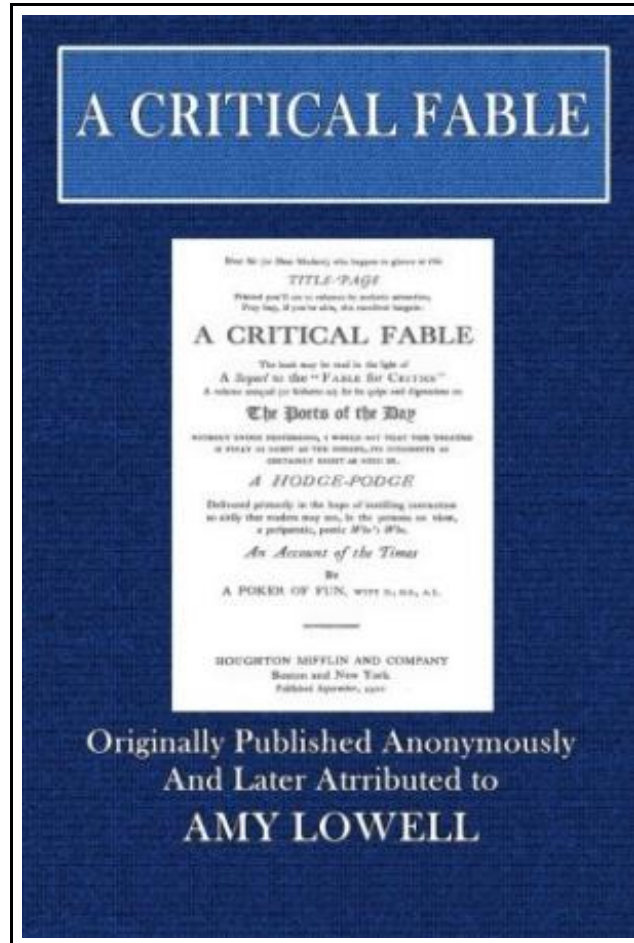


A Critical Fable



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Reviews

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A CRITICAL FABLE

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Createspace Independent Publishing Platform, United States, 2016. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.In 1847 a young man in Cambridge, Mass., named James Russell Lowell, wrote a merry but wise skit, called "A Fable for Critics," which hit off the literary lights of his day. The first edition was issued anonymously. Now somebody, who seems at least familiar with Cambridge, Mass., has written "A Critical Fable", which pays Lowell the compliment of imitation, even to the rhymed title page, and hits off the poets of to-day. Lowells Fable made considerable of a stir in its generation. We wonder if this one will imitate it in that-respect? Lowells made a stir because it had something pungent to say about Bryant and Longfellow and Emerson (who built glorious temples but left "never a doorway to get in a god"), and Whittier and Hawthorne and Cooper and Holmes and Irving and Lowell himself, not to mention the then American trick of kowtowing to England and other matters of Some moment. The 1922 Fable has something not quite so pungent to say about Robert Frost and Amy Lowell and Edwin Arlington Robinson and Carl Sandburg and Vachel Lindsay and certain other present-day poets (it omits all philosophers and other prose writers). But we cannot help wondering whether it will reach the audience Lowell s didnot because it is considerably less pungent, less witty, less wise, but because, probably, Frost, Robinson, Fletcher, Lindsay, Sandburg, Amy Lowell, mean far less to the America of to-day than Longfellow, Irving, Hawthorne, Poe, Holmes, Whittier and Jimmie Lowell meant to the America of 1847. IS THAT because they are inferior as writers? Or is it because we care less as a people for poetry? Or is it...



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