

**THE APPLETON ENGLISH CLASSICS.  
TENNYSON'S IDYLLS OF THE KING: THE  
COMING OF ARTHUR; GARETH AND  
LYNETTE; LANCELOT AND ELAINE; THE  
HOLY GRAIL; THE PASSING OF ARTHUR**

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**ALFRED TENNYSON & JOSEPH VILLIERS DENNEY**

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TENNYSON'S  
"IDYLLS OF THE KING

THE COMING OF ARTHUR · GARETH AND LYNETTE  
LANCELOT AND ELAINE · THE HOLY GRAIL  
THE PASSING OF ARTHUR

EDITED  
WITH AN INTRODUCTION AND NOTES

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TO THE  
SCHOOL

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## PREFACE

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APPRECIATION of Tennyson's "Idylls of the King" begins with an understanding of the significance, ethical and æsthetic, of "The Coming of Arthur" and "The Passing of Arthur." In relation to these two, the intervening *Idylls* are as specific instances to general truth. The "Coming" and the "Passing" not only annotate each other; they annotate the series of *Idylls*. In this edition, therefore, the introductory matter and the notes give especial attention to the "Coming" as furnishing, with the "Passing," the key to the intent of the whole.

The editor hopes that the division of each *Idyll* into sections, as suggested in the notes, will prove serviceable in keeping the theme of the series in clear view. Such æsthetic values as are not easily apprehended by first readers have been pointed out in the notes; but these, as well as the other notes that deal with history and matters of fact, may be neglected by the initiated.

Constant reference has been made to Malory not only that the beauty of Tennyson's workmanship may be made apparent, but also that an abiding interest may be aroused in mediæval story.



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