

CHASTELARD, A TRAGEDY

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Chastelard, a tragedy by Algernon Charles Swinburne

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CHASTELARD

A TRAGEDY

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ALGERNON CHARLES SWINBURNE



An milieu de l'avril, entre les lys naquit
Son corps, qui de blancheur les lys mêmes vainquit ;
Et les roses, qui sont du sang d'Adonis teintes,
Furent par sa couleur de leur vermeil dépeintes.—RONSARD

What need ye hech! and how! ladies?
What need ye how! for me?
Ye never saw grace at a graceless face:
Queen Mary has name to gie.—*The Queen's Marie*

London

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1878.

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I DEDICATE THIS PLAY,

AS A PARTIAL EXPRESSION OF REVERENCE

AND GRATITUDE,

TO THE CHIEF OF LIVING POETS;

TO THE FIRST DRAMATIST OF HIS AGE;

TO THE GREATEST EXILE, AND THEREFORE

TO THE GREATEST MAN OF FRANCE;

TO

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Another Yle is there toward the Northe, in the See Ocean, where that ben fulle cruete and ful euele Wommen of Nature; and thei han precious Stones in hire Eyen; and thei ben of that kynde, that zif they beholden ony man, thei slen him anon with the beholdynge, as dothe the Basilisk.

MAUNDEVILE'S *Voiage and Travaile*, Ch. xxviii.