THE NATIONAL SONGS AND LEGENDS OF ROUMANIA

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The National Songs and Legends of Roumania by E. C. Grenville Murray

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E. C. GRENVILLE MURRAY

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NATIONAL SONGS AND LEGENDS

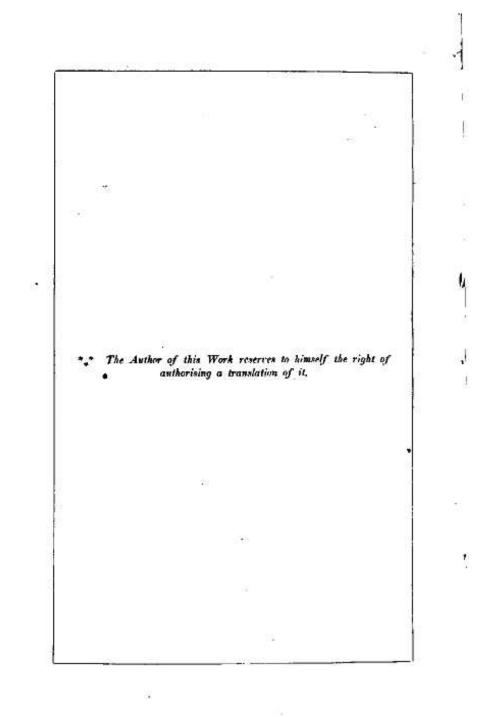
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0 THE NATIONAL SONGS AND LEGENDS 20 OF ROUMANIA. 1 Eustace Clase BY E. C. GRENVILLE MURRAY. ; " La Guerre est ma patrie, Mon harnols, ms maison; Et en toute salson, Combettre c'est ma vie." 1 LONDON: SMITH, ELDER AND CO., 65, CORNHILL. 1859. 28 .

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THIS LITTLE BOOK

Es Debicateb

IN GRATEFUL AFFECTION.

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TO BER

WHO MAS BEEN FOR TEN YEARS THE COMPANION OF NY STUDIES; WHO HAS BEIGHTENED EVERY JOY AND CONBOLED EVERY SCRACH I NAVE FELT;

WHO HAS BEEN THE LIGHT OF MY HEABTH AND THE FRIDE OF MY HEART-THE BRIDE OF MY YOUTH, THE FRIERD OF MY MANHOOD ;

WHOSE BEAUTIFUL AND SUSTAINING LOVE, EVER CHEERING ON AND BECEONING UPWARDS,

HAN HAD FOR ME COMPTHING AT ONCE HUMBLING AND EXALTING IN IT.

> 12 - 540



INTRODUCTION.

The countries now known under the names of Moldavia, Wallachia, Bessarabia, the Bucovina, the Banat, and Transylvania, formed in ancient times the country of the Dacians, a warlike and savage people, who came from Jasebus and Margiens on the banks of the Oxus. They were first called Derbies, or Dáes, and they spoke the same language as the Getae, who inhabited the country at the mouth of the Danube. Their God was called Zamolxis: he is said to have been a disciple of Pythagoras, and to have strayed into their country, where he established a religion based on the system of his great master. After his death he was honoured as the chief of their divinities.

INTRODUCTION ...

The ancient Dacians appear to have had a liberal government, and we hear that they were divided into four classes: the King, the Priests, the Elders, and the People.* Their most remarkable deeds in arms are their war against Augustus, under their chief Beribastes, and the subsequent victories of that barbarian, who extended his rule as far as the frontiers of modern Bavaria. Tallius Cato, Tiberius, and Appins Sabinus were conquered, one after the other, by the victorious Dacians; but at length their chief, Duras, fearful of ultimate defeat, and dreading the resentment of the Romans, gave up his command to Decebalus,

who became their first King; and uniting the various petty rulers under his sway, something as Egbert did the Heptarchy, seems to have established a powerful monarchy. He fought again with the Romans; and one Finculus, with his successor Domitian, appear to have been beaten by him at Talpa. A village in

 Vide Cogalniciano, "Histoire de la Moldo-Wallachie." He appears to have taken his materials, however, without sufficient examination.

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