

**CAMBRIDGE
READINGS IN
FRENCH LITERATURE**

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Cambridge readings in French literature by Arthur Tilley

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ARTHUR TILLEY

**CAMBRIDGE
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JEANNE D'ARC

Chapu

CAMBRIDGE READINGS
IN
FRENCH LITERATURE

EDITED BY
ARTHUR TILLEY

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PREFACE

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THESE readings in French Literature are more or less on the same lines as those of the readings in English Literature edited by Mr George Sampson. There is, however, this difference, that, except for *Cendrillon* and a charming poem by M. Jean Aicard, there is little in this volume that will appeal specially to young children. Besides the general aim of presenting a variety of extracts good in themselves and interesting for their subject-matter, it has been the particular aim of the present selection to illustrate the history of France by a record of some of her famous sons who "were honoured in their generations and were the glory of their times." Thus the reader will find commemorated such great names as Du Guesclin, Jeanne d'Arc, Bayard, Coligny, Henry IV, Condé, Turenne, Napoleon, and after these, who were "valiant in war," a "man of mercy," Pasteur. This is only a selection from France's long roll of honour, and, similarly, many names will be found missing from her famous writers. Should this volume meet with a favourable reception, some of the gaps may be filled up in a companion volume. The passages chosen vary considerably in length, from Michelet's *Jeanne d'Arc* to the eight lines from Ronsard's *Hymne de la Mort*. But, with the exception of this last and the long extract from Lamartine's *Jocelyn*, every poem has been given in full, without the omission of a verse or a line. The order in which the extracts appear is not wholly fortuitous. Several passages are grouped together

either because of their similarity of content, or as belonging to the same period. The transition from one group to another is sometimes by connexion of thought, sometimes by way of contrast. The pictures with four exceptions have been chosen from the works of French masters. In most instances they are obvious illustrations of the text with which they are associated; in a few the connexion is less apparent.

A. T.

KING'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE.

December, 1919.

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