Classic Poetry Series

Henri de Regnier - poems -

Publication Date:

2012

Publisher:

Poemhunter.com - The World's Poetry Archive

Henri de Regnier(1864-1936)

Henri François Joseph de Régnier (December 28, 1864 - May 23, 1936) was a French symbolist poet considered one of the foremost of France during the early 20th century.

He was born at Honfleur (Calvados) on the 28th of December 1864, and was educated in Paris for the law. In 1885 he began to contribute to the Parisian reviews, and his verses found their way into most of the French and Belgian periodicals favorable to the symbolist writers. Having begun, however, to write under the leadership of the Parnassians, he retained the classical tradition, though he adopted some of the innovations of Jean Moréas and Gustave Kahn. His gorgeous and vaguely suggestive style shows the influence of Stéphane Mallarmé, of whom he was an assiduous disciple.

His first volume of poems, Lendemains, appeared in 1885, and among numerous later volumes are Poèmes anciens et romanesques (1890), Les Jeux rustiques et divins (1890), Les Médailles d'argile (1900), La Cité des eaux (1903). He is also the author of a series of realistic novels and tales, among which are La Canne de jaspe (2nd ed., 1897), La Double maîtresse (5th ed., 1900), Les Vacances d'un jeune homme sage (1903), and Les Amants singuliers (1905). M. de Régnier married Mlle Marie de Heredia, daughter of the poet José María de Heredia, and herself a novelist and poet under the name of Gérard d'Houville.

Henri de Régnier died in 1936 at age 71 and was interred in the Père Lachaise Cemetery in Paris.

Autre Inscription

Chanson

Crépuscule

Élégie

Épigramme

Épilogue

Fête D'Eau

Fond De Jardin

Funérailles

Hélène Au Cheval

Hommage

Inscription

Intérieur

Invocation

La Colline

La Course

La Façade

La Fleur Du Soir

La Louange Des Eaux, Des Arbres Et Des Dieux

La Lune Jaune

La Neige

La Nymphe

La Plainte Du Cyclope

La Rampe

La Voix

L'Abandon

Latone

L'Automne

Le Bassin Noir

Le Bassin Rose

Le Bassin Vert

Le Bonheur

Le Bouquet

Le Centaure Blessé

Le Cyprès

Le Fleuve

Le Jardin

Le Passé

Le Pavillon

Le Repos

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Léda

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Les Cloches

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Les Statues

L'Escalier

L'Heure

L'Heure

L'Homme Et Les Dieux

Lied

L'Île

L'Image

L'Odeur

L'Ombre Nue

L'Oubli Suprême

L'Urne

Masque

Ode

Ombre D'Eau

Pan

Perspective

Promenade

Salut À Versailles

Stances

The Voice

I do not wish anyone to be near my sadness— Not even your dear step and your loved face, Nor your indolent hand which caresses with a finger The lazy ribbon and the closed book.

Leave me. Let my door today remain closed;
Do not open my window to the fresh wind of morning;
My heart today is miserable and sullen
And everything seems to me somber and everything seems vain.

My sadness comes from something further than myself; It is strange to me and is not of me; And every man, whether he sings or he laughs or he loves, In his time hears that which speaks low to him,

And something then stirs and awakens, Is perturbed, spreads and laments in him, Because of this dull voice which says in his ear That the flower of life in its fruit is ashes.

Trianon

Urbs

Vérone

Wish

I'd like to show your eyes the plains And a forest green and ruddy, Far off and soft Under clear skies on the horizon, Or some hills With lovely slopes So changing and supple and misty, Seeming to melt in the sweetness of the air, Either hills Or forest. I'd like For you to hear Strong, vast, deep, and tender, The great dull voice of the sea That moans Like Love; And once in a while Right next to you, In the interval, I'd like you to hear Right next to you A dove In the silence Both soft and weak Like Love a trifle in the shadows, I'd like you to hear The gushing of a spring For your hands I'd like some flowers, And for your steps I'd like a little path, grassy and sandy Going up a bit and coming down, Turning and seeming To approach the limits of silence. A very little sandy path Where your steps would leave faint marks, Our steps

Together.