



English Reprints.

JOHN LYLY, M.A.

EUPHUES. THE ANATOMY OF WIT.

Editio princeps. 1579.

EUPHUES AND HIS ENGLAND.

Editio princeps. 1580.

COLLATED WITH EARLY SUBSEQUENT EDITIONS.

'Eloquent and wittie *John Lilly.*'

F. MERES. *Palladis Tamia.* 1598.

Edited by EDWARD ARBER, F.S.A., etc.,

LECTURER IN ENGLISH LITERATURE, ETC.,
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.

SOUTHGATE, LONDON, N.

1 October, 1868.

No. 9.

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CHRONICLE

of
some of the principal events
in the
LIFE, WORKS, and TIMES
of
JOHN LYLY, M.A.,
Author, Wit, Poet, Dramatist.

* Probable or approximate dates.

1553. July 6. *Mary* succeeds to the crown.

*1553 or *1554. JOHN LYLY born. 'Touching whose [Mary's] life, I can say little because I was scarce borne.' *p.* 451.

1558. Feb. 17. Elizabeth begins to reign.

1560. Jan. 12. Sir Thomas Benger appointed Master of the Revels.—*Collier. Hist. Dram. Poetry, i. 172.*

1569. æt. 16. John Lyly or Lyly, a Kentish man born, became a student in Magd. coll. [which house was seldom or never without a Lylye (understand me not that it bears three lilyes for its arms) from the first foundation thereof to the latter end of queen Elizabeth. *Wood i. 302*] in the beginning of 1569, aged 16, or thereabouts, and was afterwards, as I conceive, either one of the demies or clerks of that house.—*A. & Wood Ath. Oxon i. 676. Ed. 1813.*

1571. Oct. 8. John Lilly, born in the Weald of Kent in 1553 or 1554, became a student of Magdalen College, Oxford, in 1569, but was not matriculated till 8 Oct. 1571, when he was entered æt. 18. as *plebii filius*.—*Cooper. Ath. Cantab. ii. 525. Ed. 1861.*

[The Rev. Dr. Bloxam, formerly of Magdalen college, and who has made its history his especial study, informs me "Wood was probably right when he supposes Lyly to have entered college in 1569 for, as 1571 was the first year of matriculation and all the members of the college, old and young were matriculated together,—the matriculation would not fix the date of entrance. Lyly might have been a poor Scholar but there is no reason to suppose that he was either a Demy or Clerk."]

Wood reports, apparently in part copying from Blount, see p. 17, that Lyly was "always averse to the crabbed studies of logic and philosophy. For so it was that his genie being naturally bent to the pleasant paths of poetry, (as if Apollo had given to him a wreath of his own bays, without snatching or struggling,) did in a manner neglect academical studies, yet not so much but that he took the degrees in arts, that of master being completed 1575. At which time, as he was esteemed at the university a noted wit so afterwards was in the court of Q. Elizabeth, where he was also reputed a rare poet, witty, comical, and facetious."—*Ath. Oxon i. 276.*

1573. Apr. 27. 'John Lylye of Magd. coll.' takes his B.A.—*Wood. Fasti æt. 20. Oxon. Ed. 1815.*

1574. May 16. Lyly writes a Latin letter to Lord Burghley, which is now in the British Museum, *Lansdowne MS. 19, Art. 16.* It is beautifully written on pencilled lines. On the back it is thus endorsed. "16. May 1574 John Lylye, a scholar of Oxford, an epistle For ye Queens letters to Magdalen College to admit him fellow." The letter is reprinted in *Mr. Fairholt's Dramatick works of John Lyly. i. xii. Ed.*

Childhood.

At Oxford.

EUPHUES. THE ANATOMY OF WIT.

THE PRINCIPAL CHARACTERS PRESENT IN THE ACTION.

EUPHUES, *a young gentleman of ATHENS.*

PHILAUTUS, *a young gentleman of NAPLES.*

EUBULUS, *an old gentleman of NAPLES.*

DON FERARDO, *one of the chief governors of NAPLES.*

LUCILLA, *daughter of DON FERARDO.*

LIVIA, *a lady of NAPLES, in the house of DON
FERARDO, afterwards at the Emperor's court.*

SCENE.

NAPLES and ATHENS.

TIME.

Not defined.



EVPHVES.



Here dwelt in *Athens* a young gentleman of great patrimony, and of so comelye a perfonage, that it was doubted whether he were more bound to Nature for the liniaments of his perfon, or to Fortune for the increafe of his poffeffions. But Nature impatient of comparifons, and as it were difdaining a companion or copartner in hir working, added to this comelyneffe of his bodye fuch a sharpe capacity of minde, that not onely ſhe proued Fortune counterfaite, but was halfe of that opinion that ſhe hir ſelfe was onely currant. This young gallaunt of more witte then wealth, and yet of more wealth then wife-dome, feeing himſelfe inferiour to none in pleaſant conceits, though himſelfe ſuperiour to all his [in] honeſt conditions, infomuch that he thought himſelfe ſo apt to all things that he gaue himſelfe almoſt to nothing but practiſing of thoſe things commonly which are indigent [incident] to theſe sharpe wittes, fine phraſes, ſmooth quippes, merry tauntes, [vſing] ieftinge without meane, and abuſing mirth without meaſure. As therefore the ſweeteſt Roſe hath his prickell, the fineſt veluet his bracke, the faireſt flower his branne, ſo the ſharpeſt wit hath his wanton will, and the holieſt head his

EUPHUES AND HIS ENGLAND.

THE PRINCIPAL CHARACTERS PRESENT IN THE ACTION.

EUPHUES.

PHILAUTUS.

FIDUS, *an old English courtier, now a keeper of bees.*

SURIUS, *a young English gentleman, 'of great birth and noble blood.'*

PSELLUS, *an Italian gentleman, reputed 'great in Magic.'*

MARTIUS, *an Englishman, 'not very young.'*

CAMILLA, *a young Englishwoman of eighteen years. 'Of so great birth,' but 'of greater beauty than birth.' 'Such a one she was, as almost they all are that serve so noble a Prince, such virgins carry lights before such a VESTA, such nymphes, arrows with such a DIANA.' p. 311.*

The Lady FLAVIA, an Englishwoman. 'One of the Ladies who delighted much in mirth.'

Mistress FRANCES, niece to the Lady FLAVIA. PHILAUTUS' Violet.

SCENE AND TIME.

i. Dec. 1579. Euphues and Philautus leave NAPLES for ENGLAND. The voyage occupies two months.

Feb. 1580. They arrive at DOVER, where they stay three or four days.

[Lyly, in his address written between the two parts, intended then to make them land at HAMPTON, see p. 301.]
Journeying through CANTERBURY, they reach FIDUS's house, where they stay one day. After which they proceed to LONDON.

Lent, 1580. Lady FLAVIA's supper-party is held in Lent. After which 'they passed many days in England,' until Euphues returns to ATHENS. Thence he goes to the mountain SILIXSEDRA. Philautus staying in ENGLAND.

. . . Yet Philautus' last letter—received by Euphues in ATHENS not passing one quarter of a yeare after he left England, p. 44—is dated i. February 1579[80].

¶ Euphues and his England.

CONTAINING

his voyage and adventures, myxed with
fundry pretie discourfes of honest
Loue, the discription of the
country, the Court, and
the manners of that
Ile.

DELIGHTFVL TO

be read, and nothing hurtfull to be regar-
ded: wher-in there is small offence
by lightnesse giuen to the wife,
and lesse occasion of loofe-
nes proffered to the
wanton.

¶ By Iohn Lyly, Maister
of Arte.

Commend it, or amend it.

Imprinted at London for

Gabriell Cawood, dwelling in
Paules Church-yard.

1580.