

CONTENTS

Chronology	I
Shakespeare's Age and Art	3
1. <i>What Do We Know about Shakespeare?</i>	3
2. <i>History and History Plays in Shakespeare's Day</i>	8
The English History Plays	15
✓ <i>The Life and Death of Richard the Second</i>	15
<i>The First Part of King Henry the Fourth</i>	30
✓ <i>The Second Part of King Henry the Fourth</i>	51
✓ <i>The Life of King Henry the Fifth</i>	66
✓ <i>The First Part of King Henry the Sixth</i>	81
✓ <i>The Second Part of King Henry the Sixth</i>	94
<i>The Third Part of King Henry the Sixth</i>	105
<i>The Life and Death of Richard the Third</i>	117
<i>The Life of King Henry the Eighth</i>	132
<i>The Life and Death of King John</i>	146
The English History Plays on Stage	159
Perspectives	171
Bibliography	179
Index	185