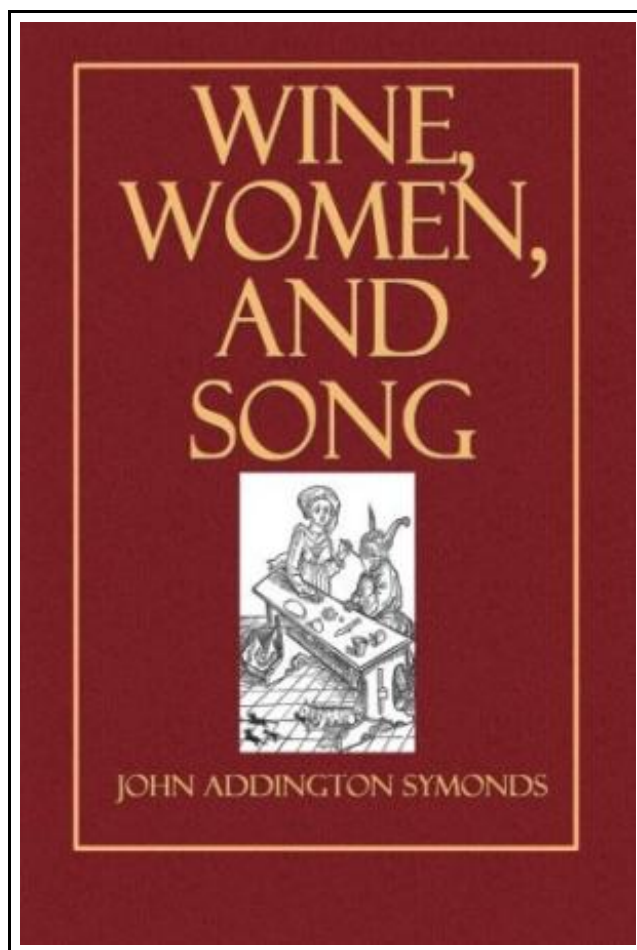


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Createspace, United States, 2014. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. Wine, Women, and Song, the brief title of mediaeval Latin students songs translated into English verse with an Essay by J. A. Symonds, is a very welcome addition. Symonds s versions and comments thereon, first published in 1884, introduce the reader to some of the most genuine manifestations of the Middle Ages. It was a period, as he remarks, when the unnatural prevailed, and an orthodoxy lost in futilities had become tyrannous. But in these songs, preserved in a Munich MS. of the thirteenth century, Carmina Burana, and a Harleian MS., written before 1264, and published in 1841 as Latin Poems commonly attributed to Walter Mapes, we find a spirit of youth and gaiety which exists at all times, and breaks through all conventions and philosophies. The wandering students were called Goliardi, and their exact history, like that of this term, is obscure. Their Latin differs notoriously from that of previous models, though we rather wonder that Symonds did not refer to the Pervigilium Veneris as a predecessor in the melodic cadences which distinguish their poems. The modern student s Gaudeamus igitur is derived from this mediaeval source. The poems offer considerable difficulties to a translator, which were excellently met by Symonds, a scholar admirably equipped for such a work. His introductory essay-a little too elaborate in style to be pleasing-is yet full of interest, and we have no hesitation in commending the book as one of the most attractive in an excellent series. - Notes and Queries.



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