JOHN ESTEN COOKE, VIRGINIAN

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649117703

John Esten Cooke, Virginian by John O. Beaty

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

JOHN O. BEATY

JOHN ESTEN COOKE, VIRGINIAN

Trieste

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY PRESS COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY NEW YORK

SALES AGENTS

LONDON HUMPHREY MILFORD Amen Corner, E.C.

SHANGHAI EDWARD EVANS & SONS, LTD. 30 North Szechuen Road

JOHN ESTEN COOKE, VIRGINIAN

BY

JOHN O. BEATY

SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIRE-MENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY, IN THE FACULTY OF PHILOSOPHY, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

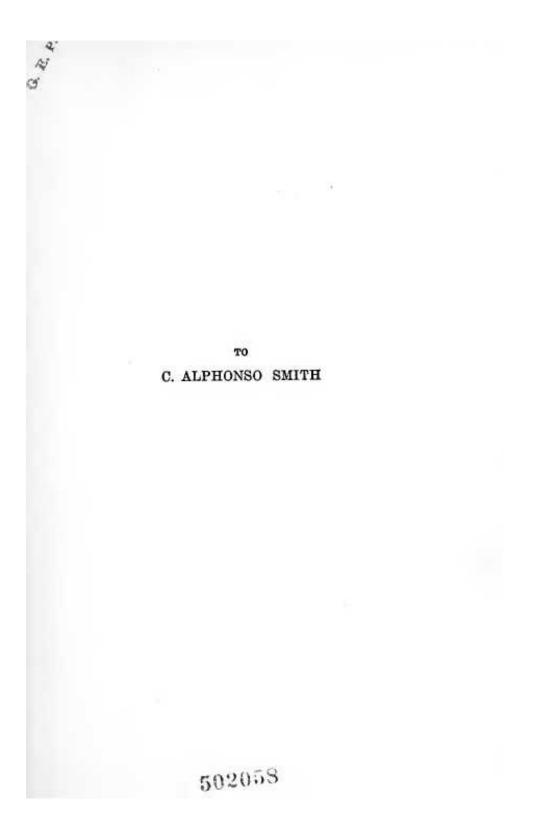
> - Units, top: Callipond

"New Hork COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY PRESS 1922 Copyright, 1922 By Columbia University Press

Fasi CLBH

Printed from type. Published, September, 1922.





PREFACE

AMONG Virginia writers whose careers have come to a close, John Esten Cooke holds a conspicuous place. He is by far the most voluminous, and has exerted great influence on later novelists. He is thoroughly Virginian, and is perhaps second to Poe in the intrinsic importance of his work.

Since neither Cooke nor his literary background has been the subject of a definitive study, I have, in writing this critical biography, relied very slightly on printed sources but am in consequence largely indebted to a number of Virginians and others who have helped me gain access to first-hand material. Dr. Robert P. P. Cooke and Mrs. Charles Lee, children of the novelist, have kindly placed at my disposal eight manuscript volumes and hundreds of letters and other papers which belonged to their father. Cooke's nieces, Miss Mariah Pendleton Duval and Mrs. Carter H. Harrison, have likewise furnished me with manuscripts and have entertained and instructed me with reminiscences of their uncle. My research work has been facilitated by the courtesy of the officials of the Library of Congress, of the New York Public Library, and of the Library of Columbia University. I owe much, for assistance of one kind or another, to each of the following gentlemen : Mr. J. B. Ficklin, Jr., the Southern genealogist; General Thomas T. Munford, a boyhood and Civil War friend of Cooke; Reverend C. Braxton Bryan, Cooke's pastor in the eighties; Professor Killis Campbell; Mr. W. G. Stanard, Librarian of the Virginia Historical Society; Mr. H. R. Mell-

PREFACE

waine, Librarian of the State of Virginia; Dr. Oral S. Coad; Dr. R. F. Dibble; Professor Jay B. Hubbell, whose forthcoming Virginia Life in Fiction will serve as an excellent background to this biography; Dr. Carl Van Doren, Literary Editor of The Nation; Professor George Philip Krapp; and Professor William Peterfield Trent, the leading historian of American literature. My wife, Josephine Powell Beaty, has given me some very valuable criticism and has helped prepare the manuscript for the press. To Mrs. Beaty and to Messrs. Coad, Van Doren, Hubbell, and Trent my indebtedness is particularly great.

J. O. B.

viii

CONTENTS

CHAPTER I

			1 404
EABLY	LIFE-CHOOSING	A	Profession 1

CHAPTER II

GENTLEMAN AND NOVELIST OF OLD VIRGINIA	31	0
--	----	---

CHAPTER III

THE CIVIL WAR-SOLDIEB AND HISTORIAN	73	ľ
-------------------------------------	----	---

CHAPTER IV

THE PROBLEMS OF RECONSTRUCTION-WRITEB AND FARMEB 110

CHAPTER V

LAST	YEARS-CONCLUSION
BIBLD	одварну
INDEX	