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MARK TWAIN

A CONNECTICUT YANKEE IN KING ARTHUR'S COURT



Mark Twain

A CONNECTICUT
YANKEE IN
KING ARTHUR'S
COURT

With an Afterword
by Edmund Reiss

Revised and Updated Bibliography

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A Note on the Text

The text of this edition of *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court* is that of the first edition of the book, published by the American Publishing Company at Hartford, Connecticut, in 1889. The spelling and punctuation have been brought into conformity with modern American usage.

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MARK TWAIN was born Samuel Langhorne Clemens in Florida, Missouri, in 1835, and died at Redding, Connecticut, in 1910. In his person and in his pursuits he was a man of extraordinary contrasts. Although he left school at twelve when his father died, he was eventually awarded honorary degrees from Yale University, the University of Missouri and Oxford University. His career encompassed such varied occupations as printer, Mississippi riverboat pilot, journalist, travel writer, and publisher. He made fortunes from his writing but toward the end of his life he had to resort to lecture tours to pay his debts. He was hot-tempered, profane, and sentimental—and also pessimistic, cynical, and tortured by self-doubt. His nostalgia for the past helped produce some of his best books. He lives in American letters as a great artist, the writer whom William Dean Howells called "the Lincoln of our literature."

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