

**MODERN ENGLISH
WRITERS: ROBERT
LOUIS STEVENSON**

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Modern English Writers: Robert Louis Stevenson by L. Cope Cornford

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MODERN ENGLISH WRITERS


ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON

MODERN ENGLISH WRITERS.

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P R E F A C E.

As I have always been an eager student of Robert Louis Stevenson's work, so it was with peculiar pleasure that I entered upon the study of his finished achievement, and of his personality and temperament as expressed in that achievement. For, such were the terms of my ambition: and they may serve (at least) to define the limits of this essay. Beyond those limits it was not mine to adventure. That Mr Sidney Colvin has in preparation the authorised biography of Stevenson, is matter of common knowledge; and this consideration naturally prevented me from recording aught of the main facts of Stevenson's career, that has not been made public property already; and, for the same reason, I have abstained from making

any use of the series of Stevenson's *Letters* which have recently been published in a monthly magazine.

With the name of Robert Louis Stevenson is indissolubly connected the name of William Ernest Henley: and I delight to acknowledge, with the liveliest gratitude, the help which Mr Henley has given me in the making of this essay towards a just appreciation of his old comrade. And to John William Simpson, my old master in a noble and difficult art, I would render thanks for the service he did me in sign of our common admiration for Stevenson, the artist.

L. COPE CORNFORD.

OVINGDEAN GRANGE,
near BRIGHTON, *September 1899.*

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