THE DEMON: A POEM

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The Demon: A Poem by Michael Lermontoff

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MICHAEL LERMONTOFF

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BY

MICHAEL LERMONTOFF.

TRANSLATED FROM THE RUSSIAN

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ALEX⁸ CONDIE STEPHEN.

LONDON: TRÜBNER AND CO., 57 & 59, LUDGATE HILL. 1875.

3900

285. m. 144.



LONDON : PRINTED BY WILLIAM CLOWES AND BONG, STANFORD STREET AND CHARING CHOM, Dedicated

TO .

IVAN SERGEIVITCH TOURGUÉNEFF,

WITH FEELINGS OF AFFECTION AND INTEEM.

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PREFACE.

ALTHOUGH already fragments of Russian poetry have been translated into English, no Russian poem of any importance has been brought under the notice of the general Public. Indeed, the ignorance throughout Europe in regard to Russian literature is so profound, that few, save those thoroughly acquainted with the language, believe that any works beyond fable and folklore are to be met with on the shelves of a Russian library. Such names as Pouchkine, Karamsine, Lermontoff, Gogol, are hardly known out of Russia, and few foreigners are aware when these authors lived.

To what are we to attribute this fact? Is it the difficulty and awkwardness of the language? or is it because the literature of Russia is so poor that it possesses no work that merits a wider acquaintance?