

**THE POEMS OF UHLAND,  
TRANSLATED INTO ENGLISH  
VERSE, WITH A SHORT  
BIOGRAPHICAL MEMOIR OF THE  
POET**

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The Poems of Uhland, Translated into English Verse, with a Short Biographical Memoir of the Poet by William Collett Sandars

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**WILLIAM COLLETT SANDARS**

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*Biographical Memoir of the Poet,*

BY

WILLIAM COLLETT SANDARS.

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LONDON :

WILLIAM RIDGWAY, 169, PICCADILLY.

1869.



## P R E F A C E.

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IN presenting this translation of the poems of Uhland to the public, a short statement is necessary of the reasons which have guided the translator in the selection of the pieces which have formed the subject of his labours. The work has been divided into three divisions: the first of which comprises translations of those lyric poems which are best capable of reproduction in a foreign language; the second consists of a few pieces selected from the patriotic songs, epigrams and dramatic works of Uhland; while the third part is entirely occupied with the translations of the Ballads and Romances, which have principally tended to endear the poet to his fellow-countrymen, and to spread his fame in other lands. As the works of Uhland are pervaded by an essentially moral and even religious tone,

it has been found advisable to pass over very few poems as unsuitable. The second division is necessarily a curtailed one; as patriotic and political poems lose their interest, when the events which called them into existence are no longer everyday topics. The Distichs and Sonnets have not been rendered into English, as their force and beauty suffer greatly in the process of translation. The longer poem of Fortunatus and his Sons has not been attempted, as the translator is anxious not to defer the long-intended publication of this little work. The whole has been preceded by a short memoir of Uhland, which, while not pretending to be a complete biography of the poet, will, it is hoped, enable the student to gather an insight into the political and domestic incidents which influenced his poetry, and at the same time afford some guidance and information to the thousands of educated Englishmen to whom Uhland's poetry is



unfortunately not so familiar as its merits deserve. Many of the ballads remain untranslated, but should this work meet with encouragement from the public, translations of other poems and ballads will be added in a subsequent edition. While portions of Uhland's works have already been translated by able authors, such as Thackeray and Longfellow, in a manner which preserves the meaning and poetic rhythm of the original, others have attempted translations, who possess but a limited knowledge either of prosody or the German language. The great object of the translator has been to render the poems as literally as possible, and in almost every case the structure and sense of the original have been closely adhered to, and in many instances the English translation has not received that embellishment at the hands of the translator, which a slight alteration of the meaning suggested.

The year in which each poem was written by Uhland has been prefixed to the translation of the same, so that by reference to the biographical memoir, the reader may see at what period of the poet's life and under what circumstances it was composed. The translator takes this opportunity of expressing his sincere thanks to all friends who so kindly aided his endeavours by the promise of their patronage and support.

29, DUKE STREET, ST. JAMES'S.

*March, 1869.*

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