

1916

Dr. Armstrong Offers New Course
March, 1916

This announcement came out in the February 24 issue of the Baylor Lariat: "In the Spring term at 8 o'clock Dr. Armstrong will give a new course in the Department of English. It will be a study of the world masterpieces, including epic, lyric and dramatic literature. The greatest stress, however, will be placed on the drama, and the best works of Aeschylus, Sophocles, Euripides, ^UPlautus, Seneca, Alfieri, Goldoni, Calderon, Lessing, Goethe, Moliere, Racine, and many others, will be studied as carefully as time may permit. In epic and lyric poetry it is also hoped that the student may get sufficient start to encourage him to read more widely the supreme works of literature." Dr. Armstrong will use his own new text Masterpieces of Literature, and it is expected that this new course will, in all probability, feature as Baylor's most popular elective."

Then from the March 23 Lariat, we find this interesting bit of news: "English 22, the course in the Masterpieces, is especially interesting because the course will for the most part be given from Dr. Armstrong's manuscript of the text which he prepared for the course. The publication of his text was delayed on account of the announcement from Houghton, Mifflin and Co. that essentially the same book would be brought out by them, edited by Dr. Brander Matthews of Columbia University. ~~At the request~~ of the reporter, Dr. Armstrong stated that his text was identical with that of Dr. Matthews as far as the selections of dramas was concerned.

"Out of twenty plays selected for study from the great world literature, Dr. Armstrong includes Goldoni and Alfieri, while ^{Dr. Matthews} ~~he~~ omits Lessing's Nathan,

the Wise and Grillparzer's Medea, which Dr. Armstrong includes in his list. Dr. Armstrong's book, in addition to drama, includes generous selections from the lyrics and epics of European literature, while Dante's Inferno, Goethe's Faust, Song of Roland, and other longer epics are included, complete.

In his correspondence with leading scholar-translators, Dr. Armstrong stated that he had met with a generous spirit of co-operation, and had received from them permission to include in his work some fine translations never before published. Dr. Armstrong announced that his own work, however, ^{the publication of} would be indefinitely delayed."