SELECTIONS FROM CAMPBELL. EDITED WITH INTRODUCTION AND NOTES

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Selections from Campbell. Edited With Introduction and Notes by Thomas Campbell & W. T. Webb

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THOMAS CAMPBELL & W. T. WEBB

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EDITED WITH INTRODUCTION AND NOTES



LATE PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH LITERATURE, PRESIDENCY COLLEGE, CALCUTA; EDITOR OF "SELECTIONS FROM WORDSWORTH," "COWPER, THE TASK, BOOKS IV. AND V.," "COWPER'S SHORTER FORMS," ETC.

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PREFACE.

In the arrangement of this volume my aim has been to present the poems in the chronological order of their first publication. The text is that of the Aldine Edition, with revisions. Thus, for example, I have substituted the spellings flageolet for flagelet at page 35, line 9, and frise for frize at page 45, line 6; I have amended the rhyme by reading lend for lead at page 24, line 14, and the rhythm by reading wedgéd for wedg'd at page 45, line 6; and I have made a number of corrections in the punctuation, such as the omission of the comma after "returns" at the end of line 47 of Caroline.

My cordial thanks are due to my friend, Mr. James A. Aldis, late Headmaster of Queen Mary's School, Walsall, who reviewed the whole of the proofs, making several useful suggestions, and who gave me much valuable help in the preparation of the General Introduction.

W. T. W.

BERKHAMSTED, April, 1902.

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GENERAL INTRODUCTION.

THOMAS CAMPBELL, though born and bred in Scotland, Campbell's can scarcely be called a Scottish poet, for there is little in his poetry to remind us that he was a Scotsman at all. Like his literary predecessors—Dryden, Pope, and Goldsmith—he was essentially a Londoner, but a Londoner who never lost his early memories of mountain moorlands and braeside wild flowers.

Campbell was born in Glasgow, July 27th, 1777, the Childhood and eighth son and youngest child of a family of eleven. His parents both belonged to the Campbell clan, though not otherwise related. His father was a retired and somewhat unsuccessful merchant, the son of a Scottish laird—Alexander Campbell, of Kirnan, near Inveraray and was a devout follower of the Kirk.

Campbell's home life was of the type immortalized by Burns in his Cottar's Saturday Night, without, however, being at all strait-laced. His father was, indeed, somewhat too easy-going; never used the rod, a peculiarity which impressed Tom Campbell with a life-long gratitude; and left to his wife the main burden of domestic discipline and household economy. The family hearth was brightened with intellectual and cultivated company, professors of the University being frequent visitors. Among these were the celebrated Adam Smith and Dr