

SENECA

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649001149

Seneca by Francis Holland

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

FRANCIS HOLLAND

SENECA

SENECA

THE CONSTITUTIONAL HISTORY
OF ENGLAND since the Acces-
sion of George III. 1760-1860.

By the Right Hon. Sir THOMAS
ERSKINE MAY, K.C.B., D.C.L. (Lord
Farnborough). Edited and continued
to 1911 by FRANCIS HOLLAND. 3 vols.
8vo.

Vols. I.-II., 1760-1860.

Vol. III., 1860-1911. By FRANCIS
HOLLAND.

LONGMANS, GREEN, AND CO.
LONDON NEW YORK BOMBAY
CALCUTTA AND MADRAS

61123
YA

SENECA

BY
FRANCIS HOLLAND

WITH FRONTISPIECE

157155
10.11.20

LONGMANS, GREEN, AND CO.
39 PATERNOSTER ROW, LONDON
FOURTH AVENUE & 30TH STREET, NEW YORK
BOMBAY, CALCUTTA, AND MADRAS

1920

All rights reserved.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

THIS essay in biography was originally intended as an introduction to a translation of Seneca's letters, the greater part of which has been completed. But as this translation is not likely ever to be published, I have decided, after long hesitation, to print the introduction by itself, on the chance that here or there some reader may be found to share my interest in the subject.

Of the three branches into which philosophy, in the ancient view, divided itself—ethic, physic, and logic—it is with the two first alone that Seneca was concerned. He never lost touch with life and reality. To those who 'love to lose themselves in a mystery,' and rest in an 'O Altitudo!' Seneca as a philosopher makes no appeal. Rather would he teach men how to find themselves and, so far as is possible to souls closed in by a 'vesture of decay,' to understand the meaning of life and of death. His meaning is never ambiguous. However shallow a pool may be, as has often been said, you cannot see to the bottom if the water is muddy. Like the waters of the Lake of Garda, on the other hand, Seneca's thoughts combine clearness with depth. He played too large a part

in a critical period of history and of thought to find time for the abstract speculations and dialectical subtleties with which the logical branch of philosophy was concerned, and in which the Greek masters of the Stoic school were mainly interested; and no doubt it is this *esprit positif* which so commended him to his great debtor, Montaigne.

I have added, 'to fill the page,' a paper on Caius Maecenas, which appeared long ago in the *Dublin Review*. I have to thank the editor for the permission to republish, which has not been refused.

CONTENTS

CHAPTER	PAGE
INTRODUCTORY NOTE	v
I. MARCUS ANNAEUS SENECA AND HIS SONS— THE <i>CONTROVERSIAE</i> — HELVIA — THE BATTLE OF THE BOOKS	i
II. EARLY YEARS AND EDUCATION—SOTIION, ATTALUS, FABIANUS	13
III. THE PRINCIPATE OF CALIGULA, A.D. 37-42	24
IV. EXILE IN CORSICA, A.D. 41-49	32
V. RETURN FROM EXILE—LAST YEARS OF CLAUDIUS, A.D. 48-54	46
VI. THE QUINQUENNium NERONIS, A.D. 54-59	57
VII. SENECA IN POWER	75
VIII. THE TRAGEDY OF BAIÆ, A.D. 59	86
IX. DECLINE OF SENECA'S INFLUENCE—DEATH OF BURRHUS AND OF OCTAVIA	98
X. SENECA IN RETIREMENT—HIS FRIENDS AND OCCUPATIONS	111
XI. LETTER TO LUCILIUS ON AETNA—SENECA'S RICHES AND APOLOGIA	136
XII. THE CONSPIRACY OF PISO AND THE DEATH OF SENECA	150
XIII. THE PHILOSOPHY OF SENECA	164
CAIUS MAECENAS	187