

**COLERIDGE'S, THE
RIME OF THE
ANCIENT MARINER**

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Coleridge's, The Rime of the Ancient Mariner by Lincoln R. Gibbs

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LINCOLN R. GIBBS

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ANCIENT MARINER**



S. T. Coleridge

(After a painting by PHILLIPS)

COLERIDGE'S
THE RIME OF
THE ANCIENT MARINER

EDITED, WITH INTRODUCTION AND NOTES

BY

LINCOLN R. GIBBS, M.A.

ROSTON, U.S.A.
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PREFACE.

THIS edition of *The Ancient Mariner* aims to include the information and critical comment necessary to an intelligent appreciation of the poem. As a help to that end, it has been thought desirable to print the original version (1798), since the differences between that and the final version afford an especially valuable opportunity for training in discrimination and taste.

The interest which attaches to the personal history of Coleridge has, unfortunately, little in common with the interest which attaches to *The Ancient Mariner*. It has, therefore, seemed proper to include in this volume only a short biographical sketch. Students who may be impelled by a laudable curiosity to seek a more detailed knowledge of the poet's life are referred to the biographies by Hall Caine, Dr. Alois Brandl (translated into English by Lady Eastlake), and J. Dykes Campbell. Coleridge's own *Biographia Literaria*, in spite of its fragmentary character, is essential to a knowledge of his intellectual and moral development.

Methods of teaching *The Ancient Mariner* must differ widely with different teachers and pupils. All efforts, however, should be subordinated to the aim of helping students to read with their imaginations — to see what Coleridge describes. In order to arouse the attention and

interest necessary to attain this end, students should be required to do something for themselves. The editor has found very useful the plan of assigning to different pupils the task of writing short papers, the best of which may be read to the class, on topics drawn from the poem, such as the diction and imagery of *The Ancient Mariner*, *The Ancient Mariner* as a ballad, the changes made in the poem since the version of 1798, the moral teaching of the poem.

The text of the first version in this volume I believe to be faithfully copied, with a few unimportant changes in punctuation and typography, from the edition of 1829; that of the version of 1798 is reprinted from the appendix of J. Dykes Campbell's edition of the poetical works of Coleridge (London and New York, 1893).

L. R. G.

BOSTON, MASS.,
Jan. 5, 1898.

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