

**ATHENAEUM PRESS
SERIES.
SELECTIONS FROM THE
POEMS OF ROBERT BURNS**

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Athenaeum Press Series. Selections from the Poems of Robert Burns by Robert Burns & John G. Dow

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ROBERT BURNS & JOHN G. DOW

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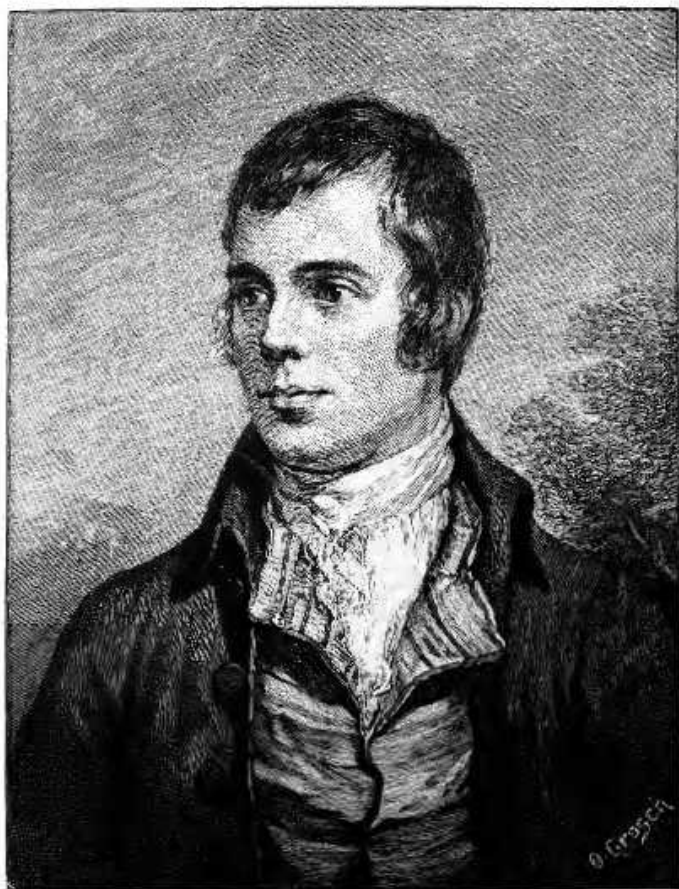
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sary apparatus.



ROBERT BURNS

(After a painting by NASMYTH)

Athenæum Press Series

SELECTIONS
FROM THE
POEMS OF ROBERT BURNS

EDITED
WITH INTRODUCTION, NOTES, AND VOCABULARY

BY
JOHN G. DOW, M.A.

LATE INSTRUCTOR IN ENGLISH IN THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

BOSTON, U.S.A.

GINN & COMPANY, PUBLISHERS

The Athenæum Press

1898

PREFACE.

THE present volume was intended by the editor, the late Professor John G. Dow, to furnish such a selection from the poems of Burns as should, in moderate compass, fully illustrate the character and the range of his genius. In the Introduction it was Professor Dow's first purpose to consider Burns as a poet, and accordingly, after a brief biographical sketch, he passed over to a purely literary discussion. The reader will find a chapter on the obligations of Burns to his predecessors, another on his attitude toward nature, and so on. He will, however, discover no trace of that liking for moral dissection which has too often diverted critics from matters more immediately pertinent. The sections on language, the notes, and the glossary, will, it is hoped, afford the reader all the assistance needed to make the poems completely intelligible.

Professor Dow died suddenly January 21, 1897. His manuscript was to all intents and purposes complete, but it had not received his final revision. The editors of the Athenæum Press Series regard themselves as fortunate in securing, for the purpose of such a revision, the services of William Allan Neilson, Ph.D. (Harvard), a graduate of the University of Edinburgh and a close student of Burns.

JULY 1, 1898.

G. L. K.

C. T. W.



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