

**KING ALFRED'S  
DREAMS, AND  
OTHER POEMS**

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King Alfred's Dreams, and Other Poems by Frederick W. Ragg

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**FREDERICK W. RAGG**

**KING ALFRED'S  
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**KING ALFRED'S DREAMS**

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QUORSUM? THE CRY OF HUMAN SUFFERING

*A Poem*

LONDON: RIVINGTONS

# KING ALFRED'S DREAMS

*AND OTHER POEMS*

BY

FREDERICK W. RAGG, M.A.

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FORMERLY OF TRINITY COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE

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RIVINGTONS

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LONDON

1899

To

THE MOST HONOURABLE  
CONSTANCE, MARCHIONESS OF LOTHIAN

YOUR KIND PERMISSION  
GIVEN TO ME TO DEDICATE THESE POEMS  
TO YOU  
CAUSES ME AT ONCE TO HOPE  
THAT THEY ARE WORTHY  
AND TO WISH  
THAT THEY WERE WORTHER  
OF THE HONOUR



## PREFACE

OF the old Northern mythology, so far as it was the mythology of our English forefathers, so much is lost that it is impossible to know what was remembered of it in King Alfred's days. I have therefore preferred to imagine that it was all but forgotten, and that he learnt about it, as he learnt descriptions of the nations of the North, from Norwegian lips. The Norse gods are thus referred to in their Norse names. Of the Greek mythology King Alfred learnt what he knew through Latin writers, but here I have taken a somewhat analogous liberty by giving their Greek names. A lover of Greek could hardly do otherwise. Notes, with the few explanations that seemed needful, will be found at the end of the volume.

The legendary voice referred to on the second page is the entry under the year 571, A.D., in the Anglo-Saxon chronicle recording the conquest of the Vale of Aylesbury, the watershed, and the Ouse Valley down to Bedford, along the lines of the Icknield and the Engle Ways.

F. W. RAGG.

Κύριε . . . σὰ τὰ πάντα καὶ ἐκ τῶν σῶν δεδάκαμεν σοι,  
1 *Αἴτησ.* κκίχ. 14.



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