

## 20 nov 2020 - Alfred Tennyson

p. 32-33

He was the fourth of ten children, and he was born in 1809. His father was the priest in a small village, and he is also a scholar and a man of great artistic taste; he had a well stocked library.

He was subject of depression and heavy drinking, but he took charge of the education of his children. Alfred boyhood was quite happy.

When he was 19 Alfred went to study at Trinity College, where he made friend with a brilliant young poet, Arthur Henry Hallam. But 4 years later financial problems compelled him to leave Cambridge, and he went back to his house, but his father died shortly afterwards; the family was allowed to stay into the rectory [casa del prete] for six more years.

In 1832, he traveled on the continent , with Hallam, and Hallam for that time had became engaged with one of Tennyson's sisters; but in 1833 Hallam suddenly dies in Vienna, and his death proved a terrible blow for Terryson. For 17 years he continued to brood [portare il lutto] over it, and he eventually publish an elegy, dedicated to his friend, entitled *In memoriam HHH*, where he express his sorrow for his lost friend.

In 1850 it was a turning point in his life.

- He married his sweetheart; he had fallen in love with her four years before, but the marriage had always be forbidden by Emily's father, because of the poet financial insecurity.
- He publish *In memoriam*, which set on him a seal of fame
- He is appointed Poet Laureate (the first after Worthwords).

Since 1850 his life was characterized by fame, money and success. In 1884 he was elevated to the peerage [members of the House of Lords in parliament]

He died in 1892, and was buried in the Poets' Corner, in the Westminster abbey.