

**FORTUNATUS
THE PESSIMIST**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649287123

Fortunatus the pessimist by Alfred Austin

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ALFRED AUSTIN

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BY

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SECOND EDITION

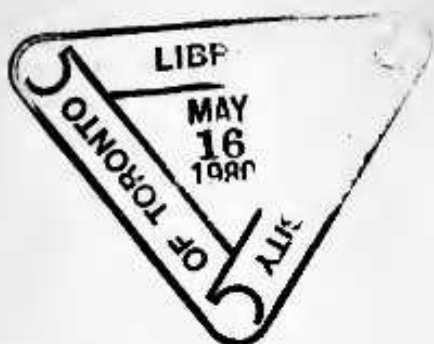


London

MACMILLAN AND CO.

AND NEW YORK

1892



15272

First Edition printed November 1892

Second Edition December 1892

PR

4041

F66

1892

AFFECTIONATELY INSCRIBED

TO

GEORGE MEREDITH

PERSONAGES

| | | |
|------------|-----------|----------------------------------|
| FORTUNATUS | | <i>An English Duke.</i> |
| ADRIAN | | <i>His Friend and Secretary.</i> |
| FRANKLIN | | <i>A Yeoman.</i> |
| URANIA | | <i>His Daughter.</i> |
| APRIL | | <i>A Forest Foundling.</i> |
| ABADDON | | <i>A Pedlar.</i> |

PLACE.

The Duke's Castle—Urania's Garden—The Forest.

TIME—To-day.



ACT 1

SCENE 1

[The terrace of the DUKE's castle. FORTUNATUS, with ADRIAN at his side, and a number of domestics behind. A crowd of Rustics approach.]

RUSTIC,

Sir, shall we sing?

FORTUNATUS,

Ay, let us hear you.

ADRIAN (*raising his hand*).

Now!

The PLOUGHMEN sing.

*Three cheers for Winter,
That blows upon the horn,*