

**BECKET**

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Becket by Alfred Tennyson

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**ALFRED TENNYSON**

**BECKET**



# BECKET

BY

ALFRED  
LORD TENNYSON

POET LAUREATE

London  
MACMILLAN AND CO.

1884

*Printed by R. & R. CLARK, Edinburgh.*

TO THE LORD CHANCELLOR,

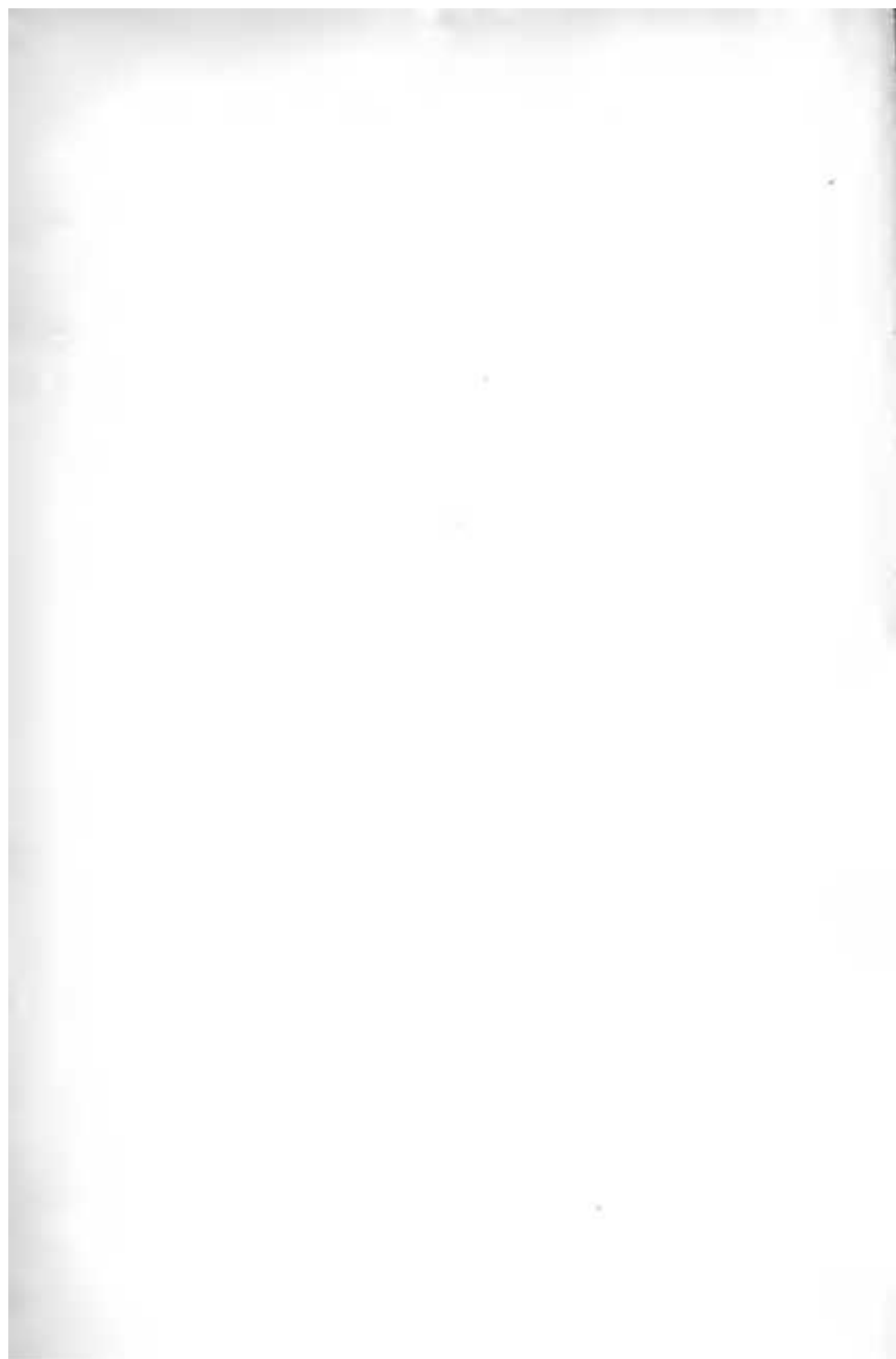
The Right Honourable Earl of Selborne.

MY DEAR SELBORNE,

*To you, the honoured Chancellor of our own day, I dedicate this dramatic memorial of your great predecessor;—which, altho' not intended in its present form to meet the exigencies of our modern theatre, has nevertheless—for so you have assured me—won your approbation.*

*Ever yours,*

TENNYSON.





DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.

- HENRY II. (*son of the Earl of Anjou*).
- THOMAS BECKET, *Chancellor of England, afterwards Archbishop of Canterbury.*
- GILBERT FOLIOT, *Bishop of London.*
- ROGER, *Archbishop of York.*  
*Bishop of Hereford.*
- HILARY, *Bishop of Chichester.*
- JOCELYN, *Bishop of Salisbury.*
- JOHN OF SALISBURY } *friends of Becket.*  
HERBERT OF BOSHAM }
- WALTER MAP, *reputed author of 'Goliath,' Latin poems against the priesthood.*
- KING LOUIS OF FRANCE.
- GEOFFREY, *son of Rosamund and Henry.*
- GRIM, *a monk of Cambridge.*
- SIR REGINALD FITZURSE }  
SIR RICHARD DE BRITO } *the four knights of the King's*  
SIR WILLIAM DE TRACY } *household, enemies of Becket.*  
SIR HUGH DE MORVILLE }
- DE BROC OF SALTWOOD CASTLE.
- LORD LEICESTER.
- PHILIP DE ELEEMOSYNA.
- TWO KNIGHT TEMPLARS.
- JOHN OF OXFORD (*called the Swearer*).
- ELEANOR OF AQUITAINE, *Queen of England (divorced from Louis of France).*
- ROSAMUND DE CLIFFORD.
- MARGERY.

*Knights, Monks, Beggars, etc.*



# BECKET.

## PROLOGUE.

*A Castle in Normandy. Interior of the Hall. Roofs  
of a City seen thro' Windows.*

HENRY and BECKET at chess.

HENRY.

So then our good Archbishop Theobald  
Lies dying.

BECKET.

I am grieved to know as much.

HENRY.

But we must have a mightier man than he  
For his successor.

BECKET.

Have you thought of one?

Ⓔ

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