



English Literature Chaucer (Classic Reprint) (Paperback)

By Alfred William Pollard

Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. Excerpt from English Literature Chaucer Chaucer, to whom we must now turn, used to be called the Father of English Poetry, and although such epithets are rightly going out of fashion, if we call him the father of our modern poetry we shall be speaking the literal truth. While the works of his predecessors have only been brought back into notice during the nineteenth century, and still are read by few except professed students, Chaucer's poetry has been read and enjoyed continuously from his own day to this, and the greatest of his successors, from Spenser and Milton to Tennyson and William Morris, have joined in praising it. Moreover, he himself deliberately made a fresh beginning in our literature. He disregarded altogether the old English tradition, and even the work written at an earlier period under French influence. For miracle-plays and romances he had a sovereign contempt, and, for any influence which they exerted on him, the writings of his fellow-countrymen, from Caedmon to Langland, might never have existed. His masters in his art were the Frenchmen, Guillaume Lorris, Jean...

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