# THE TEMPLE OF MEMORY

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The temple of memory by Kenelm Henry Digby

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**KENELM HENRY DIGBY** 

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## TEMPLE OF MEMORY.

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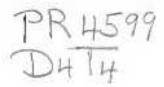
KENELM HENRY DIGBY.



### London : LONGMANS, GREEN, READER, AND DYER.

1874.

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### PREFACE.

Tux object of this Poem was to visit, with the aid of St. Augustin, some of the wonders of Memory. There are added autobiographical sketches comprising various remarkable characters, public events, artistic scenes, and even personal incidents comnected with them, in which it was thought the general reader might take an interest.

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## THE TEMPLE OF MEMORY.

#### CANTO I.

#### PRELUDE.

Or temples and their wonders poets sing, Who through past ages oft their flight will wing Towards Egypt and the ancient domes of Nile, To Tibur's banks or the Ægean Isle. What do not men there measure, scan, describe? What will not then explain each learned scribe? Karnae or Ammon the first temple built After the Deluge consequent on guilt,-Great Temple of the Pharoahs-this they know, And Dandour in the Nubian deserts low, No less Dracontia and the Pyramids, Which last to class with temples nought forbids ; To others monolithic do they speed, Their sculptured forms and strange inscriptions read, To Balbee and Palmyra where the sun Was worshipp'd once, nor would they e'er have done Till that of Belus they beheld still lower Where once had stood famed Babel's haughty tower.

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#### CANTO I.

Then Esneh, Denderah, Persepolis Attract them on ; nor Luxor would they miss. For such a study they extend their span To Pandoo Koolies of grave Hindostan ; Cambodia, Siam, Angkor showing all Whole cities form'd of temples great and small. They piecee through sacred woods, Olympia near, Where men would Jupiter and Juno fear. Then they would scan the temple over Python, There too to gaze and meditate and sigh on Apollo's Delphie shrine ; or they will stand On lofty summits in the Grecian Iand. Of whispers, secrets, things sublime and old Within these porches graver men have told.

But I would visit what exceeds their walls Of Memories the vast capacions halls ! The farthest bounds of India thus surpass'd For temples here though not in ruins, last; As many there are too as there are minds; Whole cities of them therefore thus one finds. One of the smallest I propose to show That can be found in any land I know. But there's no want of guides if we should call Others to show what's greater to us all. Each is mysterions, such as still defices The longest searching of created eyes To scan its depths, its wonders to explain, Which render human efforts wholly vain—