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1437. STIRLING (SIR WILLIAM ALEXANDER, EARL OF). The Monarchicke Tragedies, Crossus, Darius, The Alexandrean, Julius Cæsar. Newly enlarged. Small 4to, finely bound by W. Pratt in full crushed levant moroccogilt, gilt edges (a slight repair to title and a triffing hole in two leaves of the Alexandrean tragedy neatly repaired, but on the whole a good copy).

Lond.: V. Simmes for Ed. Blount, 1607

Very rare. Containing the blank leaf in Darius, and the blank leaf preceding the title of The Alexandraan Tragedy. Very few copies are met with having these two leaves.

This issue contains the First edition of Julius Clesur and the First London edition of Darius, this latter being the original issue of that edition, printed with separate signatures and title, and previously included in the edition of 1604. The Crossus and the Alexandraean are both second editions.

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Apart from the interest of its being the work of the lirst proprietor of Nova Scotia, a greater interest is in its place in early English poetry. Some have even supposed that Shakespeare had one or two pussages in mind, and borrowed and used the same idea in some of his later plays. The principal of these passages is that which hears a faint resemblance to Shakespeare's "cloud-capp'd towers" in The Tempest (IV., t.), and found in one of the choruses in Julius Crear. The resemblances are, however, of so slight a nature as to be most probably mere coincidences, but his position in the first ranks of English versifiers is undisputed. It is very probable that