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\*\*\* START OF THE PROJECT GUTENBERG EBOOK AN ALPHABET OF CELEBRITIES \*\*\*



## AN ALPHABET OF CELEBRITIES

Oliver Herford



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AN **A**LPHA**B**ET  
OF **C**ELEBRITIES  
Oliver Herford



A'S

Albert Edward, well meaning but flighty,

Who invited King Arthur, the blameless and  
mighty,

To meet Alcibiades and Aphrodite.





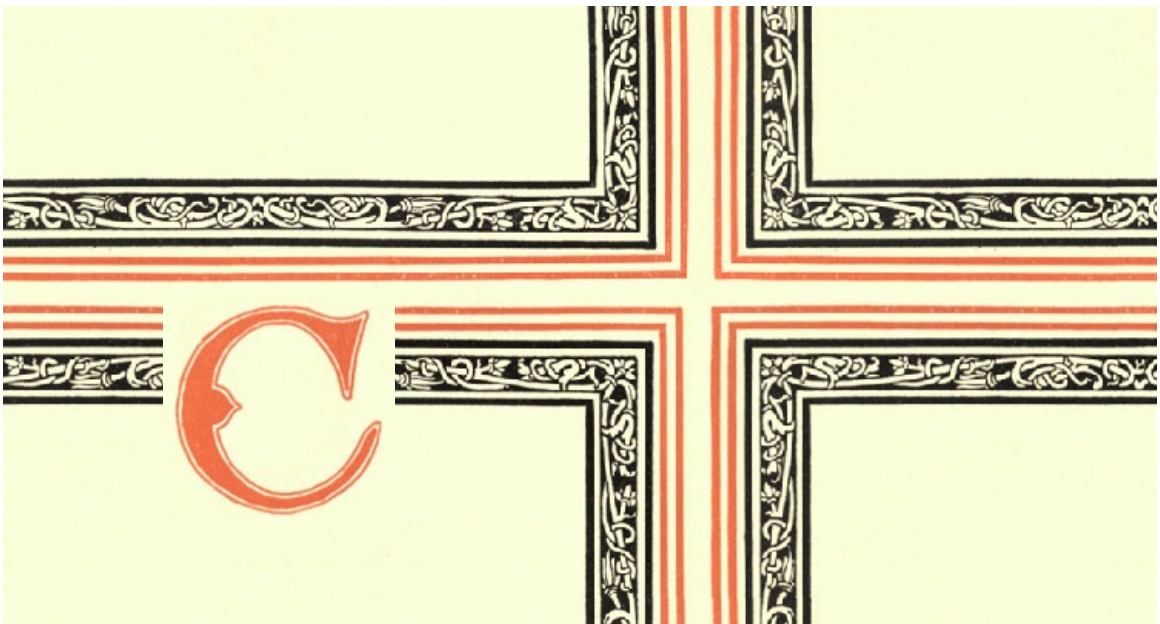
B

is for **B**ernhardt, who fails to awaken

Much feeling in **B**ismarck, **B**arabbas, and

**B**acon.



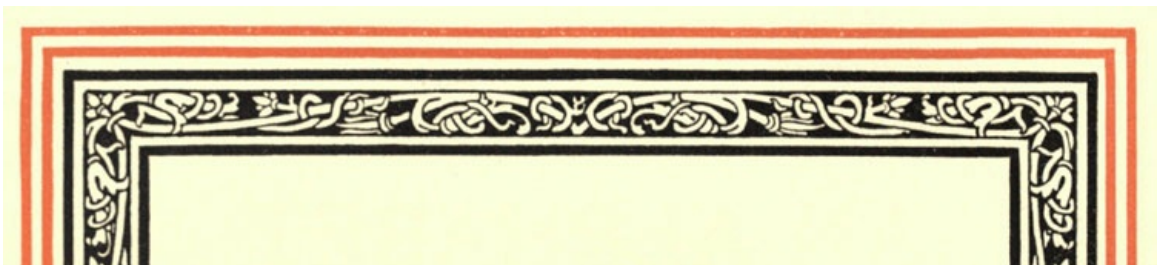




is **C**olumbus, who tries to explain

How to balance an egg—to the utter disdain

Of **C**onfucius, **C**arlyle, **C**leopatra, and **C**ain.





D 'S

for Diogenes, Darwin, and Dante,

Who delight in the dance Of a Darling  
Bacchante.





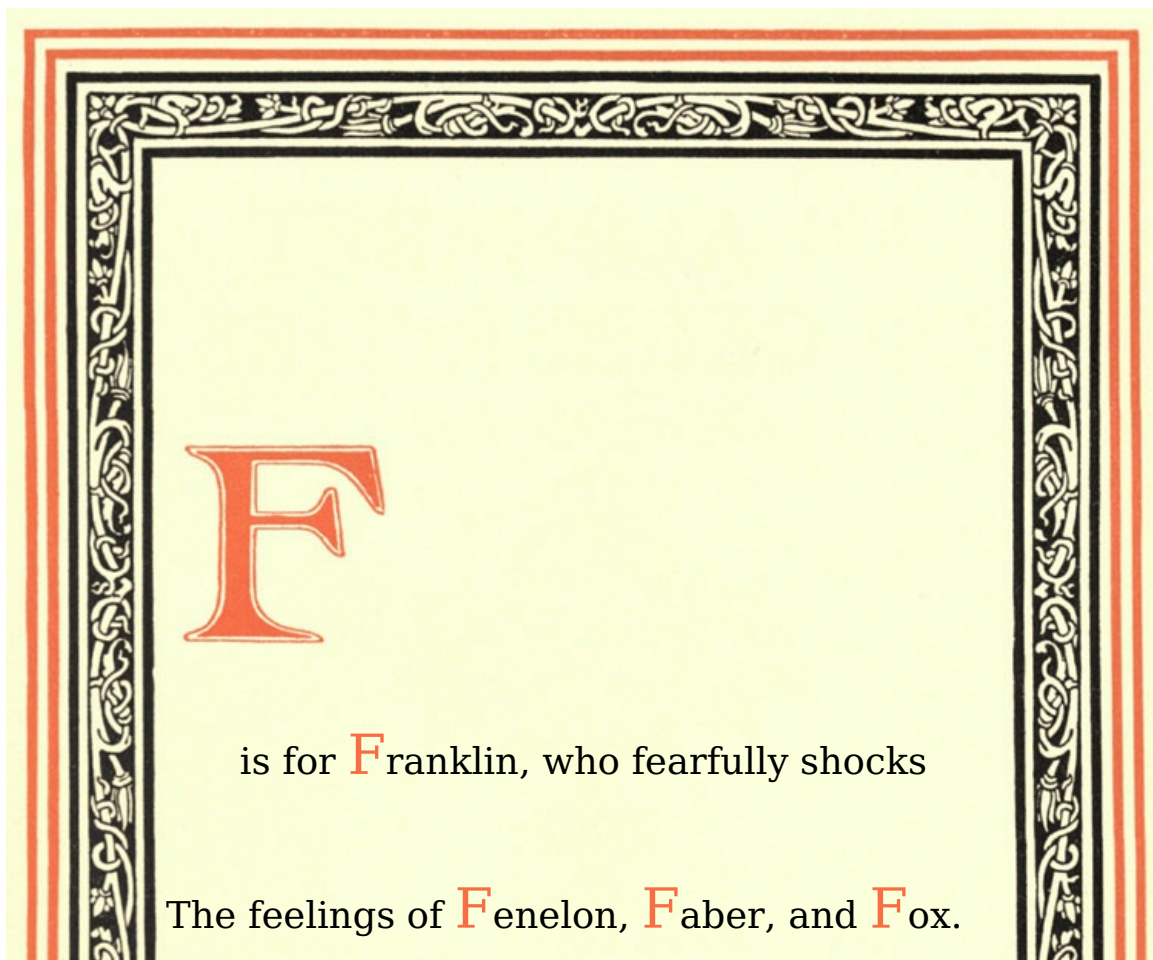
E

is for **E**dison, making believe

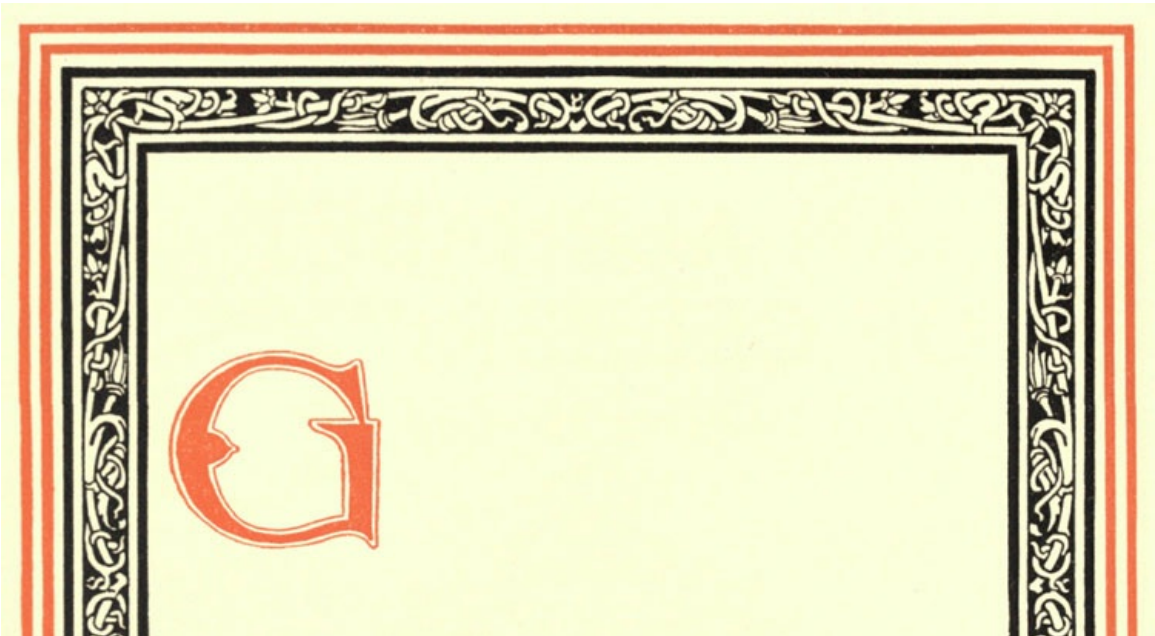
He's invented a clever contrivance for **E**ve,

Who complained that she never could laugh in  
her sleeve.









G



is **G**odiva, whose great bareback feat

Though **G**ounod and **G**oldsmith implore and  
entreat.





# H

is for **H**andel, who pours out his  
soul

Through the bagpipes to **H**owells and  
**H**omer, who roll

On the floor in an ecstasy past all control.



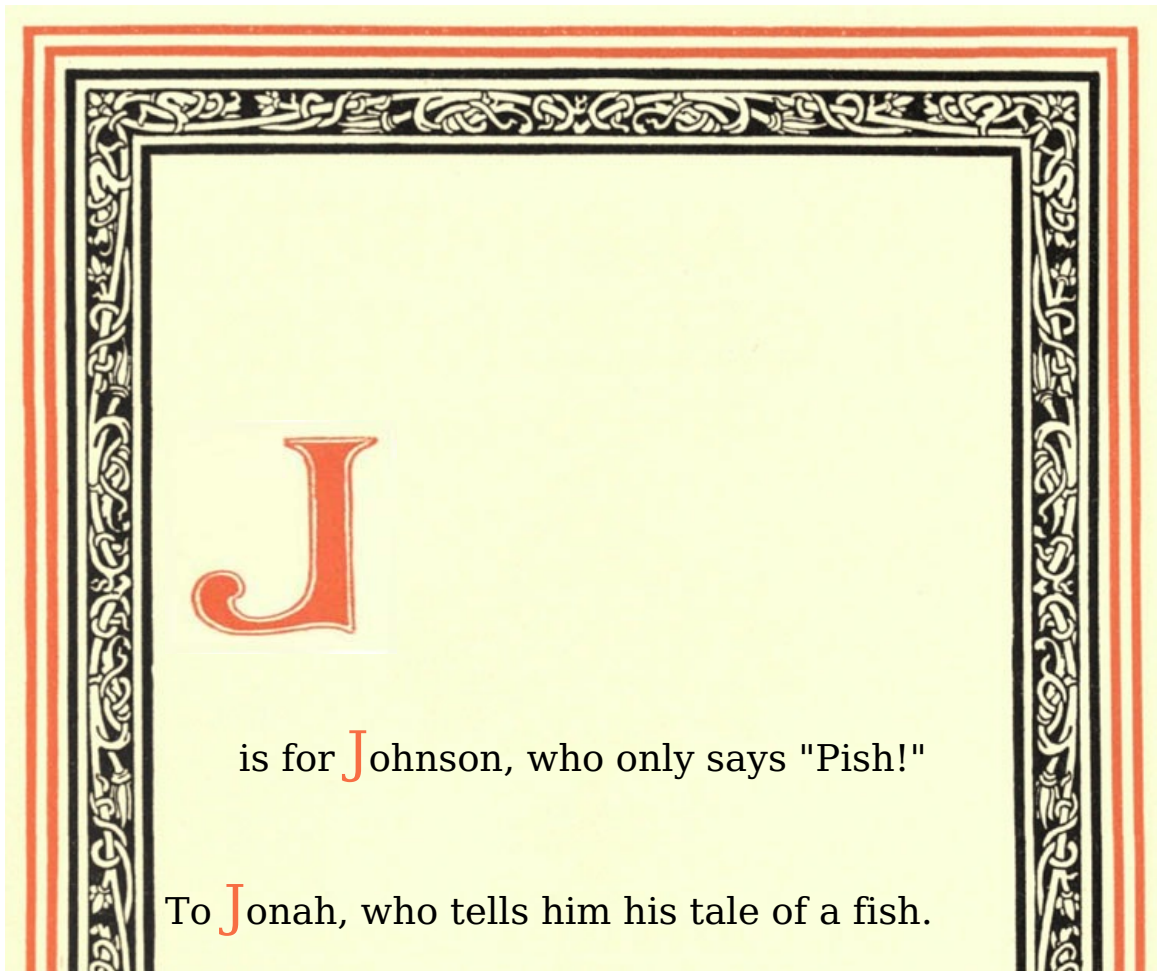




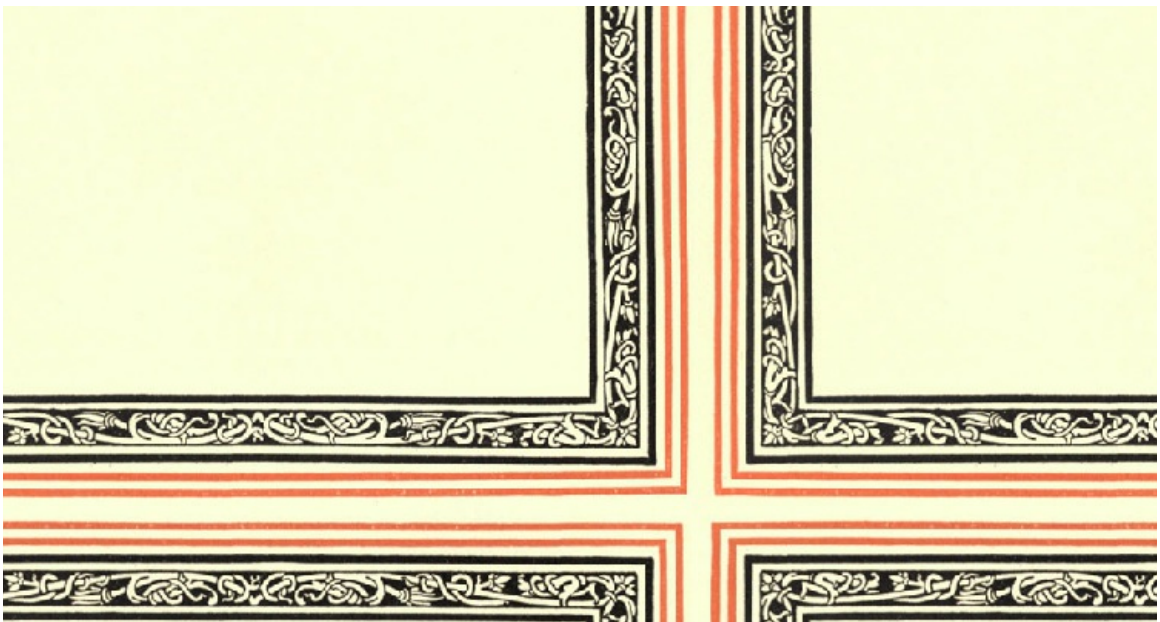
I

is for Ibsen, reciting a play

While Irving and Ingersoll hasten away.









K

is the Kaiser, who kindly repeats

Some original verses to Kipling and Keats.





L

is Lafontaine, who finds he's unable

To interest Luther and Liszt in his fable,

While Loie continues to dance on the table.





M

is **M**acduff, who's prevailed upon **M**ilton

And **M**ontaigne and **M**anon to each try a kilt  
on.





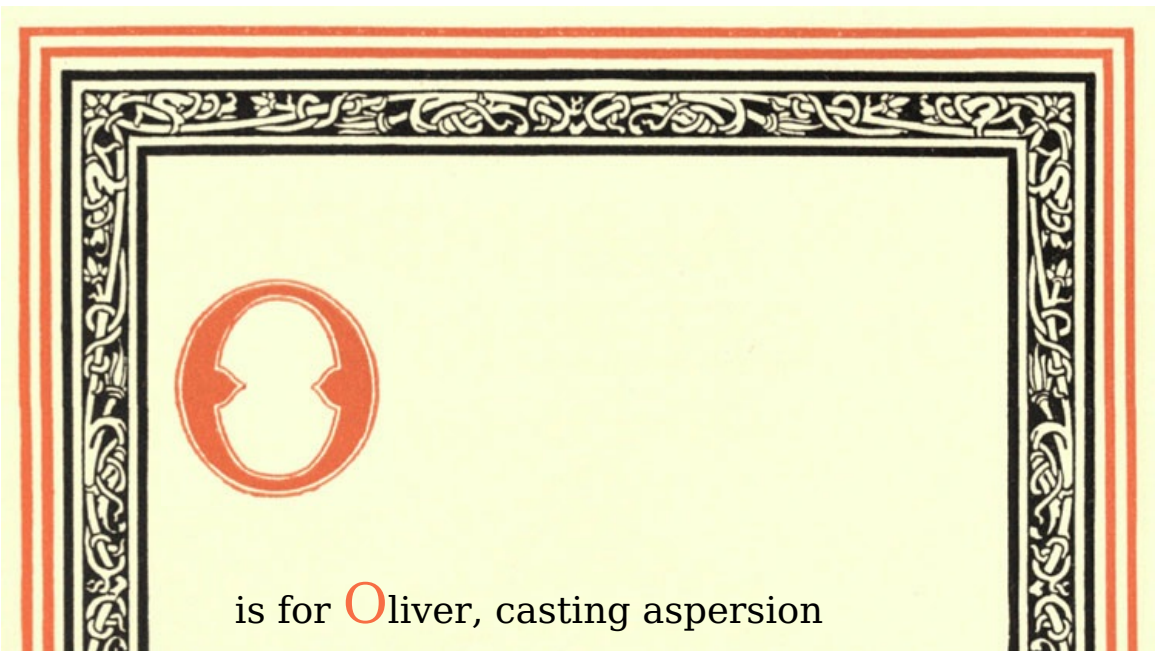
N

is **N**apoleon, shrouded in gloom,

With **N**ero, **N**arcissus, and **N**ordau, to whom

He's explaining the manual of arms with a  
broom.





is for **O**liver, casting aspersion



On Omar, that awfully dissolute Persian,  
Though secretly longing to join the diversion.

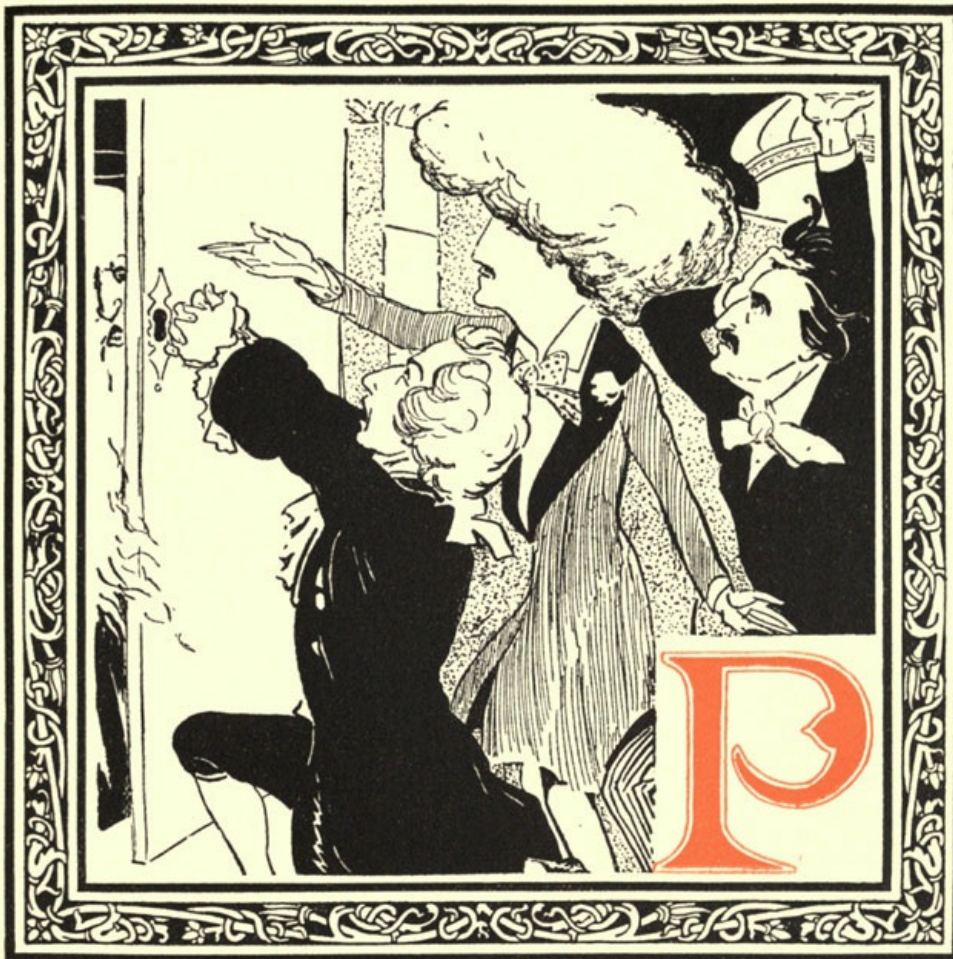




P

is for P eter, who hollers "No! No!"

Through the keyhole to P aine, P aderewski,  
and P oe.







is the **Q**ueen, so noble and free—

*For further particulars look under V.*



**R**'S

**R**ubenstein, playing that old thing in F

To **R**ollo and **R**embrandt, who wish they were deaf.





S 'S

is for **S**winburne, who, seeking the true,  
the good, and the beautiful, visits the  
Zoo,



Where he chances on **S**appho and Mr.

**S**ardou,

And **S**ocrates, all with the same end in view.





T

is for Tallegrand toasting Miss

Truth,

By the side of her well in a glass of vermouth

And presenting Mark Twain as the friend of  
his youth.





U

is for U ndine, pursuing U lysses

And U mberto, who flee her damp, death-  
dealing kisses.



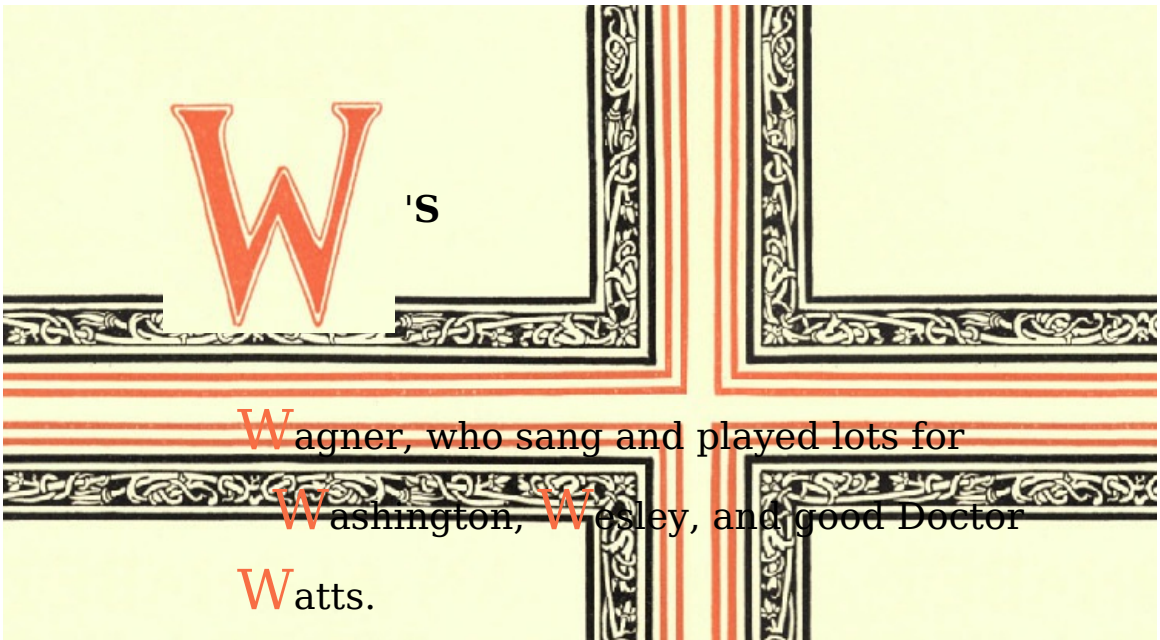


**V**

is **V**ictoria, noble and true—

*For further particulars look under Q.*





W 'S

Wagner, who sang and played lots for

Washington, Wesley, and good Doctor

Watts.



His prurient plots pained Wesley and Watts,

But Washington said he "enjoyed them in spots."





X

is Xantippe, who's having her say,

His prurient plots pained Wesley and Watts,

And frightening the army of Xerxes away.





Y

is for **Y**oung, the great Mormon saint,

Who thinks little **Y**um **Y**um and **Y**vette so  
quaint,

He has to be instantly held in restraint.





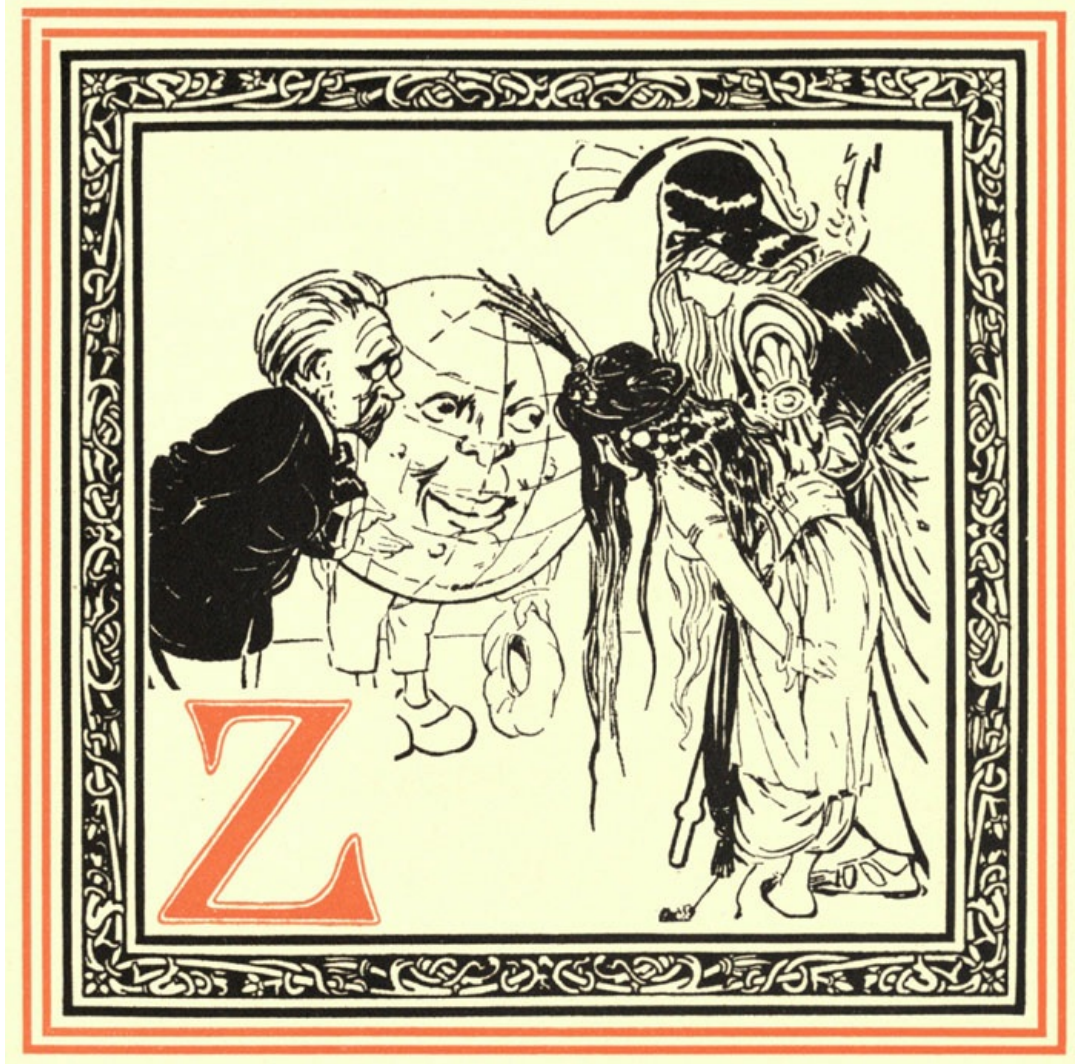
Z

is for **Z**ola, presenting *La Terre*

To **Z**enobia the brave and **Z**uleika the fair,

Whose blushes they artfully conceal with their

hair.







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