

Note on the Text

The manuscript itself is in good condition with no alterations to the text other than very minor corrections to spelling. The spelling of characters' names is often inconsistent and the second half of Act I appears rushed and scenes are not numbered in favour of the direction 'Change of Scene'. Cast members from Act II are missing and stage directions are brief. As perhaps one might expect from a manuscript that is not intended for public view, there is a complete disregard for the formal rules of punctuation. It is the bare bones of a playtext, devoid of commas, expressive exclamation marks, question marks and full stops. Apostrophes are seldom used where needed and often misused. The playwright favours the use of dashes of varying lengths in place of em dashes, en dashes, hyphens and commas. These dashes have been reproduced as they appear in the manuscript. Basic spelling mistakes and poor punctuation are marked [sic] within the text. More complex grammatical problems are explained in footnotes, as are distinctive features of the manuscript.

The manuscript was foliated by the British Library in 1968 and folio numbers are indicated in square brackets within the text for the reader's information. These replace the playwright's incomplete folio numbers.