# INITIATION INTO LITERATURE

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649613687

Initiation into Literature by Émile Faguet

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

# **ÉMILE FAGUET**

# INITIATION INTO LITERATURE



# INITIATION INTO LITERATURE

:

1

.

..

BY

#### **ÉMILE FAGUET**

OF THE PRENCH ACADEMY

AUTHOR OF "THE CULT OF INCOMPETENCE," "INITIATION INTO PHILOSOPHY," ETC.

WITH ADDITION'S SPECIALLY WRITTEN FOR THE ENGLISH EDITION

TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH BY SIR HOME GORDON, BART.

G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS NEW YORK AND LONDON The Knickerbocker Press 1914

#### PREFACE

;

,

:

,

THIS volume, as indicated by the title, is designed to show the way to the beginner, to satisfy and more especially to excite his initial curiosity. It affords an adequate idea of the march of facts and of ideas. The reader is led, somewhat rapidly, from the remote origins to the most recent efforts of the human mind.

It should be a convenient repertory to which the mind may revert in order to see broadly the general opinion of an epoch—and what connected it with those that followed or preceded it. It aims above all at being a frame in which can conveniently be inscribed, in the course of further studies, new conceptions more detailed and more thoroughly examined.

It will have fulfilled its design should it incite to research and meditation, and if it prepares for them correctly.

E. FAGUET.

#### CONTENTS

•	CHAPTER I
	ANCIENT INDIA
	The Vedas. Buddhist Literature. Great Epic Poems, then very Diverse, much Shorter Poems.
	Dramatic Literature. Moral Literature . 1
1	CHAPTER II
	HEBRAIC LITERATURE
	The Bible, a Collection of Epic, Lyric, Elegiac, and Sententious Writings. The Talmud, Book of Ordinances. The Gospels
:	of Ordinances. The Gospels 9
	CHAPTER III
	THE GREEKS
	Homer. Hesiod. Elegiac and Lyric Poets. Prose Writers. Philosophers and Historians. Lyric
	Poets. Dramatic Poets. Comic Poets. Ora-
	tors. Romancers
	VII

#### Contents

#### CHAPTER IV

THE LATINS	
The Latins, Imitators of the Greeks. Epic Poets. Dramatic Poets. Golden Age: Virgil, Horace, Ovid. Silver Age: Prose Writers, Historians, and Philosophers: Titus-Livy, Tacitus, Seneca. Decadence Still Brilliant	PAGE 45
CHAPTER V	
THE MIDDLE AGES: FRANCE	
Chansons de Geste: Song of Roland and Lyric Poetry. Popular Epopee: Romances of Renard. Popular Short Stories: Fables. Historians. The Allegorical Poem: Romance of the Rose. Drama.	66
CHAPTER VI	
THE MIDDLE AGES: ENGLAND	
Literature in Latin, in Anglo-Saxon, and in Prench. The Ancestor of English Literature: Chaucer .	74
CHAPTER VII	
THE MIDDLE AGES: GERMANY	
Epic Poems: Nibelungen. Popular Poems. Very Numerous Lyric Poems. Drama	77
CHAPTER VIII	
THE MIDDLE AGES: ITALY	
Troubadours of Southern Italy. Neapolitan and Sicilian Poets: Dante, Petrarch, Boccaccio .	18

#### CHAPTER IX

THE MIDDLE AGES:	BPAIN AN	D PORT	Constitution of the Consti
Epic Poems: Romanceros.	Didactic	Books.	Ro-
mances of Chivalry			. 88

#### CHAPTER X

# THE SIXTEENTH AND SEVENTHENTH CENTURIES: FRANCE

First Portion of Sixteenth Century: Poets: Marot,

١

Saint-Gelais; Prose Writers: Rabelais, Comines.
Second Portion of Sixteenth Century: Poets;
"The Pleiade"; Prose Writers: Amyot,
Montaigne. First Portion of Seventeenth
Century: Intellectual and Brilliant Poets:
Malherbe, Corneille; Great Prose Writers:
Balzac, Descartes. Second Portion of Seventeenth Century: Poets: Racine, Molière, Boileau,
La Fontaine; Prose Writers: Bossuet, Pascal, La
Bruyère, Fénelon, etc.

#### CHAPTER XI

#### . THE SIXTBENTH AND SEVENTEENTH CENTURIES:

#### ENGLAND

#### CHAPTER XII

### THE SIXTEENTH AND SEVENTEENTH CENTURIES: GERMANY

Luther, Zwingli, Albert Dürer, Leibnitz, Gottsched 123

-	distribute the	****
CHA	PTER	XIII

### THE SIXTEENTH AND SEVENTEENTH CENTURIES:

PAGE

Poets: Ariosto, Tasso, Guarini, Polengo, Marini, etc. Prose Writers: Machiavelli, Guicciardini, Davila 127

#### CHAPTER XIV

#### THE SIXTEENTH AND SEVENTEENTH CENTURIES: SPAIN AND PORTUGAL

#### CHAPTER XV

#### THE EIGHTEENTH AND NINETEENTH CENTURIES:

#### FRANCE

Of the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries:
Fontenelle, Bayle. Of the Eighteenth; Poets;
La Motte, Jean Baptiste Rousseau, Voltaire,
etc.; Prose Writers: Montesquieu, Voltaire,
Buffon, Jean Jacques Rousseau, etc. Of the
Nineteenth Century: Poets: Lamartine, Victor
Hugo, Musset, Vigny, etc.; Prose Writers:
Chateaubriand, Michelet, George Sand, Mérimée,
Renan, etc.

#### CHAPTER XVI

## THE EIGHTEENTH AND NINETEENTH CENTURIES: ENGLAND

Poets of the Eighteenth Century: Pope, Young, Macpherson, etc. Prose Writers of the Eighteenth

~	100	
Cor	110	ntc
1.01	1	

			۰
4	u	۰	٠
з	١	L	1

	PAGE
	Century: Daniel Defoe, Richardson, Fielding, Swift, Sterne, David Hume. Poets of the Nine- teenth Century: Byron, Shelley, the Lake Poets. Prose Writers of the Nineteenth Century: Walter
	Scott, Macaulay, Dickens, Carlyle 197
	CHAPTER XVII
	THE EIGHTEENTH AND NINETEENTH CENTURIES: GERMANY
:	Poets of the Eighteenth Century: Klopstock, Lessing, Wieland. Prose Writers of the Eighteenth Cen-
×	tury: Herder, Kant. Poets of the Nineteenth Century: Goethe, Schiller, Körner 209
	CHAPTER XVIII
	THE EIGHTEENTH AND NINETEENTH CENTURIES: ITALY
,	Poets: Metastasio, Goldoni, Alfieri, Monti, Leopardi, Prose Writers: Silvio Pellico, Fogazzaro, etc 219
.18	CHAPTER XIX
	THE EIGHTEENTH AND NINETEENTH CENTURIES: SPAIN
¥.	The Drama still Brilliant: Moratin. Historians and Philosophers, Novelists, Orators 222
,	CHAPTER XX
	RUSSIAN LITERATURE
*	Middle Ages. Some Epic Narratives. Renaissance in the Seventeenth Century. Literature Imita- tive of the West in the Eighteenth Century.
	Original Literature in the Nineteenth Century 227
(a)	