The last part of the Countesse of Pembrokes Arcadia

Philip Sidney

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Author: Philip Sidney

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SIR PHILIP SIDNEY

THE LAST PART OF THE COUNTESSE OF PEMBROKES ARCADIA ASTROPHEL & STELLA AND OTHER POEMS THE LADY OF MAY

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THE present volume—the second of Sir Philip Sidney's Complete Works—contains the last part of *Arcadia*, a collection of all the poems that are known to exist, either printed or in manuscript, and the Masque of the *Lady of May*.

In accordance with the method adopted in the first volume, the text given is that of the earliest edition. Thus, the last part of *Arcadia* and the *Poems* (from page 208 to page 238) are printed from the folio of 1593; the *Sonets* (from page 301 to page 322) and the *Lady of May*, from the folio of 1598; the *Dialogue betweene two Shepberds*, from the folio of 1613; *Astrophel and Stella*, from the first Newman quarto of 1591. The only exception is that of the *Two Pastorels* (page 325), which are printed from the 1611 edition of Davison's *Poetical Rhapsody*.

The text is reproduced without any deviations from the originals in the matter of spelling or punctuation. I have, however, corrected a few evident misprints, a list of which will be found on page 389. As regards *Astrophel* and Stella, I have also thought it expedient to number the sonnets, and in this I have followed the edition of 1598, even though the omission of the "Rich Sonnet" in QI involved a little anomaly on page 257, where readers will notice the absence of number xxxvii. But I thought that this irregularity was amply compensated by the advantage of leaving their customary numbering to the following sonnets.

I have reserved for the Appendix a certain number of poems, most of them circulated or published after the death of the Countess of Pembroke, whose intrinsic value

PREFATORY NOTE

did not seem sufficient to warrant their attribution to Sidney. These doubtful poems are printed from the originals, with the exception of *To Queen Elizabetb* (page 340), the *Answer to the Earl of Oxford* (page 341), *Sir Philip Sydneis Song* (page 342), the manuscripts of which were not accessible to me at the time when I was collecting the material of this volume.

My thanks are due to the authorities of Emmanuel College (Cambridge), of the Bodleian Library, of Queen's College (Oxford), for permission to examine some of their treasures; to Mr A. W. Pollard and to Mr R. F. Sharp, of the British Museum, for valuable help; lastly to Mr A. R. Waller who, as the volume was passing through the press, assisted me in many ways.

A. FEUILLERAT

October, 1921

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CORRIGENDA

- 196. 24. For "Diaphantus" read "Daiphantus" 209. 5. Add full stop after Zelmane 239. 20. For fynde read fyinde.

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THE LAST PART OF SIR PHILIP SIDNEY'S ARCADIA

FROM THE FOLIO OF 1593

Fter that Basilius (according to the oracles promise) had ref A ceived home his daughters, and settled himselfe againe in his solitary course and accustomed company, there passed not many dayes ere the now fully recomforted Dorus having waited a time of Zelmanes walking alone towards her little Arbor, tooke leave of his master Damætas husbandry to follow her. Neere wherunto overtaking her, and sitting downe together among the sweet flowers whereof that place was very plentifull, under the pleasant shade of a broad leaved Sycamor, they recounted one to another their strange pilgrimage of passions, omitting nothing which the open harted frendship is wont to lay forth, where there is cause to comunicate both joyes & sorows, for indeed ther is no sweeter tast of frendship, then the coupling of soules in this mutualitie either of condoling or comforting: where the oppressed minde findes itself not altogether miserable, since it is sure of one which is feelingly sory for his misery: and the joyfull spends not his joy, either alone, or there where it may be envyed: but may freely send it to such a well grounded object, from whence he shall be sure to receive a sweete reflection of the same joye, and, as in a cleere mirror of sincere good will, see a lively picture of his owne gladnes. But after much discourse on eyther parte, Dorus (his hearte scarce serving him to come to the pointe, whereunto his then comming had bene wholie directed, as loth in the kindest sorte to discover to his friend his owne unkindnes) at length, one word emboldening

S. A. II.

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another made knowne to Zelmane, how Pamela upon his vehement othe to offer no force unto her, till hee had invested her in the Duchie of Thessalia, had condiscended to his stealing her awaie to the next sea porte. That besides the straunge humors she sawe her father more and more falling into, and unreasonable restraint of her libertie, whereof she knewe no cause but light grounded jealosies, added to the hate of that manner of life, and confidence she had in his vertue, the chiefest reason had wonne her to this, was the late daunger she stoode in of loosing him, the like whereof (not unlike to fall if this course were continued) she chose rather to dye then againe to undergoe. That now they wayted for nothing else, but some fit time for their escape, by the absence of their three lothsome companions, in whome follie ingendred suspicion. And therefore now, sayd Dorus, my deere Cozen, to whome nature began my friendship, education confirmed it, and vertue hath made it eternall, heere have I discovered the very foundacion whereupon my life is built: bee you the Judge betwixt mee and my fortune. The violence of love is not unknowne to you: And I knowe my case shall never want pittie in your consideration. How all the joyes of my hearte doo leave mee, in thinking I must for a time be absent from you, the eternall truth is witnesse unto mee, I knowe I should not so sensiblie feele the pangs of my last departure. But this enchantment of my restlesse desire hath such authoritye in my selfe above my selfe, that I am become a slave unto it, I have no more freedome in mine owne determinacions. My thoughtes are now all bent how to carrie awaie my burdenous blisse. Yet, most beloved Cozen, rather then I should thinke I doo heerein violate that holie bande of true friendship, wherein I unworthie am knit unto you, commaund mee stay. Perchaunce the force of your commaundement may worke such impression into my hearte, that no reason of mine owne can imprint into it. For the Gods forbid, the foule word of abandoning Pyrocles, might ever be objected to the faithfull Musidorus. But if you can spare my presence, whose presence no way serves you, and by the division of these two Lodges is not oft with you: nay if you can thinke my absence may, as it shall, stand you in stead, by bringing such an armye hither, as shall make Basilius, willing or unwilling, to knowe his owne happe in graunting you Philoclea: then I will cheerefullie goe about this my most desired enterprise, and shall thinke the better halfe of it alreadie atchieved, beeing begunne in the fortunate houre of my friendes contentment. These wordes, as they were not knitte together with such a constant course of flowing eloquence, as *Dorus* was woont to use : so was his voice interrupted with sighes, and his countenaunce with enterchanging coulour dismayed. So much his owne hearte did finde him faultie to unbende any way the continuall use of theyr deare friendshippe. But Zelmane, who had all this while gladlie hearkened to the other tydings of her friends happye successe, when this last determination of Dorus strake her attentive eares, she stayed a great while oppressed with a dead amazement. Ther came streight before her mind, made tender with woes, the images of her own fortune. Her tedious longings, her causes to despaire, the combersome follie of Basilius, the enraged Jealousie of Gynecia, her selfe a Prince without retinewe; a man annoyed with the troubles of woman-kinde; lothsomely loved, and daungerouslie loving; And now for the perfecting of all, her friend to be taken away by himself, to make the losse the greater by the unkindnes. But within a while she resolutely passed over all inwarde objections, and preferring her friends proffitt to her owne desire, with a quiet but hartie looke, she thus aunsweared him. If I bare thee this Love vertuous Musidorus, for mine owne sake, and that our friendshipp grew because I for my parte, might rejoyce to enjoye such a friend: I shoulde nowe so thorowly feele mine owne losse, that I should call the heavens and earth to witnesse, howe cruelly yee robbe mee, of my greatest comforte, measuring the breach of friendshippe by myne owne passion. But because indeede I love thee for thy selfe, and in my judgement judge of thy worthines to be loved, I am content to builde my pleasure uppon thy comforte: And then will I deeme my happe in friendshippe great, when I shall see thee, whome I love happie. Let me be onely sure, thou lovest me still, the onely price of trew affection goe therefore on, worthye Musidorus, with the guide of vertue, and service of fortune. Let thy love be loved, thy desires prosperous, thy escape safe, and thy jornye easie. Let every thing yeeld his helpe to thy deserte, for my part absence shall not take thee from mine eyes, nor afflictions shall barre mee from gladding in thy good, nor a possessed harte shall keepe thee from the place it hath for ever allotted unto thee. Dorus would faine have replied againe, to

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have made a liberall confession that Zelmane had of her side the advantage of well performing friendshippe: but partelie his owne griefe of parting from one he loved so dearely, partly the kinde care in what state hee should leave Zelmane, bredd such a conflicte in his minde, that many times he wished, he had either never attempted, or never revealed this secreat enterprise. But Zelmane, who had now looked to the uttermoste of it, and established her minde upon an assured determination, my onely friend said shee since to so good towardnes, your courteous destinies have conducted you, let not a ceremoniall consideration of our mutuall love, be a barre unto it. I joye in your presence, but I joye more in your good, that friendshipp brings foorth the fruites of enmitie, which preferres his owne tendernes, before his friendes domage. For my parte my greatest griefe herein shalbe, I can bee no further serviceable unto you O Zelmane saide Dorus with his eyes even covered with water, I did not think so soone to have displayed my determination unto you, but to have made my way first in your loving judgement. But alas as your sweet disposition drew me so farre : so doth it now strengthen me in it. To you therefore be the due commendation given, who can conquere me in Love, and Love in wisedome. As for mee, then shall goodnes turne to evill, and ungratefulnes bee the token of a true harte when *Pyrocles* shall not possesse a principall seate in my soule, when the name of Pyrocles shall not be helde of me in devout reverence.

They would never have come to the cruell instant of parting, nor to the il-faring word of farewell, had not Zelmane sene a farre off the olde Basilius, who having perfourmed a sacrifice to Apollo, for his daughters, but principally for his mistresse happy returne, had since bene every where to seeke her. And nowe being come within compasse of discerning her, he beganne to frame the loveliest coutenance he could, stroking up his legges, setting his bearde in due order, and standing bolte upright. Alas said Zelmane, behold an evill fore-token of your sorrowfull departure. Yonder see I one of my furies, which doth daylie vexe me, farewell fare wel my Musidorus, the Gods make fortune to waite on thy vertues, and make mee wade through this lake of wretchednes. Dorus burst out into a floud of teares wringing her fast by the hande. No, no, said he, I go blindfold, whither the course of my ill happe caries me: for now too late my harte