

**ENGLISH MEN OF
LETTERS; EDWARD
FITZGERALD**

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English Men of Letters; Edward Fitzgerald by A. C. Benson

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A. C. BENSON

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ENGLISH MEN OF LETTERS

EDITED BY JOHN MORLEY

EDWARD FITZGERALD



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EDWARD FITZGERALD

BY

A. C. BENSON

FELLOW OF MAGDALENE COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE

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J. J. J. J. J.

PREFATORY NOTE

THE principal books which I have consulted, and to which reference is made in the following pages, besides FitzGerald's own publications, are the following:—

Letters and Literary Remains of Edward FitzGerald, 3 vols. (Macmillan & Co.), 1889; *Letters of Edward FitzGerald*, 2 vols. (Macmillan & Co.), 1901; *Letters of Edward FitzGerald to Fanny Kemble (1871-1883)*, (Richard Bentley & Son), 1895; *More Letters of Edward FitzGerald* (Macmillan & Co.), 1901; *Miscellanies*, by Edward FitzGerald (Macmillan & Co.), 1900— the above all edited by Mr. William Aldis Wright.

The Life of Edward FitzGerald, 2 vols., by Thomas Wright (Grant Richards), 1904; *The Life of Edward FitzGerald*, by John Glyde (introduction by Edward Clodd) (C. Arthur Pearson), 1900; *Two Suffolk Friends*, by Francis Hindes Groome (Blackwood), 1895; *Life and Letters of Edward Byles Cowell*, by George Cowell (Macmillan), 1904.

In studying the *Omar Khayyám* by FitzGerald, I have found specially useful the volume containing the four editions published in the poet's lifetime (Macmillan), 1902; the volume entitled *Edward FitzGerald's Rubá'iyát of Omar Khayyám, with their original Persian Sources collated from his own MSS., and literally translated*, by Edward Heron-Allen (Bernard Quaritch),

1899; a volume containing the *Rubd'iyát*, with a commentary by H. M. Batson, and an introduction by Principal E. D. Ross (Methuen), 1900; and for general purposes, *A Literary History of Persia*, by Professor E. G. Browne (Fisher Unwin), 1902.

For the Bibliography I have been enabled to consult the *Chronological List* of Edward FitzGerald's books, printed by the Caxton Club, Chicago, 1899, and the *Notes for a Bibliography of Edward FitzGerald*, reprinted from *Notes and Queries*, 1900.

I have also consulted the *Dictionary of National Biography*, together with other critical and biographical essays and articles.

I take this opportunity of thanking the following for help, advice, and criticism: Mr. W. Aldis Wright, who has very kindly and readily answered my questions, and lent me interesting unpublished documents; Mr. James Fitzmaurice-Kelly, who has given me simply invaluable assistance in the section dealing with FitzGerald's translations from Calderon; Mr. Thomas Wright, for kind permission to make use of his *Life of Edward FitzGerald*, which is a mine of detailed information about the poet's daily life and movements; Mr. John Glyde, for a similar permission; Mr. Edward Heron-Allen, for permission to quote from his translation mentioned above; Mr. Edmund Gosse, Mr. Percy Lubbock, Mr. Howard O. Sturgis, and other friends.

A. C. B.

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