

**THE DREAM OF
GERONTIUS. ILLUSTRATED
BY MARIE PREAUD WEBB**

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The Dream of Gerontius. Illustrated by Marie Preaud Webb by John Henry Newman

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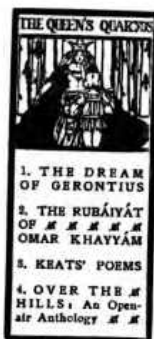
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JOHN HENRY NEWMAN

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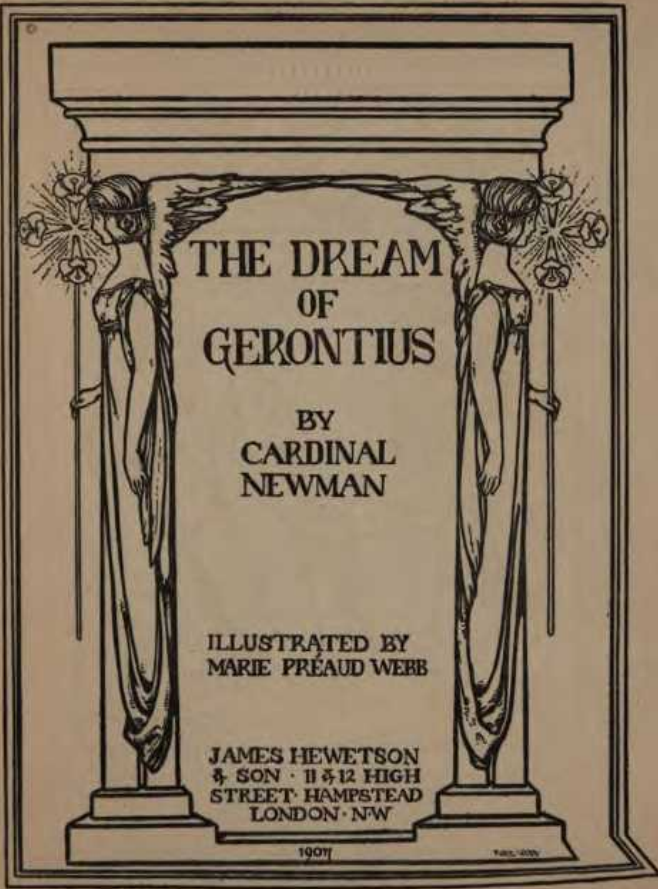
TO MY FATHER

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Foreword

JOHN HENRY NEWMAN was one of the most remarkable figures of a remarkable age—an age which produced Byron, Leigh Hunt, John Stuart Mill, Macaulay, Carlyle.

Born in 1801, he was the son of a London banker, and was educated at a private school in Ealing, leaving there at the age of sixteen for Trinity College, Oxford.

On 12 April, 1822, "a day which he ever felt to be the turning point of his life, of all the most memorable," he became a Fellow of Oriel College, occupying rooms on No. 3 staircase, near the chapel.

Here he formed a close friendship with Edward Pusey, John Keble, and Hurrell Froude. Two years later he was ordained; but this year was darkened by the death of his father, and in a beautiful letter written at this time to a friend we get this revealing glimpse of his devout mind. "When I die, shall I be followed to the grave by my children? My mother said the other day she hoped to live to see me married, but I think I shall either die within college walls, or as a missionary in a foreign land—no matter where, so that I die in Christ."

In 1828 he became Vicar of St. Mary the Virgin in the old University town, where he remained for the next fifteen years.

It was while on a Mediterranean cruise that he wrote most of those charming fragments issued under the title of "Lyra Apostolica"; here also whilst lying becalmed in the Strait of Bonifacio, he wrote what has become his best-known hymn, "Lead, Kindly Light."

In 1841 Newman published his famous "Tract 90," wherein