



Thomas Shadwell

EPSOM WELLS

Edited by

Juan A. Prieto-Pablos - María José Mora

Manuel J. Gómez-Lara - Rafael Portillo

EDITORIAL UNIVERSIDAD DE SEVILLA

Thomas Shadwell

EPSOM WELLS

Edited by
Juan A. Prieto-Pablos
María José Mora
Manuel J. Gómez-Lara
Rafael Portillo



SEVILLA 2016

Colección: Literatura

Correspondiente a la primera edición impresa en 2000

COMITÉ EDITORIAL:

Antonio Caballos Rufino
(Director de la Editorial Universidad de Sevilla)

Eduardo Ferrer Albelda
(Subdirector)

Manuel Espejo y Lerdo de Tejada

Juan José Iglesias Rodríguez

Juan Jiménez-Castellanos Ballesteros

Isabel López Calderón

Juan Montero Delgado

Lourdes Munduate Jaca

Jaime Navarro Casas

M^a del Pópulo Pablo-Romero Gil-Delgado

Adoración Rueda Rueda

Rosario Villegas Sánchez

Reservados todos los derechos. Ni la totalidad ni parte de este libro puede reproducirse o transmitirse por ningún procedimiento electrónico o mecánico, incluyendo fotocopia, grabación magnética o cualquier almacenamiento de información y sistemas de recuperación, sin permiso escrito de la Editorial Universidad de Sevilla.

EDICIÓN DIGITAL DE LA PRIMERA EDICIÓN IMPRESA EN 2000

© EDITORIAL UNIVERSIDAD DE SEVILLA 2016

Porvenir, 27 - 41013 Sevilla

Tlfs.: 954 487 447; 954 487 452; Fax: 954 487 443

Correo electrónico: eus4@us.es

Web: <<http://www.editorial.us.es>>

© Text, introduction and notes: JUAN A. PRIETO-PABLOS, MARÍA JOSÉ MORA, MANUEL J. GÓMEZ-LARA AND RAFAEL PORTILLO 2016

© Illustration and cover: F. Javier Terrados Cepeda.

The cover shows a conjectural reconstruction of the Dorset-Garden proscenium arch

© Modern transcription of musical settings: Charo Benítez

ISBN: 978-84-472-1736-6

Digitalización y realización interactiva:

Santi García. santi@elmaquetador.es

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Acknowledgements	ix
A note on bibliographical references	xi
Abbreviations	xiii
Introduction	
1. Thomas Shadwell and his time	xvii
2. Restoration comedy and <i>Epsom Wells</i>	xxvi
3. <i>Epsom Wells</i> and the Restoration vogue for spas	xliii
4. The play and the Restoration stage	lii
5. Later productions of the play	lxiii
6. The text	lxiv
Further reading on <i>Epsom Wells</i>	lxix
<i>Epsom Wells</i>	
Epistle Dedicatory	1
Prologue written by Sir C. S.	3
Prologue to the King and Queen	5
The Play	7
Epilogue	147
Appendix 1: Songs from the play	149
Appendix 2: <i>Merry Newes from Epsom-Wells</i> and <i>Flos Ingenii</i>	161
Bibliographical References	167

Thomas Shadwell's *Epsom Wells* (1672) is an amusing portrayal of licentiousness and intrigue among the London citizenry and gentry who frequented the fashionable spa at Epsom, Surrey. This new critical edition, the first since the 1930s, is fully annotated to enable today's reader to enjoy and understand the text to the full. Making use of the most recent scholarship, the editors put the play in its social and cultural contexts. They cite contemporary accounts of the purgative and supposed procreative powers of Epsom waters – an ideal source for comedy. They also discuss Shadwell within the context of the Restoration theatre by examining his use of wit and repartee, and how he allied himself with the new comedy of manners rejecting the Jonsonian tradition of humours.