

**SCOTTISH POETRY  
OF THE SIXTEENTH  
CENTURY**

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Scottish poetry of the sixteenth century by Various

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**VARIOUS**

**SCOTTISH POETRY  
OF THE SIXTEENTH  
CENTURY**



SCOTTISH POETRY OF THE  
SIXTEENTH CENTURY

*Published by*  
WILLIAM HODGE & Co., Glasgow  

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**WILLIAMS & NORGATE, London and Edinburgh**

Abbotsford Series

of the

Scottish Poets

Edited by GEORGE EYRE-TODD

SCOTTISH POETRY OF THE  
SIXTEENTH CENTURY

SIR DAVID LYND SAY  
JOHN BELLENDEN  
KING JAMES THE FIFTH  
SIR RICHARD MAITLAND  
ALEXANDER SCOT  
ALEXANDER MONTGOMERIE

LONDON AND EDINBURGH  
SANDS & COMPANY





## NOTE.

MANY of the best editions of the Scottish poets, even of recent date, increase the difficulties of archaic language by such unnecessary stumbling-blocks as the use of the old straight *s*, and of Anglo-Saxon symbols for certain letters. Some even appear in the added obscurity of Old English type. And when these hindrances are not present, an irritating punctuation too often remains a barrier to all enjoyment. To these obstacles, as much, perhaps, as to the actual scarcity and costliness of the works, is to be attributed the popular neglect of a noble heritage in recent years. In the present volume, as in the previous volumes of this series, an effort has been made, while preserving the text intact in its original form, to improve in these respects upon the readableness of previous editions. A running glossary has, for the same object, been furnished in the margin of each page. For practical perusal of the text, as poetry, it is believed that this arrangement, translating obsolete words, as it does, without a break in the reading, is better than footnotes, or a glossary at the end of the volume. Few now-a-days, it is to be feared, save the most ardent students, can afford the time necessary for the elucidation by

means of a dictionary even of so short a poem as "Chrystis Kirk on the Grene."

While avoiding a burden of distracting comment, all necessary information, it is hoped, has been included in the separate introductions.

All the poems not otherwise indicated are here printed entire; and in particular it may be pointed out that the four pieces attributed to King James the Fifth are now reproduced complete and together for the first time since 1786.

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