

**EVERYMAN'S LIBRARY.
POETRY AND THE DRAMA.
THE GOLDEN TREASURY
OF LONGER POEMS**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649756513

Everyman's Library. Poetry and the Drama. The Golden Treasury of Longer Poems by Ernest Rhys

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

ERNEST RHYS

**EVERYMAN'S LIBRARY.
POETRY AND THE DRAMA.
THE GOLDEN TREASURY
OF LONGER POEMS**

EVERYMAN'S LIBRARY
EDITED BY ERNEST RHYS

POETRY AND
THE DRAMA

THE GOLDEN TREASURY
OF LONGER POEMS
SELECTED AND EDITED BY
ERNEST RHYS



POETS
ARE THE
TRUMPETS
WHICH SING
TO BATTLE.
POETS
ARE THE
UNACKNOWLEDGED
LEGISLATORS
OF THE
WORLD. SHELLEY

The Golden Treasury
OF LONGER
POEMS 
*Selected & Edited
by Ernest Rhys*



LONDON & TORONTO
PUBLISHED BY J. M. DENT
& SONS LTD & IN NEW YORK
BY E. P. DUTTON & CO

INTRODUCTION

THIS volume of longer poems is the natural successor to the two anthologies of songs and lyrics and the ballad book in the same library. It does not apply too rigidly its measure of length, being intended to take up the line of English verse at the point where the others paused, to maintain the record and make it of a piece with the rest. There are poems that are still lyrical, like Drayton's "Agincourt," and others, like Chaucer's "Knightes Tale," which show the sustained narrative power of English verse. Again there are poems, like Parnell's "Hermit," which knit up afresh the old ballad tradition of "Chevy Chase" and "Clerk Saunders." There are noble elegies, too, and tributes of poet to poet—"Adonais" and Ben Jonson's lines to the Beloved Memory of Shakespeare, while the English love of place and of Nature is heard again and again in its pages. In all this variety, the main purpose is to show the great succession of the English poets who wrote, as Coleridge says, with

A light in sound, a soundlike power in light,
Rhythm in all thought, and joyance everywhere.

It keeps on the whole close to the recognised track. It does not forget the great prose writers, like Swift and Dr. Johnson, who influenced verse. But chiefly it upholds the princely line, in which Chaucer, Spenser, Marvell, Milton, Ben Jonson, Crashaw, Henry Vaughan, Pope, Goldsmith, Burns, Wordsworth, Coleridge, Byron, Shelley and Keats are the masters and the great maintainers. In the shadow of their greater fame stand other poets worthy of remembrance, on whom as it were the true tradition took hold—men who were not great poets but who yet contributed to the rich store. Such were Joseph Warton, whose "Grave of King Arthur" is rescued from comparative forgetfulness, and Shenstone, whose "Schoolmistress" is the reminder of an old and pleasant mode of rural art. In other cases there is a question of poems that influenced the world and

in a sense became part not only of the dialect of their own time, but of the permanent language of verse; and these too have not been forgotten. In a few instances items have been omitted because they are already printed in the poetry-books of the series: *e.g.*, "Chevy Chase," "Robin Hood," and "John Gilpin." For space is precious and every poem has jealously to be considered, in the claim of the many that must be omitted.

On the modern side, the book stops short with the close of last century, where the personal glamour, as we may call it, and the deceptive contemporary estimate, enters the list. Who of us can tell what the lasting value is going to prove of some of those younger poets, under whose spell we may have willingly enough fallen?—in whose poetry,

As in a mansion like their proper home
Even forms and substances are circumfused . . .
And through the turnings intricate of verse
Present themselves as objects recognised,
In flashes, and with glory not their own.

We have only included then from the later pieces some of those which have already lasted a generation, and worn well, and stood the test of a change of generations and fashions.

E. R.

The following is a list of collections and anthologies that are related to the present volume:—

Dodsley, *Collection of Poems*, 1770; Chalmers, *English Poets*, 1810; Hales, *Longer English Poems*, 1898; Ritson, *Metrical Romances*, 1832; Southey, *British Poets*; Ellis, *Early English Poets*, 1803; Ellis, *Early English Metrical Romances*, 1805; Saintsbury, G., *Caroline Poets*, 2 vols., 1906; Chambers, *Encyclopedia of English Literature*, 1844-1905; Ward, *English Poets*, 5 vols., Chaucer to Rupert Brooke, 1880-1918; Campbell, *British Poets*, 1845; Scott, *Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border*; Quiller-Couch, *Oxford Book of English Verse*, 1900; Quiller-Couch, *Oxford Book of Victorian Verse*, 1912; Newbolt's *English Anthology of Prose and Verse*; Chambers, *English Pastorals*, 1895; Manly, *English Poetry (1170-1892)*; Herford, *Tales in Verse*, 1896.

Everyman's Library editions of Browning (2 vols.), Tennyson (2 vols.), Burns, Keats, Wordsworth (2 vols.), Chaucer, Matthew Arnold, Percy's *Reliques of Ancient English Poetry* (2 vols.), Longfellow, Milton, Gray, Goldsmith, Emerson and Byron; *Book of British Ballads*; *Volume of Heroic Verse*; *Early Romances of William Morris*.

CONTENTS

	PAGE
THE KNIGHTS TALE	<i>Geoffrey Chaucer</i> 1
LONDON LICKPENNY	<i>John Lydgate</i> 53
ROBIN HOOD'S END	<i>Anon.</i> 57
THE RESTLESS STATE OF A LOVER	<i>Earl of Surrey</i> 61
ON THE DEATH OF SIR THOMAS	
WYATT	<i>Earl of Surrey</i> 62
OF THE COURTIER'S LIFE	<i>Sir Thomas Wyatt</i> 63
PROTHALAMION	<i>Edmund Spenser</i> 66
THE IMAGE OF DEATH	<i>Lord Vaux</i> 71
AGINCOURT	<i>Michael Drayton</i> 72
MUSIC'S DUEL	<i>Richard Crashaw</i> 76
FORTUNE AND VIRTUE	<i>Thomas Dekker</i> 80
TO THE MEMORY OF SHAKESPEARE	<i>Ben Jonson</i> 81
ODE ON LEAVING THE GREAT TOWN	<i>Thomas Randolph</i> 83
THE NYMPH ON THE DEATH OF	
HER FAWN	<i>Andrew Marvell</i> 85
ON THE MORNING OF CHRIST'S	
NATIVITY	<i>John Milton</i> 88
THE CHRONICLE	<i>Abraham Cowley</i> 95
THE NEW YEAR	<i>Charles Cotton</i> 98
THE WORLD	<i>Henry Vaughan</i> 99
HOME	<i>Joseph Beaumont</i> 101
THE HERMIT	<i>Thomas Parnell</i> 103
PROTOGENES AND APELLES.	<i>Matthew Prior</i> 109
BAUCIS AND PHILEMON	<i>Jonathan Swift</i> 111
ESSAY ON MAN (SECOND EPISTLE)	<i>Alexander Pope</i> 116
A NOCTURNAL REVERIE	<i>Countess of Winchilsea</i> 123
GRONGAR HILL	<i>John Dyer</i> 124
THE PASSIONS	<i>William Collins</i> 128
LONDON	<i>Samuel Johnson</i> 131
THE SCHOOLMISTRESS	<i>William Shenstone</i> 138
ELEGY WRITTEN IN A COUNTRY	
CHURCH-YARD	<i>Thomas Gray</i> 143
THE GRAVE OF KING ARTHUR	<i>Thomas Warton</i> 148
AN EXCELENTE BALADE OF	
CHARITIE	<i>Thomas Chatterton</i> 153
THE SHIPWRECK	<i>William Falconer</i> 155

	PAGE
THE DESERTED VILLAGE <i>Oliver Goldsmith</i>	158
A SONG TO DAVID <i>Christopher Smart</i>	170
TAM O' SHANTER <i>Robert Burns</i>	189
PHOEBE DAWSON <i>George Crabbe</i>	195
MICHAEL <i>W. Wordsworth</i>	198
LINES ON TINTERN ABBEY <i>W. Wordsworth</i>	210
CHRISTABEL <i>S. T. Coleridge</i>	214
GLENFINLAS <i>Sir W. Scott</i>	232
THE SIEGE OF CORINTH <i>Lord Byron</i>	241
ADONAI8 <i>P. B. Shelley</i>	270
THE SENSITIVE PLANT <i>P. B. Shelley</i>	287
THE EVE OF ST. AGNES <i>John Keats</i>	296
THE LOTOS-EATERS <i>Lord Tennyson</i>	306
ABT VOGLER <i>Robert Browning</i>	311
A DEATH IN THE DESERT <i>Robert Browning</i>	315
THE SCHOLAR GIPSY <i>Matthew Arnold</i>	332
GOBLIN MARKET <i>C. G. Rossetti</i>	338
THE BLESSED DAMOZEL <i>D. G. Rossetti</i>	352
THE DEATH OF CUCHULAIN <i>W. B. Yeats</i>	356
WORDSWORTH'S GRAVE <i>William Watson</i>	359
THE HOUND OF HEAVEN <i>Francis Thompson</i>	365
A LETTER FROM A GIRL TO HER OWN OLD AGE <i>Alice Meynell</i>	370
ELEGY—THE SUMMER-HOUSE ON THE MOUND <i>Robert Bridges</i>	372

For permission to use copyright verses acknowledgment is due and is hereby made: to Mr. Robert Bridges and Mr. John Murray for *The Summer-House on the Mound*; to Mrs. Meynell for *A Letter from a Girl to Her Own Old Age*; to Mr. Wilfrid Meynell for Francis Thompson's *The Hound of Heaven*; to Mr. William Watson for *Wordsworth's Grave*; and to Mr. W. B. Yeats for *The Death of Cuchulain*.