HELEN OF TROY: HER LIFE AND TRANSLATION; DONE INTO RHYME FROM THE GREEK BOOKS

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649284955

Helen of Troy: her life and translation; done into rhyme from the Greek books by Andrew Lang

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Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd. Cover @ 2017

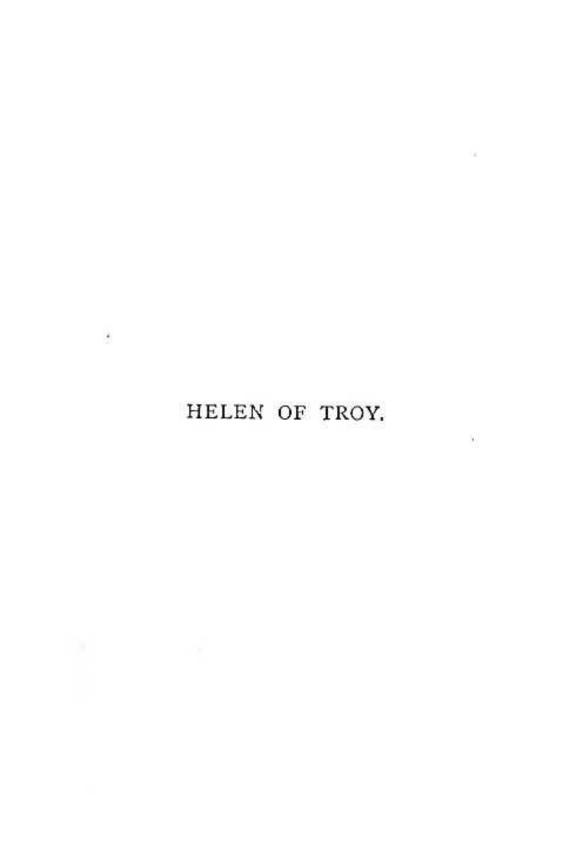
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ANDREW LANG

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.136

"Le joyeulx temps passé souloit estre occasion que je faisoie de plaisants diz et gracieuses chançonnetes et ballades. Mais je me suis mis à faire cette traittié d'affliction contre ma droite nature et suis content de l'avoir prinse, car mes douleurs me semblent en estre allegées."—Le Romant de Troilus. To all old Friends; to all who dwell
Where Avon dhu and Avon gel
Down to the deep Loch Aline flow
Through valleys dear from long ago;
To all who hear the whisper'd spell
Of Ken; and Tweed like music swell
Hard by the Land Debatable,
Or Drayton's Yarty seaward go,—
To all old Friends!

To all that yet remember well

What secrets Isis had to tell,

How lazy Cherwell loiter'd slow

Sweet aisles of blossem'd May below—

Whate'er befull, whate'er befull,

To all old Friends.



HELEN OF TROY.

BOOK I.

Of the coming of Paris to the house of Menelaus, King of Lacedaemon, and of the tale Paris told concerning his past life.



HELEN OF TROY.

BOOK I.

THE COMING OF PARIS.

1.

A LL day within the palace of the King
In Lacedaemon, was there revelry,
Since Menelaus with the dawn did spring
Forth from his carven couch, and, climbing high
The tower of outlook, gazed along the dry
White road that runs to Pylos through the plain,
And mark'd thin clouds of dust against the sky,
And gleaming bronze, and robes of purple stain.