

## Press-variants in John Marston's *Sophonisba* (1606)

Akihiro Yamada

Copies collated: BL1 (British Library, C. 34. d. 33 [many leaves head seriously cropped]), BL2 (British Library, Ashley 1102), Bod1 (Bodleian Library, Mal. 252 (7)), Bod2 (Bodleian Library, Mal. 1861), Bod3 (Bodleian Library, Mal. 184 (4) [G3v 'FINIS.' cropped off]), Cam (Cambridge University Library, Trinity VI. 8. 53 [TP lower half torn off; several leaves outer edge seriously cropped; many leaves head cropped; G3v 'FINIS.' cropped off]), CSmH (Huntington Library, C17488/62526), CtY (Yale University Library, BRBL/Ih/M359/606w), DFo1 (Folger Shakespeare Library, copy 1 [G3v 'FINIS.' cropped off]), DFo2 (Folger Shakespeare Library, copy 2 [wanting A1 (TP), C1, C4, F4; A4 inserted between sheets B and C; D3 and G1-3 upper outer corner torn off; A4-C3v head cropped off; C3v first line of the text cropped]), Dyce (Dyce Collection, Victoria and Albert Museum, D. 26. Box 28. 5), Forster (Forster Collection, Victoria and Albert Museum, F. D. 15. 2 [inter-leaved]), ICN (Newberry Library [G3v 'FINIS.' cropped off]), London (London University Library [G3-3v first nine lines of text supplied with MS. in 19th century hand; G3v 'FINIS.' cropped off; head cropped throughout]), MB (Boston Public Library [E4v-F1v head slightly cropped]), MH (Harvard University Library, 14432. 7. 9. 40\* [G3v 'FINIS.' cropped off; A1 (TP) and D4v tail slightly cropped]), MWiW-C (Chapin Library [C1-1v and D3-3v head slightly cropped]), NLS (Bute Collection, National Library of Scotland [tail cropped throughout; G3v 'FINIS.' cropped off]), Pforz (Carl H. Pforzheimer Library [head cropped throughout]).

### 1. Title-pages

The following variant reading occurs only in NLS.

TP] THE | VVONDER | of VVomen | Or | *The Tragedie of Sophonisba*, | as  
it hath beene fundry times Acted | at the *Blacke Friers*. | Written by IOHN MAR-  
STON. | [device: McKerrow 294] | LONDON. | Printed by *John Windet* and are to  
be fold | neere *Ludgate*, | 1606.

Variant TP] THE | TRAGEDIE | OF | *SOPHONISBA*. | WRITTEN | BY IOHN  
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to be fold | neere *Ludgate*. | 1606.

## 2. Press-variants

## SHEET A (outer forme)

*Uncorrected* : BL1-2, Bod1, CSmH, CtY, DFo1, Dyce, Forster, ICN, London, MWiW-C, Pforz.

*Corrected* : Bod2, Cam, MB, MH.

|    | <i>Uncorrected</i>       | <i>Corrected</i>  |
|----|--------------------------|-------------------|
| A1 | 5. <i>Sophonisba</i> ,   | <i>Sophonisba</i> |
|    | 6. <i>ha<sub>h</sub></i> | <i>hath</i>       |

## SHEET C (inner forme)

*Uncorrected* : Bod2, Cam, CtY, DFo1, Dyce, Forster, ICN, London, MB, MH.

*Corrected* : BL1-2, Bod1, Bod3, CSmH, MWiW-C, NLS, Pforz.

|     | <i>Uncorrected</i>            | <i>Corrected</i>            |
|-----|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| C1v | 23. <i>somtines</i>           | <i>somtimes</i>             |
|     | 24. <i>vrgent</i>             | <i>vrge nt</i>              |
|     | 25. <i>sodderd</i>            | <i>soderd</i>               |
|     | 25. <i>faulaty</i>            | <i>fau l ty<sup>1</sup></i> |
| C2  | 15. <i>feele</i>              | <i>cell</i>                 |
|     | 30. <i>Ha nus<sup>2</sup></i> | <i>Hanus<sup>3</sup></i>    |
| C3v | 15. <i>may let</i>            | <i>melt at</i>              |
|     | 16. <i>abroad</i>             | <i>abrode</i>               |
| C4  | 4. <i>letter</i>              | <i>a letter</i>             |
|     | 8. <i>Gelasso.</i>            | <i>Gelosso.</i>             |
|     | 10. <i>drane.</i>             | <i>drawe.</i>               |

## SHEET D (outer forme)

*Uncorrected* : Bod2, DFo1, London.

*Corrected* : BL1-2, Bod1, Bod3, Cam, CSmH, CtY, DFo2, Dyce, Forster, ICN, MB, MH, MWiW-C, NLS, Pforz.

|     | <i>Uncorrected</i>  | <i>Corrected</i>   |
|-----|---|--|
| D1  | 3. <i>aimde attend</i>  | <i>aimdeat end</i>   |
| D3  | 6. <i>proue<sup>4</sup></i>   | <i>pr oue</i>  |
|     | 17. <i>loue<sup>5</sup></i>   | <i>loues</i>   |
|     | 29. <i>This</i>   | <i>This?</i>   |
|     | 30. <i>time</i>   | <i>time?</i>   |
|     | 30. <i>sweet</i>  | <i>sweet,</i>  |
|     | CW. <i>[none]<sup>6</sup></i>   | <i>So</i>  |
| D4v | 29-30. <i>They lay Vangue in Syphax<br/>bed &amp; draw the cur- /<br/>taines,</i> | <i>They lay Vangue in Syphax<br/>bed &amp; draw the cur- /<br/>taines,</i> |

38-7. she de- / (scends

*sheede- / (sceuds*

## SHEET E (outer forme)

State I :

*Uncorrected* : Dyce.*Corrected* : BL1-2, Bod1-3, Cam, CSmH, CtY, DFo1-2, Forster, ICN, London, MB, MH, MWiW-C, NLS, Pforz.

|     | <i>Uncorrected</i>                | <i>Corrected</i>              |
|-----|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| E1  | 6. deligh                         | delight                       |
|     | 7. steps                          | steps,                        |
|     | 14. <i>Vangue</i>                 | <i>Vangue.</i>                |
|     | 26. slaue Sy. <i>killes Vang.</i> | slaue. (Sy. <i>killes Va.</i> |
| E2v | 1. <i>Syhhax</i>                  | <i>Syphax</i>                 |

State II :

*Uncorrected* : Cam, CtY, Dyce, Forster, MB.*Corrected* : BL1-2, Bod1-3, CSmH, DFo1-2, ICN, London, MH, MWiW-C, NLS, Pforz.

|    | <i>Uncorrected</i> | <i>Corrected</i> |
|----|--------------------|------------------|
| E1 | 18. full ?         | full,            |
| E3 | 7. m strust        | mistrust         |

State III :

*Uncorrected* : BL2, Bod1, Bod3, Cam, CtY, DFo1, Dyce, Forster, MB.*Corrected* : BL1, Bod2, CSmH, DFo2, ICN, London, MH, MWiW-C, NLS, Pforz.

|     | <i>Uncorrected</i>  | <i>Corrected</i> |
|-----|---------------------|------------------|
| E1  | 33. drin kdangerous | drink dangerous  |
| E2v | RT.                 | [reset]          |

State IV :

*Uncorrected* : BL2, Bod1, Bod3, Cam, CtY, DFo1, Dyce, Forster, MB, NLS.*Corrected* : BL1, Bod2, CSmH, DFo2, ICN, London, MH, MWiW-C, Pforz.

|     | <i>Uncorrected</i>  | <i>Corrected</i> |
|-----|---------------------|------------------|
| E2v | 5. spead            | speed            |
|     | 27. <i>Zan.</i> Ten | <i>Zan.</i> Ten  |
|     | 27. leages.         | leagues.         |
| E3  | 3. wost             | most             |

State V :

*Uncorrected* : BL2, Bod1-3, Cam, CtY, DFo1, Dyce, Forster, MB, NLS.*Corrected* : BL1, CSmH, DFo2, ICN, London, MH, MWiW-C, Pforz.

|     | <i>Uncorrected</i> | <i>Corrected</i> |
|-----|--------------------|------------------|
| E4v | 11. beastes        | heastes          |

## State VI :

*Uncorrected* : BL2, Bod1-3, Cam, CtY, DFo1, Dyce, Forster, London, MB, NLS.

*Corrected* : BL1, CSmH, DFo2, ICN, MH, MWiW-C, Pforz.

|     | <i>Uncorrected</i>            | <i>Corrected</i>         |
|-----|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| E2v | 3. vilde                      | wild                     |
|     | 30. justly heaue <sup>o</sup> | nimbly heaue             |
| E3  | 20. So. <i>Exit Zanthia.</i>  | <i>Exit Zanthia.</i> So. |
| E4v | 9. be                         | ■be,                     |
|     | 10. heaue                     | heauē                   |

## SHEET F (outer forme)

## State I :

*Uncorrected* : Bod3, MWiW-C, NLS.

*Corrected* : BL1-2, Bod1-2, Cam, CSmH, CtY, DFo1-2, Dyce, Forster, ICN, London, MB, MH, Pforz.

|    | <i>Uncorrected</i> | <i>Corrected</i> |
|----|--------------------|------------------|
| F3 | 4. <i>Fxit</i>     | <i>Exit</i>      |
|    | 20. <i>Fxit</i>    | <i>Exit</i>      |
|    | 27. <i>Let</i>     | <i>Let</i>       |
|    | 29. <i>Labea</i>   | <i>Lybea</i>     |

## State II :

*Uncorrected* : BL2, Bod1, Bod3, MWiW-C, NLS.

*Corrected* : BL1, Bod2, Cam, CSmH, CtY, DFo1-2, Dyce, Forster, ICN, London, MB, MH, Pforz.

|     | <i>Uncorrected</i> | <i>Corrected</i> |
|-----|--------------------|------------------|
| F2v | 24. vnfortunately  | vnfortunaté :    |
| F3  | 6. my              | My               |
| F4v | 10. faith          | fait h           |
|     | 11. lous           | lou's            |
|     | 20. tha t          | that             |
|     | 21. bre ast        | breast           |

## State III :

*Uncorrected* : BL1-2, Bod1-3, CSmH, DFo2, Forster, London, MH, MWiW-C, NLS, Pforz.

*Corrected* : Cam, CtY, DFo1, Dyce, ICN, MB.

|     | <i>Uncorrected</i> | <i>Corrected</i> |
|-----|--------------------|------------------|
| F1  | 25. Whether        | Whither          |
| F2v | 32. Mad            | Made             |
|     | 33. Where          | Wh e re          |
| F3  | 2. might.          | mig ht           |
| F4v | 3. fortun:         | fortune          |
|     | 13. one            | once             |
|     | 18. Threw          | There            |

## ET F (inner forme)

*Uncorrected* : MWiW-C.*Corrected* : BL1-2, Bod1-3, Cam, CSmH, CtY, DFo1-2, Dyce, Forster, ICN, London, MB, MH, NLS; Pforz.

|     | <i>Uncorrected</i>    | <i>Corrected</i> |
|-----|-----------------------|------------------|
| F1v | 3/4. <i>Erichtho.</i> | [omitted]        |
|     | 8/9. <i>Erichtho.</i> | [omitted]        |

## SHEET G (outer forme)

*Uncorrected* : BL1.*Corrected* : BL2, Bod1-3, Cam, CSmH, CtY, DFo1-2, Dyce, Forster, ICN, London, MB, MH, MWiW-C, NLS, Pforz.

|     | <i>Uncorrected</i> | <i>Corrected</i> |
|-----|--------------------|------------------|
| G1  | 1. <i>Sou</i>      | <i>Souldier</i>  |
|     | 8. of              | or               |
| G2v | 3. sau             | saue             |
|     | 6. An abhotd       | An abhord        |
|     | 26. Sy.            | Sc.              |
|     | 27. tong           | tongs            |
|     | 30. he             | she              |
|     | 30. free,          | free             |
| G3  | 8. vow.            | vow ?            |
|     | 13. basenes.       | basenes ?        |
|     | 16. hldd           | hold             |
|     | 16. seuse.         | sense.           |
|     | 19. slow           | low              |
|     | 23. wheele,        | wheele ?         |
|     | 24. th'ole         | th'whole         |
|     | 24. cannot         | cānot            |

## Notes

- 1 Only in Bod1 and Bod3. CSmH and NLS read 'faul ty', Pforz 'fau lty', and BL1-2 and MWiW-C 'fau ty'.
- 2 Also in CSmH, NLS, and Pforz.
- 3 Only in BL1-2 and Bod1. MWiW-C reads '*H anus*'.
- 4 Also in CSmH and NLS, which retain the state before deterioration of types began.
- 5 Only in London.
- 6 Bod1-2, CtY, DFoI, and Dyce read 'justly heaue : ' (?).
- 7 Bod3, MWiW-C, and NLS read '*Cornets*' for '*Cornets*' at F4 15; and BL2, Bod1, Bod3, MWiW-C, and NLS 'wh en' for 'when', due to deterioration.

Due to the omission of '*Erichtho*.' at the two places on F1v, the corrected copies retain the broad blank space between ll. 3-4, and between ll. 8-9.