

schoolmaster for two years to succeed Smart, who became vicar. Brownsword was to receive £20 a year and a house rent free; but if he left at the end of the two years, was either to pay £5 or teach a quarter of a year without wages, because of the expense in moving him. So this year Smart received £6 and Brownsword £10 for his first half year. Allen does not appear in the accounts, but the former usher, William Gilbert *alias* Higges, again receives 10s 8d for some unspecified purpose, perhaps for teaching eight weeks.<sup>9</sup> The remainder of the £4 evidently went this year for the repairs which were being made to the school. With the plague raging, there had doubtless been little need of an usher this year.

When Brownsword took charge in 1565 the school came nominally to the form contemplated in the charter, with one master receiving £20 a year and a home. Henceforth, the schoolmaster appears in the accounts as receiving £20 a year and presumably a home. No longer does the usher have his £4 entry. It does not follow, however, that the master was not bound to continue the previous arrangement, furnishing an usher and repairs. When next we get clear information, there was still an usher. Henry Sturley was to begin as Alexander Aspinall's usher on Monday November 7, 1597,<sup>10</sup> and held the position for some time. There was regularly an usher thereafter.

In this period at the end of the century, we get some idea of the full educational faculty at Stratford. Aspinall was master and Sturley usher. But boys were obliged to get their necessary preliminary training in English outside of the grammar school. With Smart in 1554 it had been stipulated that he should teach such children as were "fet for the gramer scoll or at the least wyez entred or redde to enter into ther accydence & princypalles of gramer."<sup>11</sup> To help him, Smart had, at least eventually, an usher. Thus from its inception in 1554 till our record breaks off in 1565, and again when the record clears in 1597, the school had both a master and an usher. It is therefore to be presumed that this had continued to be the arrangement throughout the interim.

The reason for the nonappearance of the usher in the accounts is probably implied in a statement of September 11, 1622, "Mr. Aspynalle hath eleccion of an usher out of his owne meanes."<sup>12</sup> Apparently,

of Brownsword's at Macclesfield, and succeeded him as master there (Warton, *English Poetry* (1871), Vol. IV, pp. 278-280; Fripp, *Shakespeare Studies*, p. 23; *Shakespeare*, Vol. I, p. 37).

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid.*, Vol. I, p. 151.

<sup>10</sup> Fripp, *Quyny*, pp. 120-121, 169-170.

<sup>11</sup> Savage and Fripp, Vol. I, p. 34.

<sup>12</sup> V. C. H., *Warwick*, Vol. II, p. 337.