

Letters to the Editor From The Times Readers on Topics in the News

SHAKESPEARE'S FOIBLE.

To the Editor of The New York Times:

In the article on Shakespeare in THE TIMES recently the author neglected to mention one of the Bard of Avon's peculiarities — namely, filling his works with the name of Francis Bacon in the form of acrostics and anagrams.

For instance—in any edition see "The Tempest," l. 2; and in Love's Labour Lost," v. 1—where the "Hog Latin" word Honorificabilitudinitatibus proves to be an anagram for Hi Ludi F. Bacone nati, tulli orbi. In the first folio edition there are about forty such acrostics and anagrams—starting with Prospero's Epilogue to "The Tempest." In "Venus and Adonis" there are two; the Sonnets are full of them. What a wag the butcher's son was!

ROBERT GRIMSHAW.
Brooklyn, May 9, 1933.