

James Shirley

James Shirley's first poem, *Echo, or the Unfortunate Lovers* was published in 1618. For eighteen years he was a prolific writer for the stage, producing more than thirty regular plays, tragedies, comedies, and tragicomedies until a stop was put to his occupation by the Puritan edict of 1642. He and his second wife died of fright and exposure after the Great Fire of London.