

**THEOCRITUS, BION AND
MOSCHUS. RENDERED
INTO ENGLISH PROSE WITH
AN INTRODUCTORY ESSAY**

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Theocritus, Bion and Moschus. Rendered into english prose with an introductory essay by A. Lang

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A. LANG

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RENDERED INTO ENGLISH PROSE

WITH

AN INTRODUCTORY ESSAY

BY

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TO
ERNEST MYERS

Ἐκ Μουσῶν ξειρήϊον



CONTENTS

	PAGE
THEOCRITUS AND HIS AGE	xi
 THEOCRITUS—	
Idyl I	3
" II	11
" III	20
" IV	23
" V	27
" VI	35
" VII	38
" VIII	46
" IX	52
" X	55
" XI	59
" XII	64
" XIII	67
" XIV	71
" XV	76
" XVI	85
" XVII	91
" XVIII	97
" XIX	101
" XX	102
" XXI	105
" XXII	110
" XXIII	121
" XXIV	125
" XXV	132

	PAGE
Idyl XXVI	144
.. XXVII	147
.. XXVIII	152
.. XXIX	154
.. XXX	157
Epigrams	159

BION—

Idyl I	171
.. II	176
.. III	178
.. IV	179
.. V	179
.. VI	180
Fragments	181

MOSCHUS—

Idyl I	187
.. II	189
.. III	197
.. IV	203
.. V	208
.. VI	208
.. VII	209
.. VIII	209
.. IX	210

LIFE OF THEOCRITUS

(From *Suidas*)

THEOCRITUS, the Chian. But there is another Theocritus, the son of Praxagoras and Philinna (see Epigram XXIII), or as some say of Simichus. (This is plainly derived from the assumed name Simichidas in Idyl VII.) He was a Syracusan, or, as others say, a Coan settled in Syracuse. He wrote the so-called *Bucolics* in the Dorian dialect. Some attribute to him the following works:—*The Proctidae*, *The Pleasures of Hope* (Ἐλπίδες), *Hymns*, *The Heroines*, *Dirges*, *Ditties*, *Flegies*, *Iambics*, *Epigrams*. Be it known that there are three Bucolic poets: this Theocritus, Moschus of Sicily, and Bion of Smyrna, from a village called Phlossa.

LIFE OF THEOCRITUS

ΘΕΟΚΡΙΤΟΥ ΓΕΝΟΣ

Usually prefixed to the Idyls

THEOCRITUS the Bucolic poet was a Syracusan by extraction, and the son of Simichidas, as he says himself, *Simichidas, pray whither through the noon dost thou drag thy feet?* (Idyl VII). Some say that this was an assumed name, for he seems to have been snub-nosed (*σιμψ*), and that his father was Praxagoras, and his mother Philinna. He became the pupil of Philetas and Asclepiades, of whom he speaks (Idyl VII), and flourished about the time of Ptolemy Lagus. He gained much fame for his skill in bucolic poetry. According to some his original name was Moschus, and Theocritus was a name later assumed.