

**GLAUCUS AND SILLA,
WITH OTHER LYRICAL
AND PASTORAL POEMS**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649510733

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Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

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Christchurch :

FROM THE PRESS OF C. WHITTINGHAM;

COLLEGE HOUSE.

M DCCC XIX.

PREFACE.

THOMAS Lodge is said by Wood to have been of a Lincolnshire family, and was probably born about the year 1556. In 1578 he made his entry into the University of Oxford, and became a Servitor or Scholar of Trinity College, "under the learned and virtuous Sir Edward Hobbye." Here his talent for verse soon discovered itself, and he was known and distinguished as an excellent scholar, and successful votary of the Muse. It should seem that he soon after quitted his peaceful studies for a more adventurous life, and made a voyage with Captain Clarke to the Canaries*, and probably another with Cavendish†. During the leisure afforded

* —"being myselfe first a student, and afterwards falling from bookes to armes.—Having with Captaine Clarke made a voyage to the Ilands of Terceras and the Canaries, to beguile the time with labour, I writ this booke: rough as hatcht in the stormes of the ocean, and feathered in the surges of many perillous seas."—*Dedication to the Lord of Hunsdon, "Euphues."* Edlt. 1592.

† "Touching the place where I wrote this, it was in those straits christened by Magelan; in which place to the southward many wondrous Iles, many strange fishes, many monstrous Patagones withdrew my senses; briefly, many bitter and extreme frosts at midsummer continually clothe and clad the discomfortable mountaines."—*Dedication to the Lady Russell, Margerite of America, 1596.*

In the address "to the Gentlemen Readers" prefixed to the same work, he says: "Som foure yeres since being at sea with M: Candish (whose memorie if I repent not, I lament not) it was my chance in the librarie of the Iesuits in Sanctum to find this historie in the Spanish toug."

him at sea, he exercised his invention in the production of one or two of the novels which he gave to the world on his return. He is said by Wood to have studied medicine at Avignon, and to have taken his degree of Doctor in that faculty there: thus abandoning the unproductive life of a poet, and wisely embracing the more profitable one of a Physician, but possibly rather from necessity than choice*. The dedication to one of his pieces, in 1596, is dated "from my house at Low Laiton in Essex: but he appears to have been ultimately settled in London, and to have practised very extensively in his profession. It is presumed that he was a catholic, as he was much patronised by persons of that religion. He dwelt in 1603, in Warwick Lane, and complains, in the preface to his "Treatise of the Plague," of the annoyance he met with from an advertising quack, who had become his neighbour, and put forth bills promising miracles. "At the first he underwrit not his billes, every one that red them came flocking to me, conjuring me by great profers and perswasions to store them with my promised preservatives. These importunities of theirs made me both agreeded, and amazed; agreeded because of that loathsome imposition which was laid upon me, to make myselfe vendible, (which is vaworthy a liberall and gentle minde, much more ill beseeming a phisitian and philosopher, who ought not to prostitute so sacred a profession so abjectly, but be a contemner of base and servile desire of mony," &c. He afterwards resided on Lambert Hill, and not long before his death

* In the title to "Glaucus and Scilla, 1599," and to "Catharos Diogenes, in his singularitie," 1591, he styles himself "T. L. of Lincoln's Inne, Gent." so that he may have previously intended applying himself to the law as a profession. He is also thus designated in the title to "A Fig for Momus."—1595.

he removed to the vicinity of Old Fish Street, where, says Wood: "he made his last exit (of the plague I think) in September, 1675, leaving then behind him a widow called Joan." The place of his interment is not known, but it was probably in the church or church-yard of St. Mary Magdalen, close by.

The present is an attempt to collect together the verses of this unjustly neglected poet. A second part will contain the "Fig for Momus," (which has already been made known to a few select literati, by the very elegant fac-simile printed at the private press of Alexander Boswell, Esq. M. P. of Auchinlech,) to this will be added such other fugitive verses as have hitherto eluded my researches; his "Phyllis," and those poems in the "England's Helicon," and "Phoenix Nest," which are not already in the present collection.

Sir Egerton Brydges, in his preface to "England's Helicon," has paid a just and eloquent tribute to his genius, and says with great truth, that "In Lodge we find whole pastorals and odes which have all the ease, polish, and refinement of a modern author." It is indeed true that "Ignorance did never more impudently expose itself than when it awarded to Waller the praise of having first refined our verse, and to Pope that of having perfected it!" for the present volume will manifestly shew that this refinement was happily anticipated by Lodge, not to name some of his more powerful cotemporaries. He has also a claim to be considered the "first English satirist," preceding the publication of Hall's Satires by two years, and writing with a spirit, ease, and harmony, never surpassed, if equalled by him; yet observe the capricious nature of posthumous fame, the "Fig for Momus" is almost un-

known to modern readers, while Hall enjoys high and not unmerited reputation, but which might justly be shared by Lodge. If the limits of this brief preface would allow it, beautiful specimens might be adduced of natural sentiment, simplicity, purity and sweetness of expression in the following compositions; but the reader will be better pleased to make his own selection, and I have yet some exquisite morsels in store for him. Away then with the flimsy, petulant, and sweeping censure of Mr. George Steevens, who, in mentioning Shakspeare's use of the "Euphues," in framing the fable of his exquisite comedy of "As You Like it," remarks, that "he has followed Lodge's novel more exactly than is his custom when he is indebted to such worthless originals." This must have been written in one of those purblind or splenetic moods which occasionally overtook the critic, and which made him pronounce the immortal Shakspeare a worse sonneteer than Watson, and say that no act of parliament, however strongly framed, would compel any one to read his poems. Let the reader turn to "Rosalind's Madrigal," at p. 77, taken from this contemned performance, and decide.

It must be acknowledged that Lodge is not always free from the defects which mark the poetry of his age, and occasional quaintness and conceit disfigure his compositions, yet upon the whole he is more free from them, than many of his more celebrated cotemporaries; and we can only account for the neglect into which he has fallen, by supposing that his scattered pamphlets have been so rare as to elude the search of those who from time to time have done justice to our earlier poets. This rarity has operated in the present instance, for in the following list of his pieces, which contains all I have found any

notice of, there are two or three which I have as yet not been fortunate enough to get access to.

Alarum against Usurers,—with the Delectable History of Forbonius and Prisceria.—1584.

Scillaes Metamorphosis, with sundrie other most absolute Poems and Sonnets.—1589.

Catharos. Diogenes in his Singularitie, &c. christened by him a Nettle for Nice Noses.—1591.

The Life and Death of William Longbeard, &c. accompanied with many other prettie Histories.—1593.

Rosalynde. Eaphues' Golden Legacy.—1590, 1592, 1620.

Phillis: honoured with Pastoral Sonnets, Elegies, and amorous delights. Whereunto is annexed the Tragical Complaint of Elstred (*consisting of 40 Sonnets*) 4to.—1593.

A Fig for Momus: containing Pleasant Varietie, included in Satyres, Eclogues, and Epistles.—1595.

A Margarite of America.—1596.

The Diuel Conjured.—1596.

Wits Miserie, and the World's Madnesse. Discovering the Devil's incarnate of this Age.—1596.

The Wounds of Civil War: lively set forth in the true Tragedies of Marius and Silla.—1594.

A Treatise of the Plague.—1603.

The Poore Man's Legacie, a Treatise on Domestic Medicine; addressed to the Countess of Arundel. MS.

The Works of L. A. Seneca, folio.—1614, 1620.

The History of Josephus, folio.—1602, 1609, 1620.

A Looking Glass for London and England; a Tragi-Comedy, written in conjunction with Robert Greene, 4to.—London: 1598.