

# Edmund Spenser Home Page

## Annotated Census of Spenser Editions, 1569 – present

<http://www.english.cam.ac.uk/spenser/bibliography/>

### SECTION 1: EDITIONS OF SPENSER'S WORKS, 1569-1679

[note: throughout the quasi-facsimiles below, italic face is represented by *italic*, black-letter by **boldface**, and rubrication by **red face**. Occasional reference is made to the following works:

R. B. McKerrow, *Printers' and Publishers' Devices in England and Scotland 1485-1640* (London: The Bibliographical Society, 1913).

R. B. McKerrow and F. S. Ferguson, *Title-page Borders used in England and Scotland 1485-1640* (London: The Bibliographical Society, 1932).

F. R. Johnson, *A Critical Bibliography of the Works of Edmund Spenser Printed Before 1700* (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press, 1933).

These works are cited parenthetically by editor and reference/page (e.g. McKerrow, No. 234). Because Johnson's descriptions and formulations are in many cases so precise and correct, I have seen no reason to change them; in many cases, the first section amounts to a summary or simple elaboration of his work, for which I am respectfully grateful.]

#### 1. Jan van der Noodt, *A Theatre*, first published 1569.

[within a rule, within a border of type ornaments, within a rule] A THEATRE | wherein be repre- | sented as wel the miseries & ca- | lamities that follow the vo= | luptuous Worldlings, | *As also the greate ioyes and* | pleasures which the faith= | full do enjoy. | An argument both profitable and | delectable, to all that sincerely | loue the word of God. | *Deuised by S. Iohn van- | der Noodt.* | [flore] Seene and allowed according | to the order appointed. | ¶ Imprinted at London by | Henry Bynneman. | Anno Domini. 1569. | CVM PRIVILEGIO. [octavo]

[Spenser contributed to this volume xx translations of works by Du Bellay and Petrarch, later revised for publication in his own *Complaints* of 1591. The translations are not attributed to Spenser anywhere within van der Noodt's text; the attribution is based upon their reappearance in *Complaints*, where they are noted as 'formerly translated.']

#### 2. Edmund Spenser, *The Shepheardes Calender*, first published 1579.

(a)  
*THE* | *Shepheardes Calender* | Conteyning tvvelue Æglogues proportionable | to the twelue monethes. | *Entitled* | TO THE NOBLE AND VERTV- | *ous Gentleman most worthy of all titles* | both of learning and cheualrie M. | Philip Sidney. [triple dot enclosed in parentheses] | [square printer's ornament] | AT LONDON. | *Printed by Hugh Singleton, dwelling in* | Creede Lane neere vnto Ludgate at the | signe of the gylden Tunne, and | are there to be solde. | 1579. [quarto]

(b)

[within a border of ornaments] *THE | Shepherdes Calender* | Conteyning twelue Æglogues proportio- | **nable to the twelue** | Monethes. | *Entitled* | TO THE NOBLE AND VERTV- | *ous Gentleman most worthy of all titles, both* | of learning and ceualrie M. | Philip Sidney. | [triple-star constellation enclosed in parentheses] | [printer's ornament] ¶ *Imprinted at London for Iohn* | Harison the younger, dwelling in Pater | noster Roe, at the signe of the Anker, and | are there to be solde. [quarto]

(c)

[within a woodcut border with the royal arms at the top: McKerrow and Ferguson, No. 198] *THE | Shepherdes Calender,* | *Conteyning twelue Æglogues propor=* | *tionable to the twelue* | *Monethes.* | *Entitled* | TO THE NOBLE AND VER- | tuous Gentleman most worthie of | *all titles, both of learning and* | chiuallry, Maister Philip | *Sidney.* | [device of John Wolfe: McKerrow No. 251] | *Imprinted at London by IOHN WOLFE* for | *Iohn Harrison the yonger, dwelling in Pater* | noster Roe, at the signe of the Anker. | 1586. [quarto]

(d)

[within a woodcut border with the royal arms at the top: McKerrow and Ferguson, No. 198] *THE | Shepherds Calender.* | *Conteyning twelue Aeglogues propor=* | *tionable to the twelue* | *Monethes.* | ENTITVLED. | TO the noble and vertuous Gen- | tleman most worthie of all titles, both | of learning and chiuallry, Mai- | ster *Philip Sidney.* | [printer's ornament, mask with rings: similar to McKerrow No. 379] | LONDON | Printed by *Iohn Windet,* for *Iohn Harrison* | the yonger, dwelling in Pater noster Roe, at the | signe of the Anker. 1591. [quarto]

(e)

THE | SHEPHEARDS | Calender: | CONTEYNING TWELVE | Aeglogues, proportionable to the | *twelue Moneths.* | ENTITVLED, | To the Noble and vertuous Gentleman, most wor- | thy of all tytles, both of learning and chiuallrie, | Maister *Philip Sidney.* | [device of Thomas Creede, McKerrow No. 299] | LONDON | Printed by Thomas Creede, for Iohn Harrison the | yonger, dwelling in Pater noster Row, at the | signe of the Anchor. | 1597. [quarto]

(f) Bathurst's 1653 Latin translation [octavo] (double title page):

[within a border of type ornaments] The | Shepherds | **Calendar,** | Containing | Twelve Æglogues, | Proportionable to the | Twelve Months. | By | **Edmund Spencer** | Prince of English Poets. | [double rule] | London, | Printed for **M. M. T. C.** and Gabriell Bedell, | and are to be sold at their Shop at the | Middle-Temple-gate in Fleetstreet, | **M. DC. LIII:**

[within a border of type ornaments] **Calendarium** | Pastorale, | Sive | Æglogæ Duodecim, | Totidem | Anni Mensibus accommodatæ. | Anglicè olim Scriptæ | Ab | **Edmundo Spensero** | Anglorum Poetarum Principe: | Nunc autem | Eleganti Latino carmine donatæ | A | **Theodoro Bathurst,** | Aulæ Pembrokianæ apud Cantabri- | gienses aliquando Socio. | [rule] | Londini, | Impensis **M. M. T. C. & G. Bedell,** ad Por- | tam Medii-Templi in vico vulgò vocato | **Fléetstréet** Anno Dom. **1653.**

[for further editions of *The Shepherdes Calender*, see under *Works*]

### 3. Edmund Spenser and Gabriel Harvey, *Three proper, and wittie, familiar letters*, 1580.

(a)

[within a rule, within a border of type ornaments, within a rule] ¶THREE PROPER, | and wittie, familiar Letters: | lately passed betvvne tvvo V- | niuersitie men: touching the Earth- | quake in Aprill last, and our English | reformed Versifying. | *With the Preface of a wellwiller | to them both.* | [device of Henry Bynneman: McKerrow, No. 97] | IMPRINTED AT LON- | don, by H. Bynneman, dvvelling | in Thames streate, neere vnto | Baynardes Castell. | *Anno Domini.* 1580. | *Cum gratia & priuilegio Regiæ Maiestatis.* [quarto]

(b) A second title-page

[within a rule, within a border of type ornaments, within a rule] ¶TVVO OTHER, | very commendable Let- | ters, of the same mens vvri- | ting: both touching the foresaid | Artificiall Versifying, and cer- | tain other Particulars: | *More lately deliuered vnto the | Printer.* | [device of Henry Bynneman: McKerrow, No. 97] | IMPRINTED AT LON- | don, by H. Bynneman, dvvelling | in Thames streate. neere vnto | Baynardes Castell. | *Anno Domini.* 1580. | *Cum gratia & priuilegio Regiæ Maiestatis.* [quarto]

### 4. Edmund Spenser, *The Faerie Queene*, 1590 (Q), 1596 (Q), 1609 (F).

(a)

THE FAERIE | QVEENE. | Disposed into twelue books, | *Fashioning* | XII. Morall vertues. | [device of John Wolfe: McKerrow, No. 242] | LONDON | Printed for William Ponsonbie. | 1590. [quarto]

(b1: 1596 I-III)

THE FAERIE | QVEENE. | *Disposed into twelue bookes,* | *Fashioning* | XII. Morall vertues. | [device of Richard Field: McKerrow, No. 222] | LONDON | Printed for VWilliam Ponsonbie. | 1596. [quarto]

(b2: 1596 IV-VI)

THE SECOND | PART OF THE | FAERIE QVEENE. | *Containing* | THE FOVRTH, | FIFTH, AND | SIXTH BOOKES. | *By Ed. Spenser.* | [device of Richard Field: McKerrow, No. 222] | Imprinted at London for VWilliam | Ponsonby. 1596. [quarto]

(c)

THE | FAERIE | QVEENE, | DISPOSED INTO | XII. BOOKES, | *Fashioning* twelue Morall Vertues. | [device of Humphrey Lownes: McKerrow, No. 335] | *AT LONDON.* | ¶ *Printed by H. L. for MATHEW LOWNES.* | 1609. [folio]

### 5. Edmund Spenser, *Complaints*, 1591.

[within a woodcut border: McKerrow and Ferguson, No. 117] *Complaints.* | *Containing sundrie | small Poemes of the | Worlds Va- | nitie. | VWhereof the next*

Page | maketh menti- | on. | By ED. SP. | [ornament of four hands pointing inward] | LONDON. | Imprinted for VWilliam | Ponsonbie, dwelling in Paules | Churchyard at the signe of | *the Bishops head.* | 1591. [date set in panel in lower border] [quarto]

## 6. Edmund Spenser, *Daphnaïda*, 1591.

*Daphnaïda.* | An Elegie vpon the | death of the noble and vertuous | Douglas Howard, Daughter and | heire of Henry Lord Howard, Vis- | count Byndon, and wife of Ar- | thure Gorges Esquier. | Dedicated to the Right honorable the Lady | Helena, Marquesse of Northampton. | By Ed. Sp. | [device of Thomas Orwin: McKerrow, No. 273a] | AT LONDON | Printed for VWilliam Ponsonby, dwelling in | Paules Churchyard at the signe of the | Bishops head 1591. [quarto]

[A second edition of *Daphnaïda* was published in 1596, at the back of the first edition of *Fowre Hymns*]

## 7. Edmund Spenser, *Colin Clouts Come Home Againe*, 1595.

[within a border of type ornaments] COLIN CLOVTS | Come home againe. | By Ed. Spenser. | [printer's device of Thomas Creede: McKerrow, No. 299] | LONDON | Printed for VWilliam Ponsonbie. | 1595. [quarto]

## 8. Edmund Spenser, *Amoretti and Epithalamion*, 1595.

AMORETTI | AND | Epithalamion. | *Written not long since* | by Edmunde | Spenser. | [device of Peter Short: McKerrow, No. 278] | Printed for William | Ponsonby. 1595. [octavo]

## 9. Edmund Spenser, *Fowre Hymns*, 1596.

[ornament] Fowre Hymnes, | MADE BY | EDM. SPENSER. | [device of Richard Field: McKerrow, No. 222] | LONDON, | Printed for VWilliam Ponsonby. | 1596. [quarto]

## 10. Edmund Spenser, *Prothalamion*, 1596.

Prothalamion | Or | A Spousall Verse made by | Edm. Spenser. | IN HONOVR OF THE DOV | ble mariage of the two Honorable & vertuous | Ladies, the Ladie Elizabeth and the Ladie Katherine | Somerset, Daughters to the Right Honourable the | Earle of Worcester and espoused to the two worthie | Gentlemen M. Henry Gilford, and | M. William Peter Esquyers. | [diamond-shaped printer's ornament] | AT LONDON. | Printed for VWilliam Ponsonby. | 1596. [quarto]

## 11. Collected works, 1611, 1617.

[within a woodcut border, originally cut for the 1593 edition of Sidney's *Arcadia*; see McKerrow and Ferguson, *Title Page Borders*, No. 212] The | Faerie Queen: | The | Shepherds Calendar: | Together | With The Other | Works of England's Arch-Poët, | Edm. Spenser: | ¶Collected into one Volume, and | carefully corrected. | Printed by H. L. for Mathew Lownes. | Anno Dom. 1611. [folio]

[it was customary to identify another edition of the *Works* in 1617 until the findings of F. R. Johnson (1933) showed that independent elements of the composite volume were reset and reprinted on demand, as constituent stocks failed; for information on the printing of the seven separate elements (title page and dedication; Books I to III of *The Faerie Queene*; Books IV to VI of *The Faerie Queene* with the *Cantos of Mutabilitie*; the letter to Raleigh, with commendatory and dedicatory poems; *The Shepherdes Calender*; *Prosopopoeia or Mother Hubberds Tale*; and the rest of the shorter poems), see Johnson (1933), pp. 33-48).

## 12. Edmund Spenser, *A view of the present state of Ireland*, 1633.

A View | Of the State | Of | Ireland, | Written dialogue-wise between | Eudoxus and Irenæus, | By Edmund Spenser Esq. | in the yeare 1596. | [ornament: a cherub's head] | Dublin, | Printed by the Society of Stationers. | M. DC. XXXIII. [folio]

## 13. Edmund Spenser, *Works*, 1679.

[title enclosed within a double rule] THE | **WORKS** | Of that | **Famous English** | POET, | **Mr. Edmond Spenser**. | *Viz.* [curved bracket taking in three lines] The FAERY QUEEN, | The SHEPHERDS **CALENDAR**, | The HISTORY of IRELAND, &c. | [horizontal rule] | Whereunto is added, | **An ACCOUNT of his LIFE**; | *With other new ADDITIONS* | *Never before in PRINT*. | [within a horizontal rule] Licensed, October 24th 1678. *Roger L'Estrange*. | LONDON: | Printed by *Henry Hills* for *Jonathan Edwin*, at the | Three Roses in *Ludgate-street*. 1679. [folio]

## SECTION 2: EDITIONS OF SPENSER'S WORKS, 1715-1932

[This section does not attempt a complete catalogue of editions of Spenser's works even in this period. Instead it presents an account of the major editions of Spenser's *complete works*, noticing those distinguished by particular editorial care, scholarly annotation, or lavish publication/wide circulation.]

### 1. Ed. John Huges, 1715.

THE | **WORKS** | OF | Mr. *Edmund Spenser*. | IN | SIX VOLUMES. | WITH | A GLOSSARY Explaining the Old and | Obscure Words. | [within a horizontal rule] Publish'd by Mr. HUGHES. | [within a horizontal rule] VOLUME the FIRST. |

LONDON; | Printed for JACOB TONSON at *Shakespear's*Head, | over against *Catherine-street* in the *Strand*. | M.DCC.XV.

[This edition was reprinted in a revised edition in 1750.]

## **2. Ed. T. Birch, 1751.**

The Faerie Queene by Edmund Spenser, with an exact Collation of the two Original Editions [by Thomas D. D. Birch], published by himself at London in quarto, the former containing the first three books printed in 1590, and the latter the six books in 1596; to which are now added a new life of the author and also a glossary adorn'd with thirty-two copper plates from the original drawings of the late W. Kent. (London: Printed for J. Brindley in New Bond-Street and S. Wright, Clerk of his Majesty's works, at Hampton-Court, 1751). [3 volumes]

## **3. Ed. John Upton, 1758.**

SPENSER'S | FAERIE QUEENE. | A NEW EDITION | WITH A | GLOSSARY, | And NOTES explanatory and critical | BY | JOHN UPTON | Prebendary of Rochester and Rector of Great Rissington | in Gloucestershire. | IN TWO VOLUMES. | VOLUME the FIRST. | LONDON: | Printed for J. and R. TONSON in the Strand. | [under a horizontal rule] MDCCLVIII.

## **4. Ed. Ralph Church, 1758.**

The Faerie Queene of Edmund Spenser. 4 vols. London, 1758.

## **5. Ed. H. J. Todd, 1805.**

THE | WORKS | OF | EDMUND SPENSER. | IN EIGHT VOLUMES. | WITH THE | PRINCIPAL ILLUSTRATIONS | OF | VARIOUS COMMENTATORS. | TO WHICH ARE ADDED, | NOTES, SOME ACCOUNT OF THE LIFE OF SPENSER, | AND | A GLOSSARIAL AND OTHER INDEXES. | BY THE | REV. HENRY JOHN TODD, M.A. F.A.S. | RECTOR OF ALLHALLOWS, LOMBARD-STREET, LONDON, &C. | [Epigraphs from Milton and Dryden] | VOLUME THE FIRST. | LONDON: | PRINTED FOR F. C. AND J. RIVINGTON, T. PAYNE, | CADELL AND DAVIES, AND R. H. EVANS. | 1805. [8 vols.]

## **6. Ed. F. J. Child, 1855.**

The Poetical Works of Edmund Spenser. The text carefully revised, and illustrated with notes, original and selected, by F. J. Child. 5 vols. Boston: Little, Brown, and Co., 1855.

**7. Ed. George Gilfillan, 1859.**

The Poetical Works of Edmund Spenser. With memoir and critical dissertations, by the Rev. G. Gilfillan. 5 vols. Edinburgh: J. Nichol, 1859.

**8. Ed. John Payne Collier, 1862.**

The Works of Edmund Spenser, ed. John Payne Collier. 5 vols. London: Bell and Daldy, 1862.

**9. Ed. Morris and Hales, 1869.**

The Globe edition. Complete Works of Edmund Spenser edited from the original editions and manuscripts by R. Morris...With a memoir by J. W. Hales. London: Macmillan and Co., 1869.

**10. Ed. A. B. Grosart, 1882-4.**

The Complete Works in Verse and Prose of Edmund Spenser, ed. A. B. Grosart. 8 vols. London (privately printed), 1882-4.

**11. Ed. Kate M. Warren, 1897-1900.**

The Faerie Queene...Edited from the original editions of 1590 and 1596, with introduction and glossary, by K. M. Warren. 6 vols. London: Constable & Co., 1897-1900.

**12. Ed. R. E. N. Dodge, 1908.**

The Complete Poetical Works of Edmund Spenser. [Edited by R. E. Neil Dodge.] Boston: The Cambridge Edition of the Poets, 1908.

**13. Ed. J. C. Smith, 1909.**

The Poetical Works of Edmund Spenser: The Faerie Queene, ed. J. C. Smith. 2 vols. London, 1909.

**14. Ed. by J. C. Smith and Ernest de Sélincourt, 1912.**

The Poetical Works of Edmund Spenser, ed. by J. C. Smith and Ernest de Sélincourt. 3 vols. London: Oxford University Press, 1912.

**15. Ed W. L. Renwick, 1930-32.**

The Works of Edmund Spenser, ed. W. L. Renwick. 8 vols. Oxford: Basil Blackwell, 1930-32.

**16. *Variorum Edition of the Works of Edmund Spenser, 1932-1949.***

*The Works of Edmund Spenser, A Variorum Edition*, edited by Edwin Greenlaw, Charles Grosvenor Osgood, and Frederick Morgan Padelford, et al., 11 vols (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press, 1932-49).

**SECTION 3: EDITIONS OF SPENSER'S WORKS, 1932-PRESENT**

[Note: this section is especially selective. Only those editions with particularly sound texts or especially helpful annotations/appendices have been included.]

*The Faerie Queene*

Ed. by A. C. Hamilton (London: Longman, 1977). [A reprinting of J. C. Smith's 1909 text, buttressed by copious same-page New Critical annotation.]

Ed. by Thomas P. Roche, Jr., with the assistance of C. Patrick O'Donnell, Jr. (London: Penguin Books, 1978). [An unmodernised text based on the early quartos, carefully annotated, with useful but not exhaustive textual notes.]

Ed. by A. C. Hamilton et al. (London: Longman, 2001). [A revised, unmodernised text based on the early quartos, and 1609 folio, of the poem, framed by the same elaborate annotation as the first edition.]

*The Shepheardes Calender*, etc.

*The Yale Edition of the Shorter Poems of Edmund Spenser*, ed. by William A. Oram, Einar Bjorvand, Ronald Bond, Thomas H. Cain, Alexander Dunlop, and Richard Schell (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1989). [An unmodernised text of Spenser's complete shorter poems, based on the original editions; carefully and faithfully laid out, and well annotated.]

Edmund Spenser, *Selected Shorter Poems*, ed. by Douglas Brooks-Davies (London: Longman, 1995). [A modernised text based on the original editions; excellent annotations with a particular emphasis on Spenser's Platonism]

Edmund Spenser, *The Shorter Poems*, ed. by Richard McCabe (Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1999). [An unmodernised text of Spenser's complete shorter poems, built from a comparison of de Sélincourt's 1910 Oxford edition with the early quartos of



individual works; scrupulously edited and copiously annotated. Apart from the pulp-paperback format, this is now the best affordable edition of Spenser's shorter poems.]

*A view of the present state of Ireland*

*A View of the State of Ireland, From the first printed edition (1633)*, ed. by Andrew Hadfield and Willy Maley (Oxford: Blackwell, 1997). [A faithful edition of Ware's 1633 text, with helpful prefatory material and appendices, including an annotated guide to further reading.]