Centre for Research Collections :: Special Collections

Interim Handlist

Collection ref.   Coll-103
Collection title  Papers of James Orchard Halliwell-Phillipps
Shelfmark(s)      H-P; L.O.A.

About this handlist  Scan of older typescript list
The Shakespeare Collection in

Edinburgh University Library.

Printed Books.

The earliest accessions of Shakespeare's works to Edinburgh University Library came with the donation in 1627 of the library of the poet, William Drummond of Hawthornden. Although this gift provided the Town College, as it then was, with three of its early quartos including the very rare second edition of Titus Andronicus, 1600, it was not until the receipt of the Halliwell-Phillipps bequest in 1872 that Edinburgh University Library could claim any distinction as a repository of Shakespeareana. In this year it acquired a complete second folio, fragments of the first and third folios, and thirty-four quarto editions of the plays published before 1700, including four which were published in Shakespeare's lifetime. The Halliwell-Phillipps bequest also contained the seventh and eighth (octavo) editions of The Rape of Lucrece as well as a considerable collection of early editions of the plays, adaptations, source-books, background material, and it included a large series of facsimile copies of early editions. Apart from the gifts of Drummond and Halliwell-Phillipps, the Library acquired, probably during the eighteenth century, late seventeenth century quarto editions of Macbeth with additions and songs, 1674, Hamlet 6th or 7th edition, 1676, and King Lear, 1st edition of Tate's revision, 1681; while the right to a copy of all works registered at Stationers' Hall, which the Library enjoyed from 1710 to 1837, brought in a large number of eighteenth century editions.

We have now over seventy collected editions of the plays published after 1700, including two in French, three in German and one in Italian.

The chief item among the folios in the Halliwell-Phillipps Collection at Edinburgh is a good copy of the second folio of 1622, with Drovshout's portrait of Shakespeare on the title-page. According to R.M. Smith's enumeration of the variants of this edition, our copy is of the fourth version printed for Robert Allot ("Allot 4") and on A5 recto it has the "C" version of "Effigies", with in line 4 of Milton's epitaph - the reading "stars-yointing". The lines "To the reader" opposite the title-page appear to be in facsimile and at the end of Henry IV there is a duplicate leaf with 'actors' misprinted 'actors.'

Of the first folio Edinburgh University Library has only what appear to be playhouse copies of The comedy of errors (sigs. N1 - I2); A midsummer night's dream (sigs. N1 - O4). They are separately bound and have much MS annotation. Both are of the "first pagination", page 86 being misprinted as 58, 153 as 151 and 161 as 163.

1. R.M. Smith, Variant issues of Shakespeare's second folio, 1928, pp. 50-56.
and Qqq 2 verso – Sss 5 respectively of the third folio) seem to have been play­

house copies and, like our two fragments of the first folio, they are separately
bound and much annotated. Leaves Rrr 1 and Rrr 5 are badly mutilated. At the
time of their donation to the Library it was not known whether they were of the
first, 1663, or second, 1664, issue of the third folio; since then Donald Wing
has listed them as first issue (Wing, S. 2912).

Of eighteenth century collected editions of the plays we have volumes 1, 3 and 5 of Rowe's edition of 1709 and volume 2 only of that of 1714. The 1725
edition by Pope with Rowe's life of Shakespeare is, however, complete, and includes
the supplementary volume 7 with Sewell's corrections and preface. There follow
Theobald's edition of 1733, the Oxford edition of 1744 with Pope's preface and
Rowe's life, the "Pope and Warburton" version, which is really the work of
Warburton, in two editions of 1747, one published in London and one in Dublin.
Next we have three duodecimo London editions of 1747, 1748 and 1760 all taken
directly from the 1744 Oxford edition, and there follow the Theobald and Johnson
London editions of 1762 and 1765 respectively, Johnson's version being also
represented in a Dublin edition of 1766, and Theobald's in another London edition
of 1767. Next come the Capell edition, issued anonymously in 10 volumes in 1767­
1768, and two copies of a Birmingham edition of 1768 taken from Pope's version.
From this point it is perhaps unnecessary to detail the many later editions, most
of which are largely revisions of those already mentioned.

Before embarking upon a brief general description of the early editions
of individual plays, attention should perhaps be drawn to the nine Favier quartos
issued from the press of William Jaggard in 1619, 3 of which the University Library
possesses seven in the Halliwell-Phillipps Collection. A midsummer night's dream
(22303), 4 The merchant of Venice (22296X), Henry V (22291) and King Lear (22293)
are as described in Bartlett and Pollard 5 (nos. 757, 631, 364, 516) and nothing
useful can be added to these descriptions, although it provides an interesting
link with the previous article in the present series 6, to note that the copy of
Henry V/

3. Short list in H.C. Bartlett, Mr. William Shakespeare, New Haven, 1922, p. 48;
Discussion in Pollard, op. cit., pp. 91-106.
4. Numbers in round brackets are S.T.C. or Wing references; a cross following
the number indicates that Edinburgh University Library is not listed in these
authorities as possessing a copy.
5. H.C. Bartlett and H.W. Pollard, A census of Shakespeare's plays in quarto,
Rev. . . by H.C. Bartlett, New Haven, 1939. All references will be to this
edition.
6. H.W. Adams, The Shakespeare collection in the Library of Trinity College,
Cambridge [Shakespeare Survey, 5, 1952, pp. 50-54].
Henry V was once in the possession of Edward Capell (the initials "E.C." are inscribed on the title-page) whose books form the bulk of the Shakespeare collection at Trinity College, Cambridge. A Yorkshire tragedy (2241X), does not diverge sufficient to note the presence of a copy.

As the majority of the remaining quartos in the University Library are described in the census of Bartlett and Pollard, a brief note on some points of especial interest must suffice in this short essay. The plays are arranged in alphabetical order.

Pagination runs straight through 31-40. It may be that Bartlett and Pollard are mistaken, for in our copy the '2' of '28' and the '3' of 'jo' are difficult to decipher. We need not delay over our three editions - the 6th, 7th (2 copies) and 8th (2285, 2286, 2287X) - of King Henry IV, except perhaps to note that J.O. Halliwell annotated his copy of the 7th quarto to the effect that it cost him £1:18:6 to have it bound in red morocco by Bedford of London - an exceedingly high price, especially when we consider that Bedford bound most of Halliwell's Shakespeare quartos for him.

The third edition, 1655, of King Lear, which is not recorded in Wing, is our only quarto version of this play before the first edition of the revision by Nahum Tate, 1681 (S. 2918) which superseded Shakespeare's original on the stage until 1823. Of King Richard II we have the fifth, 1615, and 6th, 1634, quartos (22312, 22313X), but neither calls for special comment. The fifth edition of King Richard III (22318X) in Edinburgh University Library is distinguished by the insertion at the end of the nine duplicate leaves: A2, A3, B1, B1, G2, H4, I4, K1 and K4. These were taken from the copy now in the Furness Collection at Pennsylvania University, and were inserted, according to Halliwell, "to show variations." Our copy of the seventh edition (22320) has a duplicate of I2 pasted at the end so that the verso of the leaf shows; but our eighth edition (22321) is undistinguished.

With the first quarto of Love's labour's lost, 1598 (22294) we come to the first of the three quartos in the Drummond Collection. This copy is of the variant with 1:2 of D1 recto: "... argument and D2 verso penultimate line: fit: it. 7."

Although 7. See Adams, op. cit., p. 52.
Although we have only one 17th century edition of Macbeth - the 1674 second edition of Davenant's adaptation - it is of considerable interest, for it appears to be the only known copy in the United Kingdom. It is distinguished from the commoner first edition, also of 1674, by the fact that it is printed for A. Clark, not for P. Chetwin. Unfortunately Wing has recorded Edinburgh University Library as possessing the Chetwin edition (which we do not have) (S. 2910) but not the Clark (S. 2931) of which it records only five copies, all in the United States. Apart from the Pavier quarto already mentioned, the merchant of Venice is represented by the third edition with both the earlier and later titles, 1617 and 1652 (22298; S. 2938). In 1639, as appears from a signature on the title-page and the last page of the 1637 edition, it belonged to Thomas Malton. The merry wives of Windsor, 3rd ed., 1630 (22301), which is much rarer than the 1619 Pavier, is also in the Library. Among previous owners of this copy was the eminent Shakespearean scholar, George Steevens, whose signature is on the title-page. We have a copy of the only early edition of Much ado about nothing, that of 1660 (22304).

**Othello** is represented by the first, second and third quartos, but Halliwell's copy of the first quarto, 1622 (22105X) contains only 18 leaves of the original, the remainder (title-page, A2; BL-D4, I2, I3, K1-N2) being facsimiles. In our copy of the second quarto, 1630 (22106) a duplicate of leaf BL is inserted, according to Halliwell's note "on account of the second 1 in Holla, p. 6, l. 17, being nearly dropped. It was no doubt quite dropped in the copy used by the reprinters of ed. 1655 which reads, Holla ..." In fact it is the first 1 of Holla which is nearly dropped in our copy! Our third quarto is, of course, the leak edition of 1655 (S. 2939) wrongly described on the title-page as the fourth edition: it is, notes Halliwell, "distinguished by many hideous misprints." In addition to the Pavier quarto we have the fifth (both versions) and sixth quartos of Pericles (2237X, 2238X, 2239X); the two versions of the fifth quarto are identical but for their imprin_te 11. Two of our three quartos of Romeo and Juliet are of especial interest: the second quarto of 1599 (22123), which is the first edition of a good text, and was among the books presented to the Library by William Drummond, who seems to have written the inscription 'W. D.Sha.' which is on the title-page; the undated fourth quarto, of which we have the earlier 'anonymous' version without Shakespeare's name on the title-page (22125) is also worth noting, for the only known copies are those in the British Museum, the Huntington and Edinburgh University Libraries. On the other hand the 1637 fifth edition (22126X) is not particularly important. To conclude this brief survey of the quartos in Edinburgh University Library, we must record the only separate edition of The taming of the shrew published before 1709, that of 1631 (22327) our copy of which is distinguished by having the date on the title-page inserted from another genuine copy of the same edition; and Titus Andronicus in the second quarto of 1600 (22129), a very rare edition, of which only two copies are recorded in Bartlett and Pollard (nos. 1189 and 1190) - those in the Edinburgh University and Huntington Libraries. It should be noted that many of the quartos in the Halliwell-Phillipps Collection have one or two leaves - sometimes including the title-page - made up in facsimile; these have been noted in Bartlett and Pollard, and it has not been necessary to refer to them in detail under each play, except in the case of the first quarto Othello.

9. Bartlett, no. 166; cf. note to no. 165.
The poems are not very well represented in Edinburgh University Library: there is no separate collected edition before that of 1775, which was intended to be a supplement to Capell's edition of the plays; while our earliest edition of the sonnets is that of 1859. We have, however, one of the five known copies (Bartlett no. 20) of The race of Lucrece, 7th ed., 1632 (2252), which lacks the title-page and four leaves; it is also badly cropped. The eighth edition of 1655 (s. 2943) which is also in the Halliwell-Phillipps Collection, is interesting for the sake of the frontispiece portrait by William Faithorne, of which only seven copies are known (Bartlett no. 21) although the book itself is fairly common. In fact our copy lacks the portrait, but it is in the Library separately on a special mounting.

According to Miss Bartlett, this is the third engraved portrait of Shakespeare, the first being the Droomshaut engraving in the first folio, and the second the portrait by William Marshall in the 1640 edition of the Poems. In addition to the version of the Droomshaut in the second folio, Edinburgh University Library has—separately mounted—a copy of the 1640 Marshall, which is copied from Droomshaut with alterations in the dress, and, as stated, of the 1655 Faithorne, also adapted from Droomshaut, with the head reversed. We also have an inferior reprint of both the 1640 and 1655 versions, and a very rare, but otherwise worthless, reversed copy of the 1640.

Early editions of the "spurious" plays are represented—in addition to the Favier quarto of A Yorkshire tragedy 12—by the third, 1633, quarto of Arden of Faversham (735X, Bartlett no. 127); moreover we have a copy of the 1728 Dublin edition of Double falsehood, which Theobald claimed was a hitherto undiscovered play by Shakespeare, but which is now considered to be most probably the work of Theobald himself. (The 1728 London edition is catalogued in Bartlett, no. 159.)

Among translations in Edinburgh University Library—most of them in the Halliwell-Phillipps Collection, except for some nineteenth century Greek versions of (inter alia) Hamlet, Macbeth and The Tempest bequeathed in 1895 by Professor John Stuart Blackie—are Guizot's prose translation of the complete works into French (Nouv. éd. 8 tom. 8° Paris, 1860-62), and eight of the nine volumes of Schlegel's German text of the plays (8° Berlin, 1797-1801). Of the single plays Hamlet is by far the most translated; we have Ducis's French text in the edition of 1815, Rusconi's Italian-English version of 1876 and a Swedish translation published in Stockholm in 1820. Italian-English versions of King Lear, Macbeth and Romeo and Juliet, all prepared for the actor E. Rossi, are also available in the Library, as is a Spanish translation of King Lear published at Montevideo in 1894 and, in German, Shakespeare's Southampton-Sonette, translated by F. Krauss, Leipzig, 1872.

Although the principalities in the Halliwell-Phillipps Collection is the series of quartos, it is of great importance for two other types of Shakespeariana: adaptations of Shakespeare plays, published under his name or that of the adapter, and source books from which the dramatist drew the ideas and material for his plays.

The twenty-eight adaptations of the period 1667-1762 which are listed in Bartlett (nos. 160-187) we have three in the editions given, viz. Tate's King Lear, 13

12. See above, p. 43.
13. See above, p. 43.
John Lacey's _Sauny the Scott; or, the Taming of the Shrew, 1st ed., Lond., 1759_ (Bartlett no. 180), and William Hawkins's _Cymbeline, 1st ed., Lond., 1759_ (Bartlett 186), and editions within the period of five others. In addition we have the 1789 edition of Dryden's _The Tempest..._ as compiled by J.P. Kemble and first acted at the Theatre Royal, Trury Lane... 1789, and on a single sheet, probably published in 1781, a version of the masque _Peleus & Thetis_, which was inserted into act 2 of Granville's adaptation of _The Merchant of Venice_, Lond., 1701 (Bartlett, no. 183). Attention must also be drawn to our possession of four adaptations by Garrick: _Romeo and Juliet, 12° Dublin, 1754_; _Catherine's Petrucho..._ _AltO'ed from Shakespeare's Taming of the Shrew, 8° Lond., 1756_; _The tempest: an opera, 8° Lond._, 1756; _A midsummer nights dream, 12° Dublin, 1764_. which are not mentioned by Miss Bartlett, and _Coriolanus_ in the editions of London, 1755, and Dublin, 1757, which she refers to in a footnote to no. 176.

Of the 91 source books recorded in Bartlett (nos. 188-277, including 250a) Edinburgh University Library possesses nine in the editions given (nos. 190, 201, 205, 222, 229, 247, 255, 262-2 copies -265) and fifteen in other slightly later editions which were published, however, during Shakespeare's lifetime. It is perhaps also worth noting that we have the third folio, c. 1550, of the _Works of Chaucer_, which unfortunately lacks the title-page and leaves 1-48. Miss Bartlett catalogues the fourth edition of 1561 (no. 206) as the one most likely to have been used by Shakespeare. Among editions recorded by Bartlett which are in the Library, we might note especially no. 2021, the 1587 edition of _Surrey's and Wyatt's Songes and sonettes_, of which Miss Bartlett specifies only three copies, missing out the Edinburgh University copy which thus makes a fourth. Of interest too is the third quarto, 1622, of _The first and second part of the troublesome raigne of John King of England_ in which Shakespeare's name, "W. Shakespeare," appears in full on the title-page - in our copy a facsimile title-page (Bartlett no. 247; 14647X). The _Favier quarto of The whole contention betweene... Lancaster and Yorke_ (no. 255) has already been dealt with; but mention might be made of the only one of these source books of which we have two copies (one in the Drummond and one in the Halliwell-Phillipps Collection), namely, Alexander Silvayn's _The orator_, Lond., 1596 (no. 262) which may have contributed to _The merchant of Venice_.

Some of the facsimiles of early editions in the Halliwell-Phillipps Collectio may perhaps merit a short note. The most important group contains vols. 1-13, 15, 17-26, 28-47 of E.W. Ashbee's privately printed _A collection of lithographic facsimiles of the early quarto editions of the separate works of Shakespeare_, including every known edition of all the plays... issued during the life-time of the... _dramatist_, Lond., 1861-71. There are also two copies of the facsimile of the first folio, Lond., 1666, the production of which was supervised by H. Staunton, and a copy of the reduced facsimile of the first folio, Lond., 1876, with Halliwell-Phillipps's introduction. Many other facsimiles of single works and the more common collected editions of facsimiles cannot be separately considered in this essay.

Before concluding, there are some items of "miscellanea" which are worth attention. Much background material on Shakespeare, his times and his editors came to the Library with the Halliwell-Phillipps Collection, including works by the donor/  

14. See above, p. 3.
donor himself; A facsimile of the deed of bargain and sale of Shakespeare's Blackfrairs estate... 1614, pri. pr. Brighton, 1884; and The probate copy of the will of Shakespeare, new first printed from a manuscript copy of it made by the Rev. Joseph Greane... in... 1747, pri. pr. Lond., 1872. Of interest too is Gaius's An ode upon dedicating a building and erecting a statue to Shakespeare at Stratford upon Avon... By J.C., Lond., 1769, and a considerable amount of printed material by ar about Samuel William Henry Ireland, the celebrated forger of Shakespeare manuscripts, in addition to two volumes of the manuscripts themselves and autograph letters, drawings, etc. of Ireland relating to these forgeries. 15.

15. See p.

About 7,000 words.
H.-P. Collection.

Shelf list.

Last no.: 409 (June 1962).
Archer (Sir Symon). MS. accounts, etc., of Sir S.A., 1649-1653.

Bacon (Francis) Viscount St. Albans. Fragment of an introduction to papers of Bacon found at Northumberland House, with two facsimiles.


Boyle (Charles) 4th Earl of Orrery. MS. copies of Hamlet, Merchant of Venice and Merry Wives of Windsor in the holograph of Charles Boyle, Earl of Orrery. 3 vols.


Douce (Francis). Notes on Shakespeare.


Halliwell-Phillipps (Mrs. Henrietta Elizabeth Molyneux). Diary, 1836-75. 4 vols.


Halliwell-Phillipps (James Orchard). Collations of Shakespeare's King Lear, 1608 ed., etc.
Halliwell-Phillipps (James Orchard). Collections for "Outlines of the life of Shakespeare".

"Although most of the present vol. is printed in "Outlines of the life of Shakespeare 1881; yet there is a sprinkling of unprinted matter and some of the extracts are more at full than in the printed vol." J. O. H.-P. H.-P. Coll.


Halliwell-Phillipps (James Orchard). Collections on the play of "Pericles". H.-P. Coll.


Halliwell-Phillipps (James Orchard). Index to my Shakespearean collections. 187 (Index to The List of Contents of The Iron Safe) H.-P. Coll.
Halliwell-Phillipps (James Orchard). Letters of authors to J.O.H.-P., with replies, etc. 100 vols. (Vol. 284 wanting)

Halliwell-Phillipps (James Orchard). Letters from J.O.H.-P. to John Small regarding the transference of his Shakespearean collections to Edinburgh University Library, 1872. (Six letters dated 21st, 24th, 28th Feb., 5th, 6th March, and 17th May, 1872.)

Halliwell-Phillipps (James Orchard). A list of the slain, 1869; viz. books read by J.O.H. for Shakespearean illustration.

Halliwell-Phillipps (James Orchard). List of theatrical companies, etc., circa 1593-1655.

Halliwell-Phillipps (James Orchard). Literary scraps: cuttings from newspapers, extracts, miscellaneous, manuscript collections on Shakespeare. 4 vols. Printed title-page.

Halliwell-Phillipps (James Orchard). Provincial wills likely to be useful to Shakespearean students.


Halliwell-Phillipps (James Orchard). Memoranda on old maps and plans of London.


Halliwell-Phillipps (James Orchard). Notes for provincial researches for the Life of Shakespeare and the History of the Stage, 4 pts. and index.  H.-P. Coll.  360-364  Her.4-8.

Halliwell-Phillipps (James Orchard). Notes of Shakespeariana in London, etc. 21 vols.  H.-P. Coll.  375-395  H.d.2-1252.


Halliwell-Phillipps (James Orchard). Notes on parish registers.  H.-P. Coll.  749  Her.9-54.


Halliwell-Phillipps (James Orchard). Shakespearan miscellanies collected by J.O.H.-P.  H.-P. Coll.  L-02  Her.6r.28.


Jackson (Richard). "Blooms and Blossoms of the reigns of Elizabeth, James, Charles Ist and IIId, known or attributed to Shakespeare, Jonson, Raleigh, Beaumont, Herrick, Donne, Witheres, Randolph and Strode, with their Contemporaries of names lesser known, and many Anonymous or by the Brachygrapher Richard Jackson." H.-P. Coll. 413 Hc-611.


Pilgrim's (The) wreath; an autumnal offering at the shrine of Stratford-on-Avon, 1855. (By J.E.) H.-P. Coll. 310 Hc-10-17.

Quiney (Thomas) v. Francis Creswick. Transcript of two papers (dated 1630 and 1631) relating to the case of T. Q. versus F. C. H.-P. Coll. 304 Hc-430.
Prujean (Thomas). Transcript of verse epistles of Romeo and Juliet from T.F.'s Aurora, 1644.


Stratford-upon-Avon. Royal Shakespearean Theatre. Declaration of trust ... as to the Royal Shakespearean Theatre ... December 8, 1841.

Warwick (Ambrose, Earl of). Rent-roll of the manor of Stratford-upon-Avon, longing to Ambrose, Earl of Warwick, and 12 Eliz., transcribed from the Special Commissions of the Court of Exchequer.

H. -P. Coll.

Weever (John). Epigrammes in the oldest cut and newest fashion, etc. [Transcripts of preliminary matter and the epigram on Shakespeare made for J.O. Halliwell-Phillipps.]

H. -P. Coll.