

**DANTE, BEATRICE,
AND THE
DIVINE COMEDY**

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Dante, Beatrice, and the Divine Comedy by Charles Tomlinson

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CHARLES TOMLINSON

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DIVINE COMEDY**

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DIVINE COMEDY.

BY
CHARLES TOMLINSON, F.R.S., F.C.S.,
HARLOW LECTURER ON THE DIVINE COMEDY.

*"Intendo mostrare la vera sentenza di quelle che per
alcuno vedere non si può, s'io non la conto, perch' è nascosa
sotto figura d'allegoria."*

—*Il Convito* 1, 2.

*"O voi, che avete gl'intelletti sani,
Mirate la dottrina, che s'asconde
Sotto 'l velame degli versi strani."*

—*Inferno*, Canto IX., 61.

WILLIAMS AND NORGATE,
14, HENRIETTA STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON,
AND 20, SOUTH FREDERICK STREET, EDINBURGH.

1894.

Dn 169.9



Dante Society

"I intend to show the true meaning of those things, which cannot be perceived by any, if I do not explain it, because it is hidden under the figure of an allegory."

—*The Banquet*, I., 2.

"O ye in whom the intelligence is sane,
Do ye behold the doctrine hidden here,
Which mystic verses 'neath their veil contain."

Inferno, IX., 61.

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
SIR EDWARD FRY, F.R.S., D.C.L., &c.

THIS SMALL VOLUME IS INSCRIBED

BY THE AUTHOR,

IN GRATEFUL REMEMBRANCE OF MANY YEARS OF
FRIENDSHIP PROMOTED BY CULTURE.

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Dante and Beatrice were born	1265
Dante saw Beatrice when each was nine years old .	1274
Dante first heard Beatrice speak when they were eighteen	1283
Beatrice is said to have married Simone di Bardi when she was twenty-one	1286
Beatrice is said to have died at the age of twenty- five	1290
Dante married Gemma di Manetto	1291
Date of the Divine Vision, Dante aged thirty-five .	1300
Dante died, aged fifty-six	1321
Boccaccio wrote Dante's Life	1373

PREFACE.

CONFINED to my room by a chain of eighty-six links, one for each year, with failing health and eyesight, I lately opened a bundle of notes prepared for the first course of lectures on the *Divine Comedy*, which were delivered in 1878, at University College, London, under the lectureship founded by Dr. Barlow.

In the preparation of these notes I was largely indebted to Dr. Barlow's work, entitled, "Contributions to the Study of the *Divine Comedy*" (1864), a copy of which was presented to me by the author's friend and publisher, Mr. F. Norgate, together with a number of the Doctor's pamphlets on subjects connected with his favourite study. I also had free access to the Doctor's fine Dante library, which he bequeathed to University College.

In notes taken for the purposes of the lecture, it may not be always necessary to quote authorities. If I should sometimes be found using the words of another instead of my own, the fault is unintentional. I have, however, in the following chapters derived assistance from the works of Scartazzini and some other modern writers, including Longfellow, whose version is sometimes adopted. These