

**CLARENDON PRESS SERIES;
THE IDYLLS AND EPIGRAMS
COMMONLY ATTRIBUTED
TO THEOCRITUS**

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Clarendon Press Series; The Idylls and Epigrams Commonly Attributed to Theocritus by
Herbert Kynaston

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HERBERT KYNASTON

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Clarendon Press Series

THE
IDYLLS AND EPIGRAMS

COMMONLY ATTRIBUTED TO

THEOCRITUS

WITH ENGLISH NOTES

BY

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P R E F A C E

I HAVE endeavoured, in writing the Notes to this Edition of Theocritus, to give such help as would be required by boys in the higher forms of schools, and to offer remarks which would not be beneath the notice of men reading Classics at the Universities. I have purposely dealt more with illustration than with criticism; giving references without quotation to books which the readers are likely to have at hand, and quoting the passages referred to from less common books.

It may perhaps seem a useless work (and by some be considered no work at all) to edit Theocritus without an elaborate critical examination of the Text, and a dissertation upon the genuineness of those Idylls which have been declared unworthy of the Syracusan Poet. But the time requisite for the former, which must be spent in collating MSS., and in overcoming the difficulties of such an occupation by daily experience, can only be at the disposal of those whose sole business and pleasure it is so to spend it. Would that I were one of that number! I know no author who would better repay such a work than Theocritus; the elegance of whose natural flow of graceful verse must attract with ever increasing power those who 'listen to his sweet pipings.'

Many have already ably worked to bring this music to the ears and hearts of those to whose tongues its utter-