

**THE LEGEND OF FAIR
HELEN AS TOLD
BY HOMER, GOETHE
AND OTHERS: A STUDY**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649098095

The legend of fair Helen as told by Homer, Goethe and others: a study by Eugen Oswald

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EUGEN OSWALD

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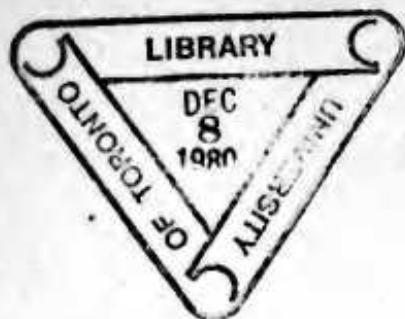
AS TOLD BY HOMER, GOETHE,
AND OTHERS

A STUDY BY

EUGENE OSWALD, M.A., Ph.D. , 1826-19

SECRETARY TO THE ENGLISH GOETHE SOCIETY

LONDON
JOHN MURRAY, ALBEMARLE STREET
1905



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THE LEGEND OF FAIR HELEN



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PRELUDE

‘Bewundert viel und viel gescholten, Helena.’

GOETHE : *Faust*.

‘A daughter of the Gods, divinely tall,
And most divinely fair.’

TENNYSON : *A Dream of Fair Women*.

‘Die ewig blühende Helena von Sparta.’

HEINE : *Elementargeister und Dämonen*.

‘Fayre Helen, floure of beauty excellent.’

SPENSER : *Faërie Queene*, book iii., ch. 9.

‘Her whom, we know well,
The world’s large spaces cannot parallel.’

SHAKESPEARE : *Troilus and Cressida*, II. ii.

‘The fairest woman that the poet’s dream
Or artist hand has fashioned.’

SIR LEWIS MORRIS : *Epic of Hades*.

‘Unendlich bedeutungsvoll ist die Erscheinung der
schönen Helena in der Sage vom Doctor Faust.’

HEINE : *Der Doktor Faust*.

‘And from his lips broke forth a mighty cry of “Helen !
Helen! Helen !”’

WILLIAM MORRIS : *The Death of Paris*.

‘Death ends all tales, but this he endeth not.’

ANDREW LANG : *Helen of Troy*.