

**THE STUDENTS' SECRET OF
ENGLISH CLASSICS. REVOLT
OF THE TARTARS OR FLIGHT
OF THE KALMUCK KHAN**

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The Students' Secret of English Classics. Revolt of the Tartars or Flight of the Kalmuck Khan by
Thomas De Quincey & Franklin T. Baker

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THOMAS DE QUINCEY & FRANKLIN T. BAKER

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The Students' Series of English Classics.

REVOLT OF THE TARTARS

OR

FLIGHT OF THE KALMUCK KHAN

BY

THOMAS DE QUINCEY

EDITED BY

FRANKLIN T. BAKER, A.M.

PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH IN THE TEACHERS' COLLEGE, NEW YORK CITY



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PREFACE.

THE text of the present edition of De Quincey's *The Revolt of the Tartars* is based upon his revision in 1854 for his collected works. It has seemed best, however, to change the text in the slight degree needed to modernize it, because the special aim of this edition is to assist in preparing students for the college requirements in English. For the same reason, the Critical Notes have been made to take account of the linguistic rather than the literary side of the work. This has seemed the more justifiable for the reason that this work of De Quincey's has, perhaps, less of literary excellence than some of his other writings. The Explanatory Notes relating to the geography of the country should be used in connection with good maps of Russia and Siberia. It may help to arouse the pupil's interest to have him attempt to trace, from the somewhat meagre details given by the author, the route of the Tartars. But any use of the Notes which would stand between the pupil and his study of the book as language and literature would be "from the purpose" of this edition.

F. T. B.

TEACHERS COLLEGE, NEW YORK.
October, 1896.

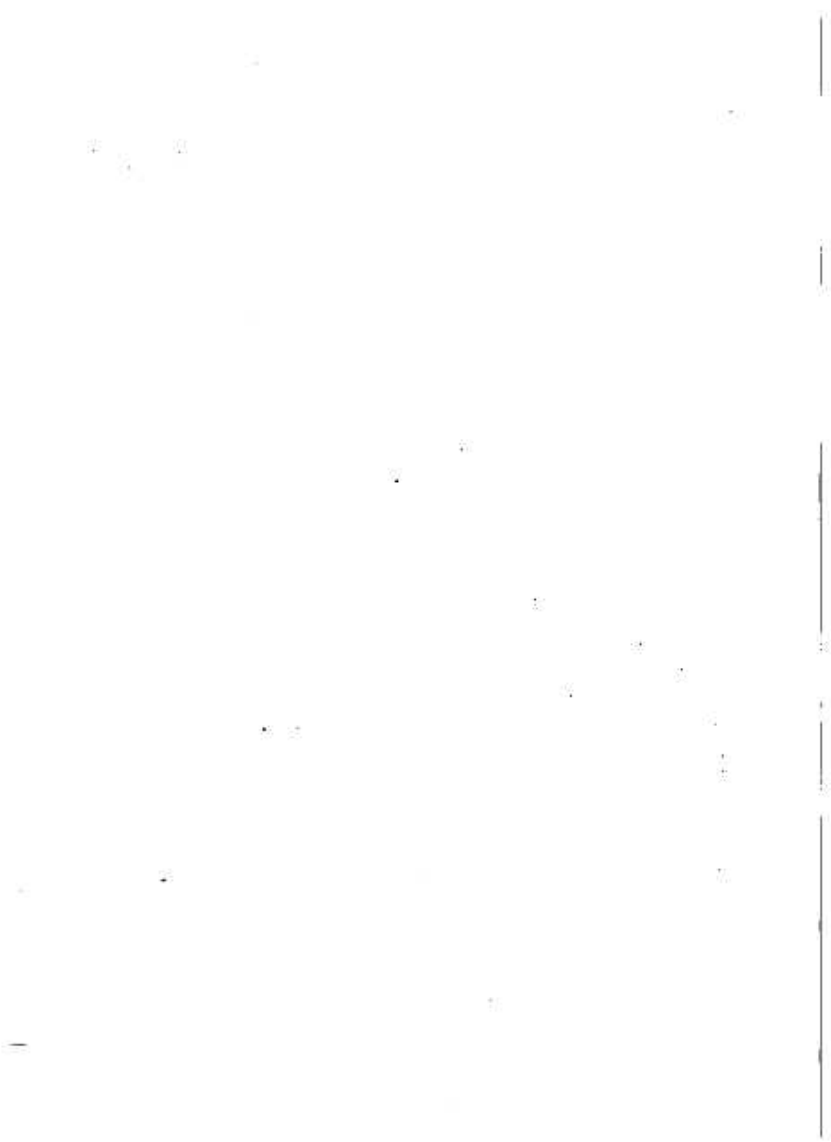


Figure 1: A line graph showing the relationship between the number of people (x-axis) and the number of people per person (y-axis). The x-axis ranges from 0 to 100, and the y-axis ranges from 0 to 1.0. The graph shows a series of points connected by lines, forming a curve that starts at (0, 0) and ends at (100, 1.0). The curve is concave down, indicating that the number of people per person decreases as the total number of people increases.

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LIFE OF THOMAS DE QUINCEY.

THE events of real interest in the life of Thomas De Quincey may be briefly told. He was born Aug. 15, 1785, in Manchester, England, and died in Edinburgh, Dec. 8, 1859. His life was thus coextensive with two of the greatest periods of English literature,— with the so-called Lake school and the early Victorian era.

His father, a descendant of Richard De Quincy of the time of the Conqueror, the first of the Earls of Winchester, was a successful merchant, a man of literary tastes, and of some literary ability. In the *Gentleman's Magazine*, in 1772, he published a series of articles under the title, "A Tour in the Midland Counties of England." The articles were signed T— Q—. The prefix *De* of the name had been in disuse for some time, but was resumed by our author. These papers show intelligent observation, an eye for the picturesque and beautiful, and an occasional elevation of thought to the verge of the poetic. De Quincey's mother is described as a woman of stately ways, refined tastes, and unusual endowments, but with perhaps too much of unbending firmness, too much regard to established social usages, and too little sympathetic insight to be the wisest guide to this precocious and sensitive child with his dreams and vagaries.

De Quincey's childhood was spent with his brothers and