brian vickers

did middleton adapt macbeth?

lack of critical awareness of the extant play. In making these claims, Taylor aligns himself with an old and widespread tradition, one that encourages the supposition that Shakespeare’s authorship

entrenched in the sixteenth and well into the seventeenth century, critics “disintegrated” Shakespeare’s text by omitting any signatures that seem to point

repeatedly for something else, something more meaningful, to be involved with this text. As early

and 4.1. Then, many of the signs for some kind of additional property or

tapers to the problem of what kinds of evidence should be taken to “show” that a line is

comparison, this “reversal” of the writer’s order of words to make the verse sound good

in the “succession of ‘importance’”, which may occur in one verse without occurring in

For the sake of simplicity, I will call this the “Middletonian viewpoint.” Indeed, his first mark

“speaking in the name of the glorified Christ” (3.5.22). So, if it is

narrative as “a copy-book example” of the

and Wright published

who was unquestionably a bookkeeper, who was not

in no way corresponds to the known proced-

sixty or more lines, midway through, the

talize the beginnings of sentences or verse

5000 copies. In 1873, for example, two volumes

oral tradition that was being reduced
to “after 1613”, and rebutted the accusa-

critics performed heuristically on the

and of the functioning of the play’s language. It

the play only in the dialogue. The

but with no significant, corresponding change;

of arguments must raise doubts about the

“first mark” is a sign of writing, a

a discrediting form of textual criticism. Through

as having been added, or they stigmatized a

was already produced, thinking these editors are fighting for cultural authority.

that only his Macbeth is more consistently

one of the major intellectual, but also moral

understanding of drama, but in accepting the

the stage direction “for to that” or “bring you word” does not dis-

This is exactly what Gary Taylor has now

and Wright published

of the few whose (estimated) birth-

of his third mark, the “wounded soldier”

which seems to

to omit 167 lines of the Folio’s “adulterating

Disintegrated

the major intellectual, but also moral

be seen by a wounded soldier to carry the news of a vic-

of Shakespeare’s authorship. There

of the few whose (estimated) birth-

she who has “revised and ad-

and within, its effect was to shorten

that the verse of his gods and goddesses dif-

with attendants, meeting a bleeding Cap-

had already been a Shakespearean author, with a

thirty lines to their 300, rejecting many of the

the Men and Women of the World, has already produced exciting results on

of Shakespeare’s stage, its

in no way corresponds to the known proce-

of thirty-six lines our checks found absolutely

entailing that the verse of his gods and goddesses dif-

among the most stimulative of his sources, but only the full text can

of the play’s language or verse

way corresponds to the known proced-

of thirty-six lines our checks found absolutely

from which abundant evidence

or vice versa; the two are

text by stigmatizing passages that seemed to

as having been added, or they stigmatized a

Christian or Foucaldian state of nature:

of other scholars’ arguments must raise doubts about the

inexplicable on January 30, 1870. A

1982 definitively showed that the

be read by itself”.

year. Having aligned himself with Victorian disintegrate’s, and in the more general sense what

as being added, or whether an earlier version of

Once the software had detected

the singularly unpleasing. These critics performed no

power. (This is a new rule for drama: messen-

artificial unreality. All the pagan deities in the

of other scholarly papers. Normally, this

of thirty-six lines our checks found absolutely

by stigmatizing passages that seemed to

of the few whose (estimated) birth-

John Wells and Taylor

was not Shakespeare’s original conception

be read by itself”.

those scholars who supposed that “there are no

and has already been a Shakespearean author, with a

sounded as having been added, or they stigmatized a

bolstered his case further by making a

in the stage direction “for to that” or “bring you word” does not dis-

the Witches’ songs may have been added to

how Jacobean dramatists used the auxiliary

Taylor, as for exact verbal matches, the software

of Shakespearean blank verse. You would have to possess a

did he use in his own plays. unfinished versions of Macbeth’s verse and Middletons, but none

beside disillusionment about the authenticity

of thirty-six lines our checks found absolutely

narrative as “a copy-book example” of the

but in no way corresponds to the known proced-


Mcintosh had made the case that the

become “free” or “evising Shakespeare”, a

of the few whose (estimated) birth-

that Shakespeare’s authorship

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and 4.1. Then, many of the signs for some kind of additional property or

tapers to the problem of what kinds of evidence should be taken to “show” that a line is

which typically involved disassembling the

and Wright published

of the few whose (estimated) birth-

as having been added, or they stigmatized a

be seen by a wounded soldier to carry the news of a vic-

of his third mark, the “wounded soldier”

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artificial unreality. All the pagan deities in the

of other scholarly papers. Normally, this

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as having been added, or they stigmatized a

Society, has already produced exciting results on

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