

Zeitschrift: SPELL : Swiss papers in English language and literature
Herausgeber: Swiss Association of University Teachers of English
Band: 43 (2023)

Vorwort: General editor's preface ; Acknowledgements
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General Editor's Preface

SPELL (Swiss Papers in English Language and Literature) is a publication of SAUTE, the Swiss Association of University Teachers of English. Established in 1984, it first appeared every second year, was published annually from 1994 to 2008 and has since appeared three times within two years. Since 2022, SPELL is published open access as an online journal. A full backlist is available from e-periodica.ch: www.e-periodica.ch/digbib/volumes?UID=spe-001.

Every second year, SPELL publishes a selection of papers given at the biennial symposia organised by SAUTE. Non-symposium volumes usually have as their starting point papers given at other conferences organised by the Swiss network of Anglophone Studies, in particular conferences of SANAS, the Swiss Association for North American Studies and SAMEMES, the Swiss Association of Medieval and Early Modern English Studies. Decisions concerning topics and editors of individual issues are made by the Annual General Meeting of SAUTE two years before the year of publication.

SPELL publishes peer-reviewed, original work devoted to the study of the English language as well as Anglophone literatures and cultures. Contributions are usually by participants at the conferences mentioned, but editors are free to consider other proposals or solicit further contributions. SPELL gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the Swiss Academy of Humanities and Social Sciences (SAGW).

Information on all aspects of SPELL, including volumes planned for the future, is available from the General Editor, Professor Ina Habermann, University of Basel, Department of English, CH-4051 Basel, Switzerland, ina.habermann@unibas.ch. Information about past volumes of SPELL, the journal's Advisory Board and about SAUTE can be found on www.saute.ch.

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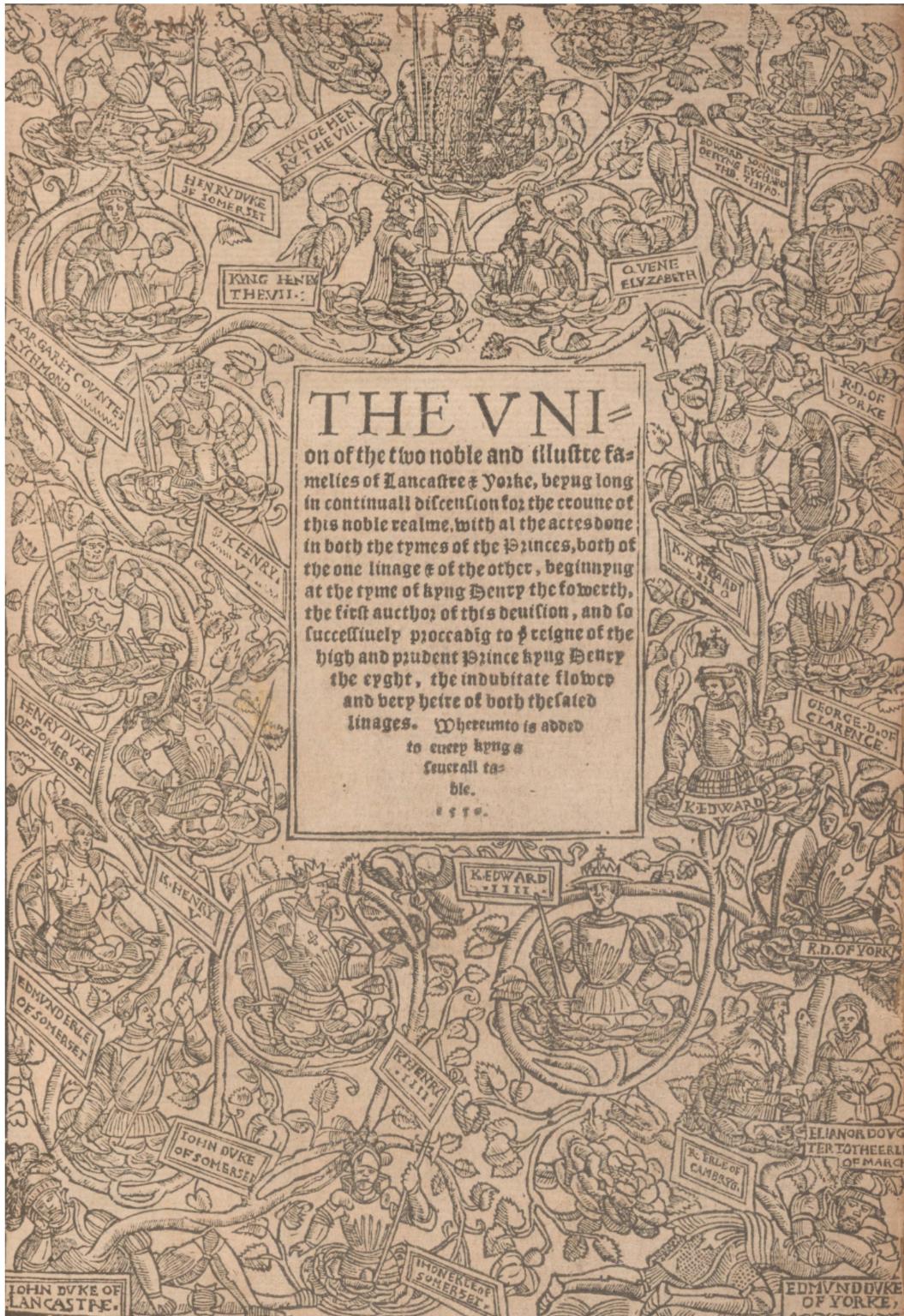
Acknowledgements

This volume includes essays which originated as papers delivered at the 2022 conference of the Swiss Association of Medieval and Early Modern English Studies (SAMEMES) at the University of Neuchâtel. I would like to begin by thanking the contributors who made this volume a reality, all who attended the ‘Medieval and Early Modern Afterlives’ conference, and those who helped with organisational matters. The conference was originally scheduled for 2020 and then for 2021, but both events were postponed in turn due to the COVID-19 pandemic. I am therefore grateful to the following people for their enthusiastic assistance with different (and in some cases multiple) incarnations of the Afterlives Conference: Gemma Allred, Sara Benzari, Ben Broadribb, Simone Camponovo, Douglas Clark, Jana Constantin, Patricia Demaillly, Indira Ghose, Erzsi Kukorelly, Arsene Lopez, Kilian Schindler, Maria Shmygol, François Spangenberg, and Tamara Voëgli. The conference was made possible by the financial support of the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF), the *Faculté des Lettres et Sciences Humaines* and the English Institute of the *Université de Neuchâtel*, and *Conférence Universitaire de Suisse Occidentale* (CUSO).

I owe a huge debt of gratitude to my dear colleagues, Rory Critten, Honor Jackson and Katrin Rupp. Rory and Katrin lent their expertise as medievalists during the planning stages of the conference (2020-2022) and the volume, edited two of the essays and also helped to proofread other essays. Honor was instrumental at practically every stage of the conference organisation in 2020-2022, despite being on research leave in 2022, and also helped to format and proofread all essays in the volume.

Ina Habermann, the General Editor of SPELL, and Stefanie Heeg have been a joy to work with and I am very grateful for their hard work and professionalism as copy editors of the volume and for their flexibility, good humour and words of encouragement throughout. I would also like to thank Gemma Allred for help proofreading the full volume; the SAMEMES board, especially Antoinina Bevan Zlatar, Kevin Curran, Lukas Erne and Denis Renevey; and the diligent readers who assisted with the peer-review process.

Finally, *merci* to my partner, Ray, for making trips back and forth between our home and the conference venue so that I could see and feed our (then) three-month-old son, Eli, during breaks.



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