Bachelor duke
That he didn't rebuke,
But wed her, to ward off hysteria.

XIV.

THE WINTER'S TALE

There once were two kings had a
scrimmage
(Who lived in a distant and dim age)
About one king's wife:
She died—then showed life
By appearing on Earth as an image.

www.libtool.com.cn

www.libtool.com.cn

XV.

KING JOHN

England once had a king called John,
But never a second one;
For he was so bad,
If another they'd had,
The land to the dogs would have gone.

XVI.

KING RICHARD II

There was a king called Richard Second
But away from his throne he was beckoned;
Then shut in a tower,
Where, robbed of his power,
Among the "resigned" he was reckoned.

www.libtool.com.cn

www.libtool.com.cn

XVII.

KING HENRY IV.

A Henry whose number was four
Spent much time in shedding of gore ;
 He did it in war,
 And though none knew what for,
He constantly clamored for more.

XVIII.

KING HENRY V

There once was a king called Fifth Harry
Who sword-thrusts neatly could parry
 And it helped him (this thing)
 To succeed as a king,
And it also did help him to marry.

www.libtool.com.cn

www.libtool.com.cn

XIX.

KING HENRY VI

A king known as Harry VI
Would sit on his throne and would sigh,
Till one Dick came along
And stopped his sad song
By saying, "Your place I'll supply."

XX.

KING RICHARD III.

There once was a monarch named Dick :
To his kingdom he didn't long stick ;
For he offered his crown
For a horse (marked down),
Thus ending his reign very quick.

www.libtool.com.cn

www.libtool.com.cn

XXXI.

KING HENRY VIII.

A king they called Bluff King Hal
Was a very congenial pal
When he had his own way,
But when one said him nay
Quite a different person was Hal.

XXII.

ROMEO AND JULIET

There once was a young girl called
Juliet:
Were she living, she'd be a fool yet.
She played dead in a tomb,
Which proved her real doom,
And that was the end of Miss Juliet.

www.libtool.com.cn

www.libtool.com.cn

XXIII.

OTHELLO

There once was a man named Othello,
An outrageously jealous old fellow :
 When they told him some lies,
 Quite green turned his eyes,
And like a great bull he did bellow.

XXIV.

KING LEAR

There 'once was a monarch named Lear
Whose manner of ruling was queer :
 Some daughters he had :
 Said they, "Dad is mad—
'Tis high time that we interfere."

www.libtool.com.cn

www.libtool.com.cn

XXV.

MACBETH

There once was a bad Thane of Fife
Who had an old witch for a wife ;
 She, and three other witches,
 By deeds dark as pitch is,
Plunged the country in warfare and strife.

XXVI.

TIMON OF ATHENS

There once was a man they called Timon—
(How the deuce shall I get a rhyme in?)
 Who squandered his all
 On a Bachelor's Hall
Instead of donating to Hymen.

www.libtool.com.cn

www.libtool.com.cn

XXVII.

HAMLET

There once was a gloomy young Dane
Who all frolic and fun did disdain;
In his dictionary
You couldn't find "merry,"
And "pleasure" defined he as "pain."

XXVIII.

TROILUS AND CRESSIDA

There once was a girl named Cressida
Who wasn't at all bona fide;
Troilus did woo
Her, but found her untrue,
And was very sorry he tried her.

www.libtool.com.cn

www.libtool.com.cn

XXIX.

CYMBELINE

There once was a king of old Britain
Who had a mug like a mitten:
By which statement glean
That his quarrelsome queen
So remarked, though 't isn't so written.

XXX.

CORIOLANUS

There existed one Coriolanus:
Folks said, "This man does disdain us—
He gives us but sneers—
He's proud, it appears;
And pride is a crime that is heinous."

www.libtool.com.cn

www.libtool.com.cn

XXXI.

JULIUS CÆSAR

There once was a Roman named Cæsar
Who had a nose like a tweezer :
 He ended his life
 Disobeying his wife,
When he went to the Senate to tease her.

XXXII.

ANTONY AND CLEOPATRA

There was an Egyptian queen—
The fairest (they say) ever seen ;
 But though she was pretty, .
 And also was witty,
She was most unaccountably mean.

www.libtool.com.cn

www.libtool.com.cn

XXXIII.

PERICLES

There once was a young Prince of Tyre,
And he was the son of his sire ;
 He was called Pericles :
 He will always please ;
For he Shakespeare and me did inspire.

XXXIV.

VENUS AND ADONIS

A hunter there was named Adonis
Whose fate by the following shown is:
 He was chased by a *boar*,
 And pursued by a *bore* :
That the latter was Venus well known is.

www.libtool.com.cn

www.libtool.com.cn

XXXV.

LUCRECE

A lady there was named Lucrece
Who resided at Rome or at Greece—
 (Which place doesn't matter—
 I just put the latter
For rhyme's sake—it might have been Nice).

XXXVI.

SONNETS

Bill Shakespeare wrote many a sonnet:
He gave one, instead of a bonnet,
 Each Easter to Anne—
 He gave it—then ran—
And left her to meditate on it.

www.libtool.com.cn

www.libtool.com.cn

XXXVII.

A LOVER'S COMPLAINT

A lover once made a complaint
So tedious it made persons faint---
That is, those who heard
To the very last word ;
For the patience 't would try of a saint.

XXXVIII.

THE PASSIONATE PILGRIM

There once was a passionate pilgrim,
So sad he'd have made Jack or Jill grim ;
But Shakespeare just wrote
For a twenty-pound note
This stuff, so it didn't make Bill grim.

www.libtool.com.cn

www.libtool.com.cn

www.libtool.com.cn

www.libtool.com.cn

www.libtool.com.cn

www.libtool.com.cn

