

(8) Period 1605-1616

Time	Event	Edward de Vere, 17th Earl of Oxford	William Shakespeare of Stratford
1605	<p>Publication of the play <i>Eastward Ho!</i>, a coproduction of Ben Jonson, George Chapman, and John Marston. The play contains many allusions to plays of Shakespeare's (<i>Hamlet</i>, <i>Merchant of Venice</i>, <i>Richard III</i>, <i>The Tempest</i>).</p> <p>November 1605: Gunpowder Plot: Catholic conspirators try to blow up Parliament.</p>		<p>May 4: In his will Augustine Phillips bequeaths to him and two others 30 shillings in gold.</p> <p>July 24: Acquires from Ralph Huband an interest in a lease of tithes. (1)</p>
1606	<p>May 3: The Jesuit Henry Garnet is hanged for his alleged implication in the Gunpowder Plot.</p>		
1607			
1608			<p>August 9: The in-door theatre in Blackfriars leased by the Burbage brothers.</p> <p>December 1608: Sues John Addenbrooke for 6 pounds and 4 shillings.</p>
1609	<p>January 28: <i>Troilus and Cressida</i> is entered in the Stationers' Register.</p> <p>May 20: The Sonnets are entered in the Stationers' Register and published as : "Shake-speares Sonnets... By Our Ever-Living Poet".</p>	!	

1610			February 8: Robert Keysar, a goldsmith and theater manager, sues "Richard Burbage, Cuthbert Burbage, John Heminges, Henrye Condell and others" for the interest he pretends to have in the Blackfriars Theater. (4)
1611			Sues along with others one Mister Carew and others for the payment of an interest in tithes. His name is added to a list of petitioners for the repair of the highways.
1612			May 11, June 19: Witness in the suit of Stephen Belott against his father-in-law Christopher Mountjoy at the Court of Requests, London. (2)
1613	June 29: The Globe burns down during a performance of Henry VIII.	January: Elizabeth, Countess of Oxford, dies.	March 10 and 11: Purchases the Blackfriars Gatehouse in London. (3) March 31: Mr Shakspeare is paid "about an impreso" [emblem] 64 shillings and Richard Burbage "for painting and making it" for Francis Manners, 6 th Earl of Rutland.
1614			Pays 20 shillings for one quart of sack [white wine] and one quart of claret [red wine] to a preacher. September 5 (and subsequent period): Dealings about the Welcombe Enclosure.
1615			April 1615: Bill of Complaint at Court of Chancery by Willyam Shakespere and Richard Bacon against Mathy Bacon for withholding documents in connection with the Blackfriars Gatehouse.
1616	Ben Jonson's collected plays are published in folio format.		March 25: The second version of his last will is written. April 25: Buried in Stratford.

(1) All of the transactions, except the suit Belott vs Mountjoy, and the purchase of the gatehouse in the Blackfriars district in March 1613, occur in Stratford. In all of the related documents he is recorded as a resident in Stratford.

(2) He had been a lodger (“one Mr Shakespeare that laye in the house”, according to the witness Joan Johnson) in Mountjoy’s house in 1604 and probably also 1603. Steven Belott was then apprentice of the wigmaker Mountjoy. Belott married Mountjoy’s daughter Mary on November 19, 1604. Shakespeare negotiated Mary’s portion with Belott. He could not recall the exact amount of the portion in 1612. He was recorded as “William Shakespeare of Stratford upon Aven”.

(3) The Blackfriars Gatehouse has nothing to do with the Blackfriars theatre, except that both were situated in the Blackfriars district.

(4) Before the adult company of the King’s Men started playing at the Blackfriars theater in 1609 the theater was the venue of the Blackfriars Boys (official name: Revels Children) in which Robert Keysar claimed to have an interest which would have been disregarded by Henry Evans, the manager of the Blackfriars Boys, when he released it to the Burbage brothers. The astonishing fact is that Keysar seems not to have known William Shakespeare as a shareholder. In his bill of complaint he only names 4 of the six shareholders: Richard Burbage, Cuthbert Burbage, John Heminges and Henry Condell. The two other shareholders were William Shakespeare and Thomas Evans. Of Thomas Evans nothing is known. Most likely he was a nominee of Henry Evans. William Shakespeare seems to have been as evasive to Robert Keysar, though being an insider in the world of the theatre, as Thomas Evans.