

Fables ancient and modern - translated into verse, from Homer, Ovid, Boccace, and Chaucer : with original poems

Printed for J. and R. Tonson and S. Draper - Translating Homer



Description: -

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Fables

Homer -- Translations into English

Boccaccio, Giovanni, -- 1313-1375 -- Translations into English

Ovid, -- 43 B.C.-17 or 18 A.D. -- Translations into English

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Pepys and Dryden

They who think otherwise, would, by the same Reason, prefer Lucan and Ovid to Homer and Virgil, and Martial to all Four of them. You are so ready to redress, that you almost prevent their Wishes, and always exceed their Expectations: As if what was yours, was not your own, and not given you to possess, but to bestow on wanting Merit. This I have learnt from the practice of honest Montaigne, and return at my pleasure to Ovid and Chaucer, of whom I have little more to say.

Past and Present in Dryden's on JSTOR

In short, tho I may lawfully plead some part of the old gentlemans excuse, yet I will reserve it till I think I have greater need, and ask no grains of allowance for the faults of this my present work, but those which are given of course to human frailty. The Thoughts remain to be considerd: And they are to be measurd only by their Propriety; that is, as they flow more or less naturally from the Persons describd, on such and such Occasions. Waller of Fairfax; for we have our Lineal Descents and Clans, as well as other Families: Spencer more than once insinuates, that the Soul of Chaucer was transfus'd into his Body; and that he was begotten by him Two hundred years after his Decease.

Fables Ancient and Modern by Dryden, John

Is then the peerage of England anything dishonord, when a peer suffers for his treason? One warms you by Degrees; the other sets you on fire all at once, and never intermits his Heat.

Renaissance and C17 Chaucer Edit

Images have been cropped and resized.

**Fables Ancient And Modern Translated Into Verse From Homer, Ovid, Boccace, and Chaucer, With Orginal Poems, by Mr. Dryden,
by John Dryden et al.**

And if imperfectly, then with less Profit, and no Pleasure. What has been added and what left out? This is what I thought needful in this Place to say of Homer.

Preface to Fables, Ancient and Modern. John Dryden (1700). 1909

The Words are given up as a Post not to be defended in our Poet, because he wanted the Modern Art of Fortifying. Both of them built on the inventions of other men; yet since Chaucer had something of his own, as The Wife of Baths Tale, The Cock and the Fox, which I have translated, and some others, I may justly give our countryman the precedence in that part; since I can remember nothing of Ovid which was wholly his. If our habits make us, we make our habits; and it is possible for us to acquire habits that in the day of temptation are our defense, our anchorage, our invincible city of refuge.

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