

**CHAUCER'S
CANTERBURY TALES:
THE KNIGHT'S TALE**

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Chaucer's Canterbury Tales: The knight's tale by Alfred W. Pollard

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ALFRED W. POLLARD

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CANTERBURY TALES

THE KNIGHT'S TALE

EDITED
WITH INTRODUCTION AND NOTES BY
ALFRED W. POLLARD



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PREFACE.

IN my edition of the Prologue to the Canterbury Tales I paid especial attention to annotating those of its allusions which touch on English life in the 14th century. In these notes and introduction to the Knight's Tale I have tried to illustrate Chaucer's methods as a storyteller at a particularly interesting stage of his career, and in doing this to show in some detail what was the degree of his indebtedness to Boccaccio's *Teseide*. The differences which Chaucer introduces alike in the plot and the characters seem to me to be of a kind in which readers, both young and old, may profitably be interested, and they offer an easy introduction to poetical criticism.

As regards the identity of the Knight's Tale with the story of 'al the love of Palamon and Arcite' referred to in the Legend of Good Women, I have necessarily written at some length in the Introduction, but a shorter treatment is provided as an alternative for young students. Those who wish for further argument on (substantially) the same side should consult an able paper by Mr. Jewett Mather in the *English Miscellany* presented to Dr. Furnivall (Oxford, 1901).

For help in compiling the Glossary I have to thank Mr. George England and Miss Mary A. Trimen, M.A. Lond., of Bedford College. 'The Appendix of 'Illustrations of Chaucer's Grammar from the Knight's Tale' is the work of Miss Trimen alone.

A. W. POLLARD.

August, 1903.



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