

# **A TREASURY OF ENGLISH PROSE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649233519

A treasury of English prose by Logan Pearsall Smith

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**LOGAN PEARSALL SMITH**

**A TREASURY OF  
ENGLISH PROSE**



# A TREASURY OF ENGLISH PROSE

EDITED BY  
LOGAN PEARSALL SMITH



BOSTON AND NEW YORK  
HOUGHTON MIFFLIN COMPANY  
*The Riverside Press Cambridge*

1920

COPYRIGHT, 1920, BY HOUGHTON MIFFLIN COMPANY

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

I HAD an idea that a Man might pass a very pleasant life in this manner. Let him on a certain day read a certain page of full Poesy or distilled Prose, and let him wander with it, and muse upon it and reflect from it, and dream upon it: until it becomes stale — But when will it do so? Never — When a man has arrived at a certain ripeness in intellect any one grand and spiritual passage serves him as a starting-post towards all the “two-and-thirty Palaces.” How happy is such a voyage of conception, what delicious, diligent indolence!

KEATS.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

THE editor acknowledges his indebtedness to the authors and publishers for permission to use copyright material from the following books:—

*Essays in London and Elsewhere* and *The Ambassadors*, by HENRY JAMES, published by Harper & Brothers.

*The Wings of the Dove*, by HENRY JAMES, published by Charles Scribner's Sons.

*The Vailima Letters*, by ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON, published by Charles Scribner's Sons.

*Man and Superman*, by GEORGE BERNARD SHAW, published by Brentano's.

*Youth*, by JOSEPH CONRAD, published by Doubleday, Page & Co.

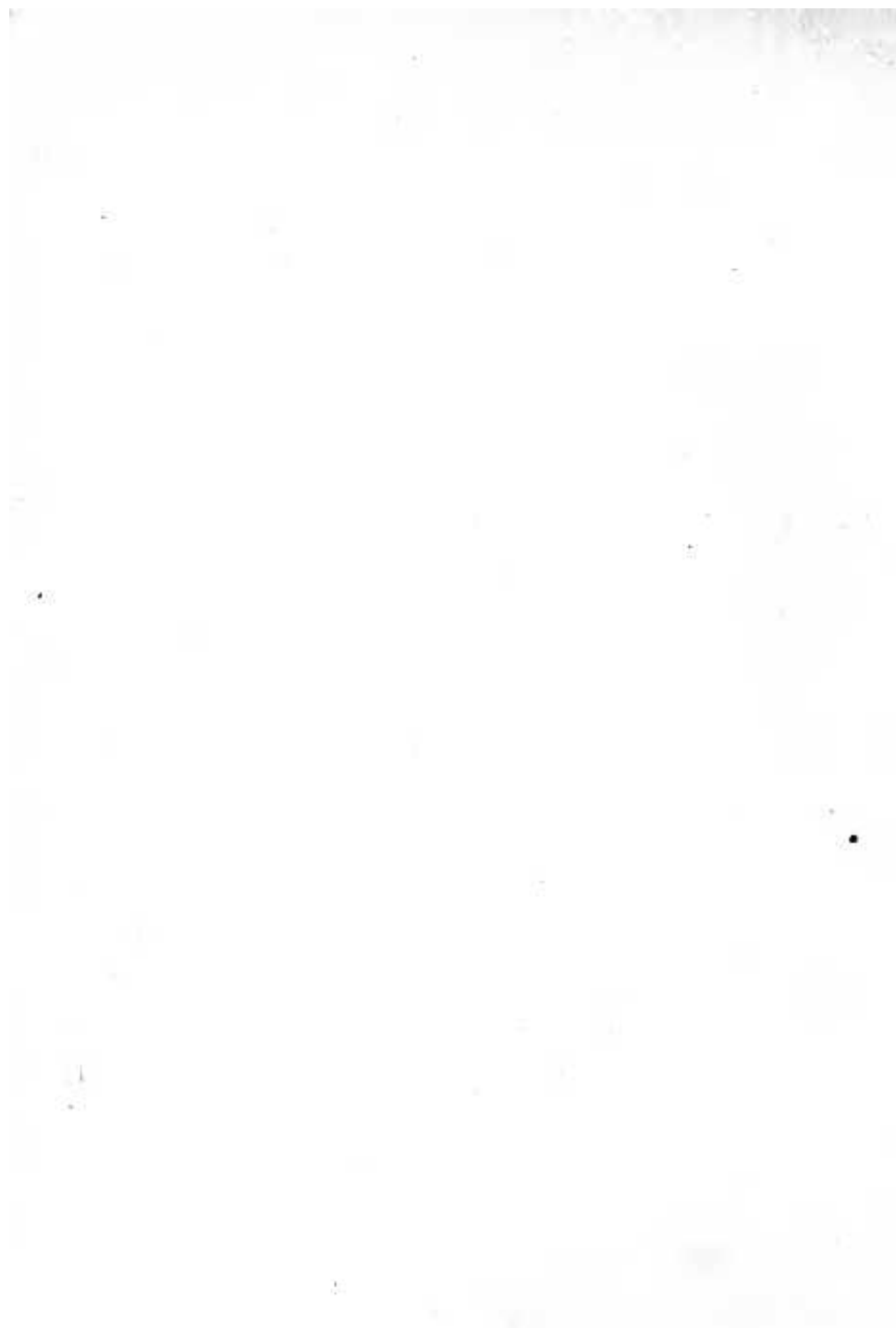
*Letters from a Chinese Official*, by G. LOWES DICKINSON, published by Doubleday, Page & Co.

*The Research Magnificent*, by H. G. WELLS, published by The Macmillan Company.

*Interpretations of Poetry and Religion*, *Reason in Religion*, and *Reason in Society*, by GEORGE SANTAYANA, published by Charles Scribner's Sons.

*Foundations of Belief*, by ARTHUR JAMES BALFOUR, published by Longmans, Green & Co.





## CONTENTS

<b>GEOFFREY CHAUCER, 1340?-1400:</b>	
O Stelliferi Conditor Orbis . . . . .	1
<b>BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER, 1552:</b>	
With Angels and Archangels . . . . .	3
Death . . . . .	3
I will Consider . . . . .	3
In Convertendo . . . . .	4
I am not High-minded . . . . .	4
<b>SIR WALTER RALEGH, 1552?-1618:</b>	
The Stars . . . . .	5
Death . . . . .	6
<b>RICHARD HOOKER, 1554?-1600:</b>	
The Laws of Nature . . . . .	7
<b>SIR PHILIP SIDNEY, 1554-1586:</b>	
Poetry . . . . .	8
The Golden World . . . . .	8
<b>FRANCIS BACON, 1561-1626:</b>	
The Service of the Muses . . . . .	9
Books . . . . .	10
Truth . . . . .	11
Solitude . . . . .	11
The Breath of Flowers . . . . .	11
The Longing for Death . . . . .	12
<b>WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE, 1564-1616:</b>	
Hamlet . . . . .	14
Love and Death . . . . .	14
Minions of the Moon . . . . .	15
Before Agincourt . . . . .	15

## CONTENTS

<b>AUTHORISED VERSION OF THE BIBLE, 1611:</b>	
Dedication to James I . . . . .	18
Noah's Sacrifice . . . . .	18
The Vision of Moses . . . . .	19
Threatened Punishments . . . . .	19
Balaam's Blessing . . . . .	20
The Blessing of Jacob . . . . .	20
David's Lament for Saul and Jonathan . . . . .	21
The Vision of Elijah . . . . .	21
Job Curses his Day . . . . .	21
Man . . . . .	23
Wisdom . . . . .	23
God's Challenge to Job . . . . .	24
The Lord is my Shepherd . . . . .	27
I will lift up mine Eyes . . . . .	27
By the Rivers of Babylon . . . . .	27
The Harlot . . . . .	28
Vanity of Vanities . . . . .	29
All Things come Alike . . . . .	31
Remember now thy Creator . . . . .	32
The Spring . . . . .	32
Love . . . . .	33
Babylon . . . . .	33
How art Thou Fallen! . . . . .	34
Comfort Ye . . . . .	34
Take no Thought . . . . .	35
Come unto Me . . . . .	36
Jerusalem . . . . .	36
Paul's Faith . . . . .	36
Charity . . . . .	37
The Resurrection of the Dead . . . . .	38
Let us Enjoy . . . . .	38
Fear . . . . .	39
<b>JOHN DONNE, 1573-1631:</b>	
God's Bounty . . . . .	42
The Eye of God . . . . .	43
Angels . . . . .	43