

October, 1589. See Documents relative to reception of the King. &c. Edinburgh, 1822." Robert Chambers' enlightened regard for the great dramatist is shown by the room given him in the "Book of Days," the *Journal* (especially in the Tercentenary year), and the "Cyclopædia of English Literature;" and by an edition of the plays adapted to family reading. The stir made a few years since by Robert Chambers' "Vestiges of Creation" was a mild prelude to the widespread commotion raised, at a later time, by the same theories more explicitly unfolded. To the Shakspearean group of relics I finally add a note transcribed from the autograph of Mr. J. Payne Collier himself, on the subject of the received form of Shakspeare's name. It is known that some persons from time to time suffer from a craze for a change—an improvement—in the usual orthography of the poet's name. As was to be expected, Mr. Collier practically pronounces against them. "As to the spelling of the name of Shakspeare," he says in the MS. from which I copy, "I have never considered it a matter of any importance; but I have never put it on paper, either in print or in manuscript, but in this form—SHAKESPEARE. He seems to have spelt it in various ways, and nobody in his lifetime cared much how any name was spelt, as long as it sounded much in the same way. I have seen it, of old, as Shaksper, Shaxper, Shackspere, Shaxespere, Shaxspeare and Shackspeere, and in other fanciful modes, for there was then no uniformity or rule. I am so busy just now with my edition of his Plays, of which twenty-four are in type (only 50 copies 4to to subscribers), that I really have not time to enter more at large into the subject. I care much more about the accuracy of a single word of his text, however small, than about the mere orthography of his name." In 1842-44, Mr. Collier published an edition of Shakspeare in eight volumes 8vo; and in 1848, a work entitled "Shakspeare's Library," being a collection of the ancient romances, novels, legends, poems, and histories used by Shakspeare as the foundation of his dramas, printed in full. His "History of English Dramatic Poetry," in three volumes 8vo, published in 1831, is another standard work.

I augment the general European or Continental group (1) by a volume from the library of Ferdinand Philip, Duke of Orleans, eldest son of Louis Philippe, King of the French. It is an English work, entitled "A Dissertation on Parties, in several letters addressed to Caleb D'Anvers, Esq., and dedicated to Sir Robert Walpole; the