LAYS OF THE HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS

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Lays of the Highlands and Islands by John Stuart Blackie

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Some of the poems in this volume appeared previously in the "Lays and Legends of Ancient Greece;" but that work has been long out of print, and will not be published again in its original shape.



THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

THE BARONESS BURDETT COUTTS.

High-fortuned lady, bountiful and kind,
Whom to behold is to be touched with good,
Whom in her proud heart Ragland holds enshrined,
Pure type of noblest Christian womanhood!
As a poor child from grassy down may cull
A wilding bloom on which a throned queen
Shall smile, and justly deem more beautiful
Than all the stars that gem the courtly scene;
So thou in thy great march of gracious deeds,
And loving triumphs which subdue all focs,
Slight not the poet; though for human needs
His empty hand no healing bounty shows,
His soulful songs do scatter fruitful seeds
On breezy wing, whence godlike virtue grows.

OBAN,

July 8, 1872.

