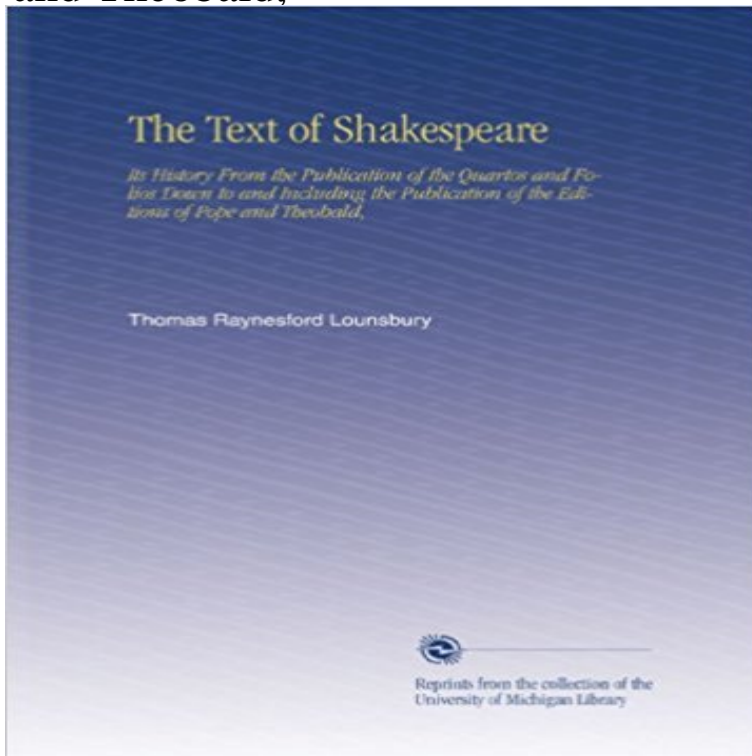


# The Text of Shakespeare: Its History From the Publication of the Quartos and Folios Down to and Including the Publication of the Editions of Pope and Theobald,



The two previous volumes of this series have been given up to the consideration of the controversies which deal with Shakespeare as a dramatic artist. The ground covered had, to some extent at least, been already gone over by several. It is a theme indeed upon which many profess to have what they are pleased to call a general knowledge. But both experience and observation show that the profession of general knowledge is usually coincident with the possession of specific ignorance; and there may be occasion later to exemplify the confusion which is sure to arise when limited information on this subject unites with unlimited assumption to draw inferences and deduce conclusions. But whatever may be true of the controversy in regard to Shakespeare as a dramatic artist, about most of the matter contained in the present volume there is no general knowledge; at least what there is going under that name is usually based upon misapprehension where it is not itself positively erroneous. The settlement of the text of Shakespeare, so far as it can be called settled, has been the work of successive generations of scholars. It was transmitted to later times in a state more or less imperfect. (Typographical errors above are due to OCR software and do not occur in the book.) About the Publisher Forgotten Books is a publisher of historical writings, such as: Philosophy, Classics, Science, Religion, History, Folklore and Mythology. Forgotten Books Classic Reprint Series utilizes the latest technology to regenerate facsimiles of historically important writings. Careful attention has been made to accurately preserve the original format of each page whilst digitally enhancing the aged text. Read books online for free at [www.forgottenbooks.org](http://www.forgottenbooks.org)



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