

**THE GODOLPHIN
ARABIAN; OR,
THE HISTORY OF
A THOROUGH-BRED**

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The Godolphin Arabian; Or, The History of a Thorough-Bred by Eugène Sue

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EUGÈNE SUE

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THE
GODOLPHIN ARABIAN;

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HISTORY OF A THOROUGH-BRED.

By EUGÈNE SUE.



[ORIGINALLY TRANSLATED FOR THE "SUNDAY TIMES."]

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INTRODUCTION.

THE reputation of M. Eugène Sue, as a powerful, original, inventive, and prolific writer, is now fully established, not only in his native land, but throughout Europe. The popularity which his principal works have acquired in Great Britain, during the last two years, suggested to the Editor of the *SUNDAY TIMES* the idea of a translation, in the columns of that widely-circulated Newspaper, of M. Sue's History of the celebrated Godolphin Arabian; and, in transferring this to the columns of the *SUNDAY TIMES* of the months of January and February of the present year, it was found so acceptable to the readers of that journal, that, very many applications having been made to the Editor to publish it in a succinct form, he has been induced to offer it, with a few embellishments, in its present shape.

It may be said that, for the purity of blood and perfection of strength, speed, temper, and bottom which characterise her thorough-breeds, England is mainly, if not entirely, indebted to the "King of the Wind," the "Arab Scham;" and his strange eventful history, as written by M. E. Sue, although somewhat heightened in effect with the air of romance and the peculiarity of detail with which he has invested it, is substantially true. The painting of Scham and Agba, by Stubbs, still hangs in the hall of Gog-Magog House, the seat of the Earl of Godolphin, near the town of Cambridge.

A word or two as to M. E. Sue himself may not be unacceptable:

Eugène Sue was born in Paris on the 10th December, 1804. The Empress Josephine, and her son, the Prince Eugène Beauharnais, were his godmother and godfather. His family is very ancient, and has been established for many centuries at Lacoline, near Cannes, in Provence. His great-grandfather, his grandfather, and his father, Jean Joseph Sue, were celebrated physicians; and Eugène Sue himself was educated as a surgeon, and was attached to the military establishment of the King. He was afterwards attached to the staff with the army of Spain, in 1823, and was at the siege of Cadiz, and the taking of Trocadero and

Tarifa. In 1824, M. E. Sue left the land—for the naval—service. He made several voyages to America; and, after sailing amongst the Antilles, returned to the Mediterranean, and visited Greece. In 1828, he was at the battle of Navarino (“that untoward event”), on board the *Breslau*. After this voyage he gave up the sea and his medical profession, having inherited a very excellent income from his father. He is very fond of amusements, especially fond of horses, and is, moreover, a very tolerable painter.

In 1830, an old brother soldier said to E. Sue,—“Cooper’s romances have much naval novelty—quite the rage; why don’t you brush up your recollections, and create a school of maritime romance in France?”

The idea pleased him; and, dropping the pencil, he took up the pen, and has been as voluminous as successful in his literary productions.

THE TRANSLATOR.

Paris, April 16, 1845,