

**REYNARD THE FOX,  
AFTER THE GERMAN  
VERSION OF GOETHE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649693252

Reynard the Fox, after the German Version of Goethe by Thomas James Arnold & Wilhelm von Kaulvach

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Cover @ 2017

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**THOMAS JAMES ARNOLD & WILHELM VON KAULVACH**

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AFTER THE GERMAN  
VERSION OF GOETHE**



**Keynard the Fox.**

*London:—Printed by Richard Clay,  
Bread Street Hill.*

# Reynard the Fox

AFTER THE GERMAN VERSION OF

GOETHE.

BY

THOMAS JAMES ARNOLD, ESQ.

*With ILLUSTRATIONS from the DESIGNS of*  
WILHELM VON KAULBACH.



LONDON :  
TRÜBNER AND CO., PATERNOSTER ROW.

NATALI AND BOND, BEDFORD STREET.

1860.

285. p. 46.







# Reynard the Fox

From the German Version of



Wellington says our  
shame is  
What we have wished  
to do it well.

But Justice human  
and good  
Shall stand though  
Justice they hit.





## P R E F A C E.

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THE story of REYNARD THE FOX, here presented to the English public in the Translation of Mr. Arnold, is one which has been famous for centuries. The earliest edition known of this remarkable work is preserved in the Grenville Library at the British Museum, and is supposed to be a unique copy; it is a black letter ~~6240~~ in Dutch, and was printed at Gouda, near Rotterdam, ~~in 1439~~. Upon this work was based the translation of William Caxton, published in 1481. This first English REYNARD is also extremely rare, only three copies being known, of which two are in the British Museum; it is, however, easy of reference, having been reprinted by the Percy Society in 1844. The first German version was published at Lübeck in 1498, but the origin of the legend is much more remote, the poem having been known in Low German, French, and Latin, even in the twelfth century. At the present day, it is impossible to trace the authorship of the oldest version, referred by some to Willem die Matoc; but a *Reinhart Fuchs* is still preserved, dating about the middle of the thirteenth century, and it would seem that the earliest traces of the Poem must be sought in Flanders, where the nucleus of the series of adventures was formed. Henry