

DICTES AND SAYINGS OF THE PHILOSOPHERS

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Createspace, United States, 2013. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.From the beginning of the PREFACE: FOUR hundred years ago, in the year 1477, a great marvel appeared in England, and many of her proudest nobles and wealthiest citizens wended their way to the Almony at Westminster, to see the small wooden printing press which William Caxton had brought from Bruges and there set up in a tenement called the Red Pale, and to gaze in wonder at its almost supernatural productions. The Dicles and Wise Sayings of the Philosophers was issued as a first-fruit of Caxton s press, and the causes which led to its selection form a story not without much historical interest. In the year 1470 upon the restoration of King Henry VI to the throne of England, Edward IV and his partisans fought refuge at the Court of his brother-in-law, Charles the Bold, Duke of Burgundy. William Caxton was then Governor of the English Nation abroad, or Merchant Adventurers, whose head-quarters were at Bruges, and he was therefore the most influential among the many foreigners who resided in that city. There can be no doubt that during the few months which elapsed before Edward IV regained the English Crown, Caxton had it in his power to render many important services to his expatriated countrymen, and thus laid the foundations of that friendship and patronage which in after years proved of so much advantage to him, and which was in all probability a strong inducement to his adoption of a new vocation and settlement at Westminster. However this may have been, it is certain that Earl Rivers, the brother of Edward s Queen, Elizabeth, was among the earliest to welcome and encourage Caxton. Good-will towards...

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