

Dédicace de *The Works of Mr. John Marston*

Auteur : Sheares, William

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Les folios

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4 Fichier(s)

Mots clés

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Informations éditoriales

Titre complet de la pièce *The Works of Mr. John Marston being Tragedies and Comedies, collected into one Volume*

Auteur de la pièce Marston, John

Date 1633

Lieu d'édition Londres, Royaume-Uni

Éditeur

- [Mathewes, Augustine]
- Sheares, William

Langue Anglais

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- Recueil
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TO THE RIGHT
HONOVABLE, THE
Lady ELIZABETH CARIE,
Vilcountesse FAVVKLAND.

MAny opprobies and aspersi-
ons haue not long since been
cast upon Playes in gene-
rall, and it were requisite
and expedient that they were vindi-
cated from them; But I referre that
taske to those whose leasure is greater,
and Learning more transcendent. Yet
for my part I cannot perceiue wherein
they should appeare so vile and abo-
minable, that they should bee so ve-
hemently inueighed against; Is it
A 3 because

THE EPISTLE

because they are Playes? The name it
seemes somewhat offends them, where-
as if they were styled Workes, they
might haue their Approbation also. I
hope that I haue now somewhat pacified
that precise Seet, by reducing all our
Authors severall Playes into one Vo-
lume, and so stiled them The Works
of Mr. IOHN MARSTON; who was
not inferiour unto any in this kinde of
Writing, in those dayes when these were
penned, and I am perswaded equall
unto the best Poets of our times. If
the lines bee not answerable to my En-
comium of him, yet herein beare with
him, because they were his Iuvenilia,
and youthfull Recreations; Howsoever
hee is free from all obscene speeches,
which is the chiefe cause that makes
Playes to bee so odious unto most men.
Hee

DEDICATORIE.

Hee abhorres such Writers, and their Workes, and hath professed himselfe an enemy to all such as stuffe their Scenes with ribaldry, and lard their lines with scurrilous taunts and jests: so that whatsoever even in the Spring of his yeeres hee hath presented upon the private and publike Theater, now in his Autumne, and declining age hee need not bee ashamed of; and were it not that hee is so farre distant from this place, hee would haue beene more carefull in revising the former Impressions, and more circumspect about this, then I can. In his absence, Noble Lady, I haue been imboldened to present these Workes unto your Honours view, and the rather, because your Honour is well acquainted with the Muses; In brieft, Fame hath given out, that your

A 4

Honour

THE EPISTLE, &c.

Honour is the Mirror of your sex, the admiration, not onely of this Iland, but of all adjacent Countries and Dominions, which are acquainted with your rare Vertues, and Endowments: If your Honour shall vouchsafe to accept this Worke, I with my Booke am ready prest and bound to be

Your truly devoted,

WILLIAM SHEARES.