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George Tennyson was both a scholar and poet himself, and provided Alfred with a sound knowledge of Latin and Greek, which was to provide the mythological influence for Alfred’s own attempts at poetry as a young boy and again in later life in poems such as Ulysses, the Greek Hero’s dramatic monologue. Having been disinherited by his own parents, George suffered from chronic depression and nervous disorders which were exacerbated by his heavy drinking and made him prone to violence. In Memoriam A.H.H, was undoubtedly a private tribute to Hallum, yet it was also quite clearly a social commentary on the world to which Tennyson belonged. Tennyson had completed 'In Memoriam' in 1849 and it was published just before his appointment to laureate. He was also popular with his fellow poets. Tennyson was invested as poet laureate on 19th November 1850, and presented at court on 6th March of the next year. His first act in the role was a dedicatory poem to the queen. His poetic output throughout the laureateship was patchy, and frequently divided critical opinion. Thoroughly fulfilling the public side of his role, he published some thirty patriotic and commemorative poems alongside some of his most famous and ambitious works such as Maud and Idylls. Gregory Tate, "A fit person to be Poet Laureate": Tennyson, 'In Memoriam,' and the Laureateship." St Andrew's Research Repository (from the Tennyson Research Bulletin 9/3: 233-247). Gregory Tate, "The Last Lines of 'Ulysses." St Andrew's Research Repository (from the Tennyson Research Bulletin 10/1: 66-70). Gregory Tate, "Tennyson and the Embodied Mind." St Andrew's Research Repository (from Victorian Poetry, 47/1: 61-80). Victorian Web.