

**THE ISLAND BRIDE;  
IN SIX CANTOS**

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The island bride; in six cantos by Hobart Caunter

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**HOBART CAUNTER**

**THE ISLAND BRIDE;  
IN SIX CANTOS**





THE  
WOMAN  
IN  
THE  
WOODS

# THE ISLAND BRIDE

IN SIX CANTOS

BY

THE REV. HOBART CAUNTER, B.D.

SECOND EDITION.

LONDON :

PUBLISHED BY EDWARD BULL, HOLLES-STREET.

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1830.

LONDON:  
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1830

## ADVERTISEMENT

TO THE SECOND EDITION.

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I CANNOT suffer a second edition of this little Poem to go forth to the world, without expressing how fully alive I am to the very flattering testimonies which have been given in its favour by some of the leading periodicals of the day. In one, indeed, I was censured as an imitator of Campbell; but another traced a similarity to Beattie; while a third discovered that I reminded the reader of Parnell: these latter two, however, spoke in terms of high approbation of the book. The inference which may be fairly drawn from these opposite judgments is, that I have imitated none of those distinguished poets. I am not, in fact, conscious of imitation; though, it must be confessed, there is some similarity between my story and the "Gertrude of Wyoming;" but it is purely accidental.

It is difficult to express what I feel at the favourable reception which the Poem has met with. It

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was ushered into the world with no pretension; and I confess I was apprehensive that, amid the vast flux of literary novelties which is now constantly pouring from the press, my little volume would be absorbed, and escape the public attention. The demand for it, however, has been far beyond my expectation; and, thus encouraged, I have ventured upon a second edition.

As several persons who seem to have taken an interest in the story, have inquired whether the events related in it are true, I will here state the incident which originally suggested it. When I touched at the Isle of France, on my way from India, there was an old man, with silvery locks, residing on a small estate a few miles distant from the town of Port Louis, who was an object of universal sympathy, having become deranged in consequence of the loss of an only daughter. These simple facts have furnished the groundwork of "The Island Bride;" the rest of the characters, as well as all the incidents of the poem, are fictitious.

Somerset Street;

Oct. 25, 1830.

THE ISLAND BRIDE.

CANTO I.

When I consider life, 'tis all a cheat;  
Yet, fooled by hope, men favour the deceit—  
Trust on, and think to-morrow will repay.  
To-morrow's false as the former day—  
Lies worse, and, whilst it says we shall be blest  
With some new joys, cuts off what we possess.  
Strange cozenage!—none would live past years again.  
Yet all hope pleasure from what yet remain,  
And from the dregs of life hope to receive  
What its first sprightly running could not give.

*Dryden.*