

**ARCADY, FOR BETTER  
FOR WORSE: A STUDY OF  
RURAL LIFE IN ENGLAND**

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Arcady, for Better for Worse: A Study of Rural Life in England by Augustus Jessopp

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**AUGUSTUS JESSOPP**

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*ARCADY:*  
*FOR BETTER FOR WORSE.*

*Love thou thy land, with love far brought  
From out the storied past, and used  
Within the present, but transfused  
Thro' future time by power of thought.*

*True love turn'd round on fixed poles,  
Love, that endures not sordid ends,  
For English natures, freemen, friends,  
Thy brothers and immortal souls.*

*But pamper not a hasty time,  
Nor feed with crude imaginings  
The herd, wild hearts, and feeble wings,  
That every sophister can lime.*



A SHEPHERD OF ARCADY.

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# ARCADY

FOR BETTER FOR WORSE

*A STUDY OF RURAL LIFE IN ENGLAND*

BY

AUGUSTUS JESSOPP D.D.

Author of

*"One Generation of a Norfolk House: A Contribution to Elizabethan History," &c., &c.*

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1887



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"The foolish and the dead alone never change their opinions."—LOWELL.

*TO MY AMERICAN READERS.*

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IT was a great pleasure to me to hear that an American publisher had resolved on issuing an edition of this volume for readers on the other side of the Atlantic. I scarcely remember the time when I had not a strong desire to spend some months in the United States, and to see with my own eyes the life on a large scale which I was told my kindred in the West were living. Circumstances have never been favourable, and I am resigned now to not paying that visit which I once looked forward to with so much eagerness.

But it is only a pleasure deferred. Sooner or later I shall shuffle off this mortal coil, and when I enter upon a higher existence, it is my intention, before wandering through infinite space, and roaming among other worlds, to hover over and haunt America, and bid my spirit dwell for a season there and see how my brethren fare. I have learned to acquiesce in my mundane ignorance, while I have no doubt that by and by the illimitable universe, with its measureless fields of phenomena, will be displayed to my ken, and all the past of all the worlds will be open to me to survey at my will.

Meanwhile, there is a joy in feeling that even here, while this muddy vesture of decay doth grossly close us in, there are those across the little