

**GIORDANO BRUNO:  
PHILOSOPHER AND  
MARTYR: TWO  
ADDRESSES**

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Giordano Bruno: Philosopher and Martyr: Two Addresses by Daniel G. Brinton & Thomas Davidson

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**DANIEL G. BRINTON & THOMAS DAVIDSON**

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TWO ADDRESSES**



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TWO ADDRESSES.

BY  
DANIEL G. BRINTON, M.D.,  
AND  
THOMAS DAVIDSON, M.A.



PHILADELPHIA:  
DAVID McKAY, PUBLISHER,  
No. 23 SOUTH NINTH STREET.  
1890.

*As America's mental courage (the thought comes to me to-day)  
is so indebted, above all current lands and peoples, to the noble  
army of old-world martyrs past, how incumbent on us that we  
clear those martyrs' lives and names, and hold them up for  
reverent admiration as well as beacons. And typical of this,  
and standing for it and all perhaps, Giordano Bruno may well  
be put, to-day and to come, in our New World's thankfulest  
heart and memory.*

**WALT WHITMAN.**

*February 24th, 1890.  
Camden, N. J.*

## PREFATORY NOTE.

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The Contemporary Club, of Philadelphia—an association of men and women formed for the discussion of the leading questions of the day—selected the subject of Giordano Bruno for its meeting on January 14, 1890.

The heated controversies which had attended the erection of a statue to Bruno in Rome the year previous, and the numerous articles which had appeared concerning him in the recent magazines and papers, both European and American, signalized his individuality and his thought as manifestly present topics of interest to reflective minds. The two addresses printed in this little volume were read before the Club on the date mentioned, and are presented without alteration. Of course, it will be understood that they exhibit the opinions of the writers, and are not an official expression of the sentiments of the Club as a body.

It appeared the more desirable to print them in their present form on account of the difficulty of





obtaining accurate information about Bruno, or access to his works. None of these has been translated into English, and the Italian and Latin originals are extremely rarely to be found, even in our largest libraries.

Of biographies in English, Frith's "Life of Giordano Bruno," published by Messrs. Trübner & Co., London, is much the best, and a book to be recommended.

The lines by Walt Whitman will be appreciated by all who are in sympathy with his sterling philosophy of life. They were written after reading the first of the addresses here published, his infirmities preventing him from attending the meeting of the Club, of which he is an honored member.

The engraving on the title page represents the statue erected to Bruno on the Campo de' Fiori, Rome, and is copied from the medal struck to celebrate that event.

D. G. BRINTON.

*Philadelphia,*  
*March, 1890.*

**GIORDANO BRUNO:**  
**HIS LIFE AND HIS PHILOSOPHY.**

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**BY DANIEL G. BRINTON, M.D.**

## GIORDANO BRUNO:

### HIS LIFE AND HIS PHILOSOPHY.

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*Mr. President and Fellow Members:—*

Something more than five-and-twenty years ago I listened to some lectures at the Sorbonne on Giordano Bruno, his life and his philosophy. I remember that a fellow student expressed his opinion that they were a deadly bore—*ennu-yeux à mourir*. I hope that whatever other fault you find with me in treating the same subject I shall not fall under this worst of condemnations.

At that time Bruno was but one of a number of obscure philosophers of the Renaissance with whom the lecturer was dealing. Last winter in Italy I found that the name of Giordano Bruno was a war-cry, ringing from Sicily to the