from

A Bibliography of Literary Theory, Criticism and Philology

<http://bit.ly/abibliog>

by José Ángel García Landa

(University of Zaragoza, Spain)

# Sir William Davenant (or D’Avenant; 1605-1668)

(Royalist poet, dramatist and dramatic producer; son of an Oxford tavern-keeper, godson and self-reputed illegitimate son of Shakespeare; st. All Saints grammar school, Oxford, and Lincoln College, page to Frances Duchess of Richmond, patronized by Fulke Greville, Lord Brooke, court dramatist and poet, laureate at the Queen’s wish 1638, named governor of the King’s and Queen’s players at Drury Lane 1639; Cavalier activist, imprisoned by Parliamentarians, escape to France, lieutenant-general in the Earl of Newcastle’s army, knighted 1643 for service at the siege of Gloucester, emissary between the King and Queen, l. Paris, Louvre, projected colonist, imprisoned at Wight and the Tower of London, seemingly protected by Milton, later repaid favour, released, organiser of musical dramatic events, Theatre at Rutland House, Charterhouse Yard, 1656-, reviver of drama after Puritan interruption; licensed impresario after Restoration with the Duke’s Company, died insolvent, buried at Westminster Abbey)

**Works**

Davenant, William. "In Remembrance of Master Shakespeare." 1618. In Davenant, *Madagascar with Other Poems.* 1638.

\_\_\_\_\_. "In Remembrance of Master Shakespeare." *Wikisource.\**

 <https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/In_Remembrance_of_Master_Shakespeare>

 2019

\_\_\_\_\_. *Albovine King of the Lombards.* Tragedy. c. 1628.

\_\_\_\_\_. *The Cruel Brother.* Tragedy.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Distresses.* Tragicomedy. In *Works.* 1673.

\_\_\_\_\_. *The Fair Favourite.* Tragicomedy. In *Works.* 1673.

\_\_\_\_\_. *The Just Italian.* Tragicomedy.

\_\_\_\_\_. *The Wits.* Comedy. c. 1633. (Adapted).

\_\_\_\_\_. *Love and Honour.* Heroic play. 1634, pub. 1649. (Adapted). Revived 1661.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Love and Honour* and *The Siege of Rhodes.* Ed. James W. Tupper. Boston, 1909.

\_\_\_\_\_. *The Temple of Love.* Masque. Premiere performed by Queen Henrietta Maria and her ladies. Whitehall, 1635.

\_\_\_\_\_. *News from Plymouth.* Comedy. 1635. (Staged at the Globe).

\_\_\_\_\_. *Madagascar with Other Poems.* 1638.

\_\_\_\_\_. "To the Queen, entertain'd at night by the Countess of Anglesey." From *Madagascar,* 1638. Text from *Works,* 1673. In *The Oxford Book of Seventeenth Century Verse.* Ed. H. J. C. Grierson and G. Bullough. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1934. Rpt. 1938, 1942, 1946. 433.\*

\_\_\_\_\_. "For the Lady Olivia Porter; a present upon a New-years Day." From *Madagascar,* text 1673. In *The Oxford Book of Seventeenth Century Verse.* Ed. H. J. C. Grierson and G. Bullough. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1934. Rpt. 1938, 1942, 1946. 433-34.\*

\_\_\_\_\_. *Britannia Triumphans.* 1638.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Luminalia.* 1638.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Salmacida Spolia.* Masque. 1640.

\_\_\_\_\_. *The Triumph of the Prince d’Amour.* Masque.

\_\_\_\_\_. "Song ('The Lark now leaves his watry nest')." From *Works,* 1673. In *The Oxford Book of Seventeenth Century Verse.* Ed. H. J. C. Grierson and G. Bullough. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1934. Rpt. 1938, 1942, 1946. 434.\*

\_\_\_\_\_. "Song: Endimion Porter and Olivia." From *Works,* 1673. In *The Oxford Book of Seventeenth Century Verse.* Ed. H. J. C. Grierson and G. Bullough. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1934. Rpt. 1938, 1942, 1946. 435-36.\*

\_\_\_\_\_. "Life and Death." From *The Christians Reply to the Philosophe,* in *Works,* 1673. In *The Oxford Book of Seventeenth Century Verse.* Ed. H. J. C. Grierson and G. Bullough. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1934. Rpt. 1938, 1942, 1946. 436.\*

\_\_\_\_\_. *Gondibert* Epic poem. Books 1 and 2 pub. in England. Finished 1650.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Gondibert.* Ed. David F. Gladish. Oxford: Clarendon.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Discourse on Gondibert.* With Hobbes's *Answer.* Paris, 1650.

\_\_\_\_\_. "Preface to *Gondibert."* In Davenant, *Works.* London, 1673.

\_\_\_\_\_. Preface to *Gondibert.* In *Critical Essays of the Seventeenth Century.* Ed. Spingarn. Vol. 2.

\_\_\_\_\_. "From *Gondibert."* 1650, text from *Works,* 1673. In *The Oxford Book of Seventeenth Century Verse.* Ed. H. J. C. Grierson and G. Bullough. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1934. Rpt. 1938, 1942, 1946. 431-32.\*

\_\_\_\_\_. *The First Day’s Entertainment at Rutland House.* Operatic poem. 1656.

\_\_\_\_\_. *The Siege of Rhodes.* Operatic drama in two parts. Part 1 performed 1656, 1657.

\_\_\_\_\_. *The Siege of Rhodes.* In *Love and Honour* and *The Siege of Rhodes.* Ed. James W. Tupper. Boston, 1909.

\_\_\_\_\_. *The Siege of Rhodes.* Ed. Ann-Mari Hedback. Uppsala, 1972.

\_\_\_\_\_. *The Second Part of the Siege of Rhodes.* 1659.

\_\_\_\_\_. *News from Plymouth.* Comedy.

\_\_\_\_\_. *The Cruelty of the Spaniards in Peru.* Operatic drama.Performed Cockpit playhouse, Drury Lane, 1658.

\_\_\_\_\_. *The History of Sir Francis Drake.* Operatic drama. 1659.

\_\_\_\_\_. *The Law Against Lovers.* Drama First performed 15 Feb. 1662. (Based on Shakespeare’s *Measure for Measure* and *Much Ado About Nothing).*

\_\_\_\_. *The Law against Lovers.* In Davenant, *Works.* 1673.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Man’s the Master.* Tragicomedy.

\_\_\_\_\_. *The Rivals.* Drama. 1664.

\_\_\_\_\_. *The Platonick Lovers.* Drama (adapted).

\_\_\_\_\_. *Macbeth.*Operatic adaptation. 1673.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Playhouse to Be Let.* Adapted from Molière.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Works.* 1673.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Dramatic Works.* Ed. J. Maidment and W. H. Logan. 5 vols. Edinburgh, 1872-74.

Davenant, William, and John Dryden. *The Tempest or The Enchanted Island.* Operatic adaptation of Shakespeare’s work. 1667.

\_\_\_\_\_. *The Tempest, or the Enchanted Island. A comedy.* 1670. In *Literature Online: Editions and Adaptations of Shakespeare.* Cambridge: Chadwyck-Healey.

Spencer, T. J. B., and S. Wells, eds. *A Book of Masques.* Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 1967. Rpt. 1980. (Jonson, Daniel, Campion, Beaumont, W. Browne, Davenant).

**Biography**

Acheson, Arthur. *Mistress Davenant: The Dark Lady of Shakespeare's Sonnets.* London: Quaritch, 1913.

Hazlitt, William. “Sir William Davenant.” In *Johnson’s Lives of the British Poets Completed by William Hazlitt.* London: Nathaniel Cooke, 1854. 2.\*

**Criticism**

Dowlin, Cornell M. *Sir William Davenant's Gondibert,* *its Preface and Hobbes's Answer.* Philadelphia, 1934.

Edmond, Mary. *Rare Sir William Davenant.* Manchester, 1987.

Hall, Vernon. "William Davenant and Thomas Hobbes." In Hall, *A Short History of Literary Criticism.* New York: New York UP, 1963.\*

Harbage, Alfred. *Sir William D'Avenant, Poet Venturer, 1608-1668.* Philadelphia, 1935.

Laig, Friedrich. *Englische und Französische Elemente in Sir William Davenants Dramatischer Kunst.* Emsdetten, 1934.

López Román, Blanca. "Sir William D'Avenant's So-called Improvements of *Macbeth* (1674)." *Actas del I Congreso Nacional de la Sociedad Española de Estudios Renacentistas Ingleses (SEDERI) / Proceedings of the I National Conference of the Spanish Society for English Renaissance Studies.* Ed. Javier Sánchez. Zaragoza: SEDERI, 1990. 211-22.\*

Morris, Sylvia. "Sir John Davenant and Adapting Shakespeare, Restoration-style." *The Shakespeare Blog* 13 May 2013.\*

 <http://theshakespeareblog.com/2013/05/sir-john-davenant-and-adapting-shakespeare-restoration-style/>

 2019

Nethercot, Arthur H. *Sir William D'Avenant, Poet Laureate and Playwright-Manager.* Chicago, 1938.

Nevitt, Marcus. "3. Restoration Theatre and Interregnum Royalism: The Cavalier Rivalry of John Denham and William Davenant." In *Sir John Denham (1614/15-1669) Reassessed: The State's Poet.* London: Routledge, 2016. 52-74.\*

<https://books.google.es/books?id=Uc4eDAAAQBAJ>

2021

Raylor, Timothy. "8. The Hunting of the Stag: Denham, Davenant, and a Royalist Dispute Over Poetry." In *Sir John Denham (1614/15-1669) Reassessed: The State's Poet.* London: Routledge, 2016. 143-60.

<https://books.google.es/books?id=Uc4eDAAAQBAJ>

2021

Spencer, Hazelton. *Shakespeare Improved: The Restoration Versions in Quarto and on the Stage.* Cambridge (MA), 1927.

Spingarn, J. E. "XI. Jacobean and Caroline Criticism." 1911. In *Cavalier and Puritan.* Ed. A. W. Ward and A. R. Waller. Vol. VII of *The Cambridge History of English and American Literature.* *An Encyclopedia in Eighteen Volumes.* Ed. A. W. Ward et al. New York: Putnam's; Cambridge, England: Cambridge UP, 1907–21. Electronic edition (*Bartleby.com).\** (Bacon, Jonson, Reynolds, Milton, Hobbes, D'Avenant, Cowley, Boccalini, Dryden).

<http://www.bartleby.com/217/>

2018

Thompson, A. Hamilton. "III. Writers of the Couplet." In *Cavalier and Puritan.* Ed. A. W. Ward and A. R. Waller. 1911. Vol. VII of *The Cambridge History of English and American Literature.* *An Encyclopedia in Eighteen Volumes.* Ed. A. W. Ward et al. New York: Putnam's; Cambridge, England: Cambridge UP, 1907–21. Electronic edition (*Bartleby.com).\** (Couplets, Sir John Beaumont, George Sandys, Edmund Waller, Denham, Cowley, D'Avenant)

<http://www.bartleby.com/217/>

2018

Internet resources

"William Davenant." *Wikipedia: The Free Encyclopedia.\**

 <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Davenant>

 2013