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CLASSICS

Thomas Nashe

Complete Works



Series Fourteen

The Complete Works of
THOMAS NASHE
(1567-1601)



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The Delphi Classics Catalogue

Thomas Nashe

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Version 1

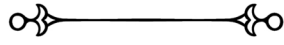
The Complete Works of
THOMAS NASHE



By Delphi Classics, 2024

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Complete Works of Thomas Nashe



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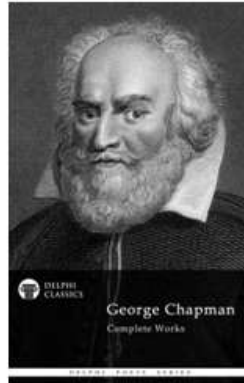
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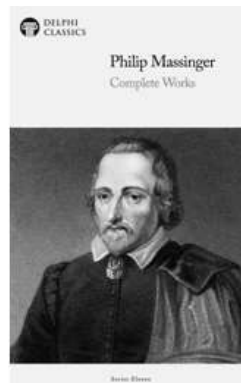
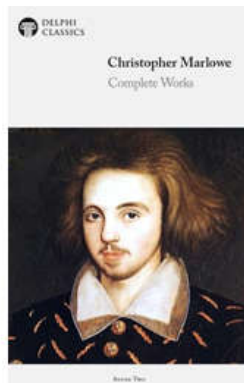
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The Novel



Lowestoft, a town on the coast of Suffolk, c. 1840 — Thomas Nashe's birthplace



Lowestoft today

The Unfortunate Traveller (1594)



CHARLES WHITTINGHAM & CO., 1892 TEXT

This narrative was first printed in quarto form in 1594 by Thomas Scarlett for the bookseller Cuthbert Burby. A second edition quarto was printed later the same year, which included a comment on the title page claiming it was a 'Newly corrected and Augmented' version of the play. Cuthbert Burby was a successful publisher and bookseller of the Elizabethan and early Jacobean period, who published a range of works, including theological texts, poetry anthologies, chivalric romances and Renaissance dramas. He issued the first quarto of Shakespeare's *Love's Labor's Lost* in 1598 and the second quarto of *Romeo and Juliet* in 1599. The title page of the latter play stated the edition was 'Newly corrected, augmented and amended', in reference to the shorter and much maligned first edition printed by John Danter in 1597. Danter's version was once referred to as the 'bad quarto' to Creede's 'good quarto', before scholars reassessed the usefulness of such terms and distinctions.

The Unfortunate Traveller is in essence a picaresque novel, set during the reign of Henry VIII, following the escapades and hijinks of an irreverent Englishman, Jack Wilton. At the beginning, he is a royal page serving in an army camp in France, where he manages to trick a victualler out of his supplies and evade the blame. Jack then travels to Münster, in modern day Germany, where he witnesses the brutal massacre of the Anabaptists by the expelled Prince-Bishop, Frank von Waldeck's, forces. The rest of the work details Jack's travels with the Earl of Surrey, Henry Howard, through the Netherlands and Italy, as he encounters famous figures of the sixteenth century, such as Erasmus, Thomas Moore, Cornelius Agrippa and Pietro Aretino. It is an episodic, sardonic and rapacious piece of fiction, showcasing Nashe's flair for comedic and witty writing.



THE
VNFORTVNATE

TRAVELLER.

Or,
The life of Lacke Wilton.

Qui audiret audiret dicunt.

Tho. Nashe.



LONDON.
Printed by T. Scarlet for C. Burby, & are to be sold at his
shop adioyning to the Exchange.

1594

The first edition's title page

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TO THE RIGHT HONORABLE LORD HENRIE WRIOTHSLEY, EARLE OF
SOUTHAMPTON, AND BARON OF TICHFEELD.

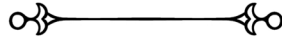
TO THE GENTLEMEN READERS,

THE INDVCTION TO THE DAPPER MOVNSIER PAGES OF THE COVRT.
THE VNFORTVNATE TRAVELLER.



Portrait of Henry Howard, Earl of Surrey by Hans Holbein, c. 1543. In the text, Surrey functions as a sustained travel partner for Jack, as they journey to Italy to fulfil the Earl's pledge to defend the honour of his beloved Geraldine in a tournament.

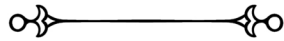
**TO THE RIGHT HONORABLE LORD HENRIE
WRIOTHSLEY, EARLE OF SOUTHAMPTON, AND
BARON OF TICHFEELD.**



INGENVOVS HONORABLE LORD, I know not what blinde custome methodicall antiquity hath thrust vpon vs, to dedicate such books as we publish, to one great man or other; In which respect, least anie man should challenge these my papers as goods vncustomd, and so, extend vpon them as forfeite to contempt, to the seale of your excellent censure loe here I present them to bee seene and allowed. Prize them as high or as low as you list: if you set anie price on them, I hold my labor well satisfide. Long haue I desired to approoue my wit vnto you. My reuerent duetifull thoughts (euen from their infancie) haue been retayners to your glorie. Now at last I haue enforst an opportunitie to plead my deuoted minde. All that in this phantasticall Treatise I can promise, is some reasonable conueyance of historie, & varietie of mirth. By diuers of my good frends haue I been dealt with to employ my dul pen in this kinde, it being a cleane different vaine from other my former courses of writing. How wel or ill I haue done in it, I am ignorant: (the eye that sees roundabout it selfe, sees not into it selfe): only your Honours applauding encouragement hath power to make mee arrogant. Incomprehensible is the heigth of your spirit both in heroical resolution and matters of conceit. Vnrepiueably perisheth that booke whatsoever to wast paper, which on the diamond rocke of your iudgement disasterly chanceth to be shipwrackt. A dere louer and cherisher you are, as well of the louers of Poets, as of Poets themselues. Amongst their sacred number I dare not ascribe my selfe, though now and then I speak English: that smal braine I haue, to no further vse I conuert, saue to be kinde to my frends, and fatall to my enemies. A new brain, a new wit, a new stile, a new soule will I get mee, to canonize your name to posteritie, if in this my first attempt I be not taxed of presumption. Of your gracious fauor I despaire not, for I am not altogether Fames outcast. This handfull of leaues I offer to your view, to the leaues on trees I compare, which as they cannot grow of themselues except they haue some branches or boughes to cleaue too, & with whose iuice and sap they be euermore recreated & nourisht: so except these vnpolisht leaues of mine haue some branch of Nobilitie whereon to depend and cleaue, and with the vigorous nutriment of whose authorized commendation they may be continually fosterd and refresht, neuer wil they grow to the worlds good liking, but forthwith fade and die on the first houre of their birth. Your Lordship is the large spreading branch of renown, from whence these my idle leaues seeke to deriue their whole nourishing: it resteth you either scornfully shake them off, as wormeaten & worthies, or in pity preserue them and cherish them, for some litle summer frute you hope to finde amongst them.

Your Honors in all humble seruice: Tho: Nashe.

TO THE GENTLEMEN READERS,



GENTLEMEN, IN MY absence (through the Printers ouersight and my bad writing) in the leaues of C. and D. these errours are ouerslipt:

C. pag. 2. lin. 33. for sweating read sneaking. Pag. 3. li. 1. for hogges read barres, lin. 7. for Calipsus, read Rhæsus. Pag. 4. lin. 34. for Liue read I liue. Pag. 5. li. 14. for vpon his read vpon him his. Pag. 7. lin. 13. for drild read dyu'd. lin. 22. (for colour, read collar nor his hatband).

D. Pag. 1. lin. 2. for blacke read cape. lin. 5. for fastens read thirleth. lin. 7. for badge read budge, lin. 8. for shinne read chinne. lin. 11. for in this begun read thinking in. Pag. 3. lin. 33. for increased then read inclosed them. Pag. 5. lin. 8. for threed button, read brest like a thred bottom. Pag. 8. lin. 3. for Essa read Ossa. lin. 4. for dissolution read desolation. lin. 13. betweene also, and but read If you know Christianitie, you know the Fathers of the Church also. lin. 18. for quocunque read qua gente.

Other literall faults there are which I omit

Yours T. N.

[Note. — The foregoing corrigenda are printed as part of the original edition, though they have been corrected in the text.]

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End of Sample