

**CONFESSIONS OF AN
ENGLISH OPIUM-EATER:
BEING AN EXTRACT FROM
THE LIFE OF A SCHOLAR**

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Confessions of an English Opium-Eater: Being an Extract From the Life of a Scholar by Thomas De Quincey & Arthur Beatty

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THOMAS DE QUINCEY & ARTHUR BEATTY

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THE CONFESSIONS
OF
AN ENGLISH OPIUM-EATER

Being an Extract from the Life of a Scholar

BY
THOMAS DE QUINCEY

(Reprinted from *The London Magazine* for September and October,
1821, and December, 1822)

EDITED WITH INTRODUCTION AND NOTES

BY

ARTHUR BEATTY, PH.D.

INSTRUCTOR IN ENGLISH IN THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

*Choice word and measured phrase, above the reach
Of ordinary men ; a stately speech.*

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PREFACE

THE text of this edition is a word for word reprint of the *Confessions* as it appeared in the *London Magazine*. The reasons for the choice of text are given in the Introduction. All the peculiarities of spelling and punctuation have been retained, except in cases of evident error, but even then the exact reading of the original can be found from the notes. The initials and blanks of the original have been filled in from later editions of the *Confessions* or from other sources. These additions are enclosed in square brackets.

In the Notes will be found all De Quincey's notes with the exception of a few that are manifestly unimportant. The editor's notes aim to explain the many allusions of the text and to point out the literary

relations of the book by reference to parallel passages in earlier and later writers.

In this work the editor has been greatly aided by Professor F. G. Hubbard, Professor of English Language in the University of Wisconsin, for which thanks are expressed. Thanks are also due to Mr. W. M. Smith, Librarian of the University of Wisconsin, and to the Chicago Public Library for their kindness in supplying the original text.

ARTHUR BEATTY.

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN,
November 21, 1893.

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