

George Gascoigne



George Gascoigne, the son of a landowner and farmer, was born in Cardington, Bedfordshire, England. He attended Trinity College, Cambridge, and replaced his father as an almoner at Elizabeth I's coronation. However, as a farmer George Gascoigne was unsuccessful: he was imprisoned for debt and yet served in Parliament for two years, beginning in 1557. Gascoigne wrote poetry, plays, and prose. His first play, *Supposes*, may have been used by Shakespeare as a source for part of *The Taming of the Shrew*. Gascoigne died of an illness near Stamford.