

THE DRAMATIC WORKS OF JOHN CROWNE pdf

1: John Crowne (Author of Darius King of Persia)

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His father " Colonel " William Crowne , accompanied the earl of Arundel on a diplomatic mission to Vienna in , and wrote an account of his journey. He emigrated to Nova Scotia where he received a grant of land from Cromwell , but the French took possession of his property, and the home government did nothing to uphold his rights. Biography[edit] He was born in London on 6 April , [1] and emigrated to Nova Scotia in with his father, a joint proprietor of the colony, aboard the ship Satisfaction, and studied at Harvard College. Crowne left without graduating, however, and returned to England with his father in When the son came to England his poverty compelled him to act as gentleman usher to an independent lady of quality, and his enemies asserted that his father had been an Independent minister. He began his literary career with a romance, Pandion and Amphigenia, or the History of the coy Lady of Thessalia In he produced a romantic play, Juliana, or the Princess of Poland, which has, in spite of its title, no pretensions to rank as a historical drama. The earl of Rochester procured for him, apparently with the sole object of annoying Dryden by infringing on his rights as poet-laureate , a commission to supply a masque for performance at court. This piece contained a thinly disguised satire on the Puritan party in the description of the Pharisees , and about he produced a distinctly political play, The City Politiques, satirizing the Whig party and containing characters which were readily recognized as portraits of Titus Oates and others. This made him many enemies, and he petitioned the king for a small place that would release him from the necessity of writing for the stage. The king exacted one more comedy, which should, he suggested, be based on the No puede ser guardar una mujer of Moreto. Unfortunately Charles II died before the play was completed, and Crowne was disappointed of his reward. He continued to write plays, and it is stated that he was still living in Letters to the royal household indicates he relied on the charity of Queen Mary II and Queen Anne who remembered performing one of his plays for Charles II when they were young princesses. Crowne was a fertile writer of plays with an historical setting, in which heroic love was, in the fashion of the French romances, made the leading motive. The prosaic level of his style saved him as a rule from the rant to be found in so many contemporary heroic plays, but these pieces are of no particular interest. He was much more successful in comedy of the kind that depicts "humours". There was also a John Crown born in in London. A Comedy acted , pr. Logan for the Dramatists of the Restoration.

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If this anecdote is true, which it probably is, the explanation is not difficult. Born a poet, and conscious of the dicarius q̄i-atus, what pain Dryden must have endured at the indignity of having such a miser able poetaster as Elkanah Settle set up as a rival, and patronised by parties in power.

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