THE NEW PLUTARCH; JOAN OF ARC "THE MAID"

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The New Plutarch; Joan of Arc "The Maid" by Janet Tuckey

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JANET TUCKEY

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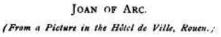
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JOAN OF ARC

"THE MAID"

BY JANET TUCKEY

"I shall be well content with any choice Tends to God's glory and my country's weal."

King Henry VI.





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PREFACE.

OF all stories in history, not one needs explanation or apology less than the story of Joan of Arc. The more simply it is told, the more must teller and listener alike be stirred to admiration and touched with pity.

Among heroines of history, this young girl stands foremost in a rare union of qualities. The soldier's courage, the patriot's devotion, the purity of a saint, and the constancy of a martyr, were all, in her, blended with and glorified by the very truest womanliness.

It seems, to one who has pondered long over the history of her life, as if she should hardly be offered for an example to us, so far did she go beyond our power of following. But even this brief record of her true and beautiful life may help to shame those who have known no aim higher than self-delight—whose lives are untrue and unlovely for lack of that honest goodness which made her what she was.

Those who desire to know her more fully, I would send to the French writers whose able and love-guided pens have shown her plainly to a world which had long misunderstood her. Among their numerous works, I would specially name the *Procès de Jeanne d'Arc*, in five volumes, edited by M. Jules Quicherat, and the temperate and sympathetic life of the Maid, by M. Henri Wallon.

J. T.

Kew, January, 1880.