

**THE GLAMOUR OF OXFORD;
DESCRIPTIVE
PASSAGES IN VERSE AND
PROSE BY VARIOUS WRITERS**

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The glamour of Oxford; descriptive passages in verse and prose by various writers by William Angus Knight

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WILLIAM ANGUS KNIGHT

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Ex Libris
C. K. OGDEN

THE
GLAMOUR OF OXFORD

DESCRIPTIVE PASSAGES IN VERSE AND PROSE
BY VARIOUS WRITERS

CHOSEN AND EDITED BY

WILLIAM KNIGHT

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TO THE
CHANCELLOR OF ITS UNIVERSITY
LORD CURZON OF KEDLESTON
IN ADMIRATION OF
MANIFOLD SERVICES TO HIS COUNTRY
AT HOME AND ABROAD
THIS BOOK
IN PRAISE OF OXFORD
IS
DEDICATED

PREFACE

THIS book, in Praise of Oxford, has been put together as a memorial of the City and its Colleges. It is neither a guide-book to the place, nor a chronicle of events connected with its history; but merely a record of the appreciation, the gratitude, and in some cases the benediction of its *alumni* and other visitors. It is a tribute both from the dead and from the living; although perhaps the modern appraisals of the city as a seat of learning are superior—both in value and beauty—to those of earlier centuries. They all show in a wonderful way how it has fascinated, and often magnetized, the spirits of those who are privileged to call it their *Alma Mater*.

The literature devoted to Oxford and its Colleges is probably greater than that relating to any other University in the world, and those who wish to pursue the subject in detail can have no difficulty either as to materials or guidance; but the compiler of this small volume believes that the perusal of some remarkable passages in prose and verse, written in its praise by distinguished men, and arranged chronologically, may be acceptable both to undergraduates and old Oxonians, as well as to those who think of sending their sons to Oxford.

Both authors and publishers have been extremely kind in allowing use to be made of those passages

which I have asked permission to include ; but I have especially to thank the Chancellor of the University, Lord Curzon of Kedleston, to whom the Book is dedicated, for his contribution to its pages ; also the following authors (I mention their names in chronological order).

The late Mr. Goldwin Smith, of Toronto, Canada, well known in both hemispheres for his literary and historical works, and his old relationship with Oxford.

His Grace the Archbishop of Armagh, for permission to insert extracts from his *Ode on the Installation of Lord Derby as Chancellor of the University* in 1853, and from his *New Atlantis*.

Mr. Thomas Edward Kebbel, author of *Oxford in the Long Vacation*, also *Old and New Oxford*, and for passages from other books.

The Rev. William Tuckwell, author of *Reminiscences of Oxford*, for extracts from 'Oxford in the Thirties', 'Undergraduates in the Thirties', and 'Oxford, 1900'.

Mrs. Butler, widow of the late Arthur Gray Butler of Oriel, for permission to include several of her husband's poems.

The Rev. Frederick William Orde Ward, author of *The World's Quest*, for his poems *The Soul of Oxford*, *Oxford the Dreamer*, and his dedication, *To my Alma Mater*.

Mr. Theodore Watts Dunton for his *Last Walk from Boar's Hill*, addressed to Algernon Charles Swinburne.

Mr. Andrew Lang for his *Almæ Matres*, and his *Ballade of the Summer Term* (Messrs. Longman, his publishers, concurring), and for passages from his prose book on *Oxford*.

Mr. Robert Bridges for *An Invitation to the Pageant*.

Mr. Thomas Hay Sweet Escott, and his publisher Mr. Fisher Unwin, for passages from *Society in the Country House*.

Mr. Herbert Arthur Evans, author of *Highways and Byways in Oxford and the Cotswolds*, for an extract from that work.

Mrs. Romanes, Pitculzean, Nigg, widow of the late George John Romanes, naturalist, for his sonnet on *Christ Church*.

Mr. William Leonard Courtney (New College) for *Meadowsweet: on the Banks of the Cherwell*, and a sonnet *In New College Cloisters*, both of them extracted from *Rosemary's Letter Book*, issued in 1909.

Professor Oliver Elton, Liverpool, and Professor John Alexander Stewart, Oxford, along with Miss York Powell, and the Delegates of the Clarendon Press, for the use of the late Professor York Powell's verses.

The Rev. Hardwicke Drummond Rawnsley, of Crosthwaite, Keswick, and Canon of Carlisle, for several poems.

Mr. James Williams, of Lincoln College, for a sonnet on *Oxford in May*.

Mr. Thomas Herbert Warren, President of Magdalen College, for a passage on Oxford in Matthew Arnold's time, extracted from his *Essays of Poems and Poetry*.

Mr. Frederick Douglas How for an extract from his book on *Oxford*.

Mr. Reginald Fanshawe, author of *Corydon, an Elegy*, for his poems *The Spirit of Oxford*, and *A quiet Queen*.

Mr. Alfred Denis Godley for an extract from his *Aspects of Modern Oxford*.

Professor John William Mackail for his Epilogue to *Mensæ Secundæ*, his poem *Last May Day*, and an extract from his *Life of William Morris*.

Mr. Bowyer Nichols for his *Magdalen Gardens and Magdalen Bridge*, and his *Magdalen Walks in Winter*.

Canon Beeching for the 'Dedication' to his *Conferences on Books and Men*.

Mr. D. S. MacColl for the 'Prospectus' to the first number of *The Oxford Magazine*.

Sir Arthur Thomas Quiller-Couch for his *Alma Mater*, and for an extract from *The Ship of Stars*.

Mr. Elkin Mathews for permission to insert Mr. Lionel Johnson's *Oxford Nights*, and his *Oxford, to Arthur Galton*.

The Rev. Gascoigne Mackie, Hordle, Brockenhurst, for numerous sections of his *Charmides*, and other verses sent specially for this volume.

Mr. Arthur Rutter Bayley for his *Sunday Afternoon at Iffley*.

Mr. Leonard Huxley for *On the River*, from 'Waifs and Strays'.

Mr. Eric Parker and Mr. J. St. Loe Strachey for the extract from an article in *The Spectator*.