

**QUEENHOO-HALL: A
ROMANCE; AND ANCIENT
TIMES, A DRAMA. IN
FOUR VOLUMES. VOL. I**

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Queenhoo-Hall: A Romance; and Ancient times, a Drama. In Four Volumes. Vol. I by Joseph Strutt

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JOSEPH STRUTT

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TIMES, A DRAMA. IN
FOUR VOLUMES. VOL. I**



QUEENHOO-HALL,

A Romance:

AND

ANCIENT TIMES,

A DRAMA.

BY THE LATE

JOSEPH STRUTT,

AUTHOR OF "RURAL SPORTS AND PASTIMES OF THE
PEOPLE OF ENGLAND," &c.

IN FOUR VOLUMES.

VOL. I.

EDINBURGH:

Printed by James Ballantyne & Co.

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AND

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ADVERTISEMENT.

THE late Mr Joseph Strutt was well known to Connoisseurs by his "History of Engravers;" and by his own performances as an artist. Among the last are many that evince his talents of design, as well as his skill in engraving. To literary men he was distinguished by his sedulous and honourable endeavours to illustrate the early history of his country. The "HORDA ANGEL CYNAN," comprising an account of the dresses and costume used in England, during the various ages from the invasion of the Saxons to the last century, is a work not only of value to the antiquary, but to all who, reading the early history of

VOL. I.

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their country, are desirous to identify, with the events recorded, some idea of the external appearance of those by whom they were performed. "The Sports and Pastimes of the People of England," with the corresponding engravings, is a work of equal merit; and those who undervalue the labour and skill necessary to select the materials of such a composition, are little aware, how much more the fire of genius is kindled and excited by a single circumstance of minute and picturesque reality, than by an hundred elegant, round, and polished periods, in which events are generally narrated, without a tittle to mark whether they happened in Britain or Palestine.

But, independent of his merits as an excellent artist, and a sedulous antiquary, Mr Strutt possessed powers of imagination, of

which the following volumes are a satisfactory, though, necessarily, an imperfect specimen.

The romance, entitled "Queenhoo-Hall," was acquired by the Editor in an imperfect state; and although the tale is brought, by a literary friend, to a hasty conclusion, yet, from the materials which remain, there is reason to believe, that Mr Strutt intended it should neither be so abruptly, nor so inartificially terminated. Traces are to be discovered in the manuscript, of adventures sketched out but not finished, and of new characters to be illustrated in the future process of the story; but there remained not sufficient evidence of the path which the author intended to pursue; and, therefore, it was deemed more fitting to trust to the reader's liberal candour, for the disproportions natural in a story not

finished by the original author, than to make the memory of Mr Strutt responsible for the edifice built by another, when the foundations he had laid were scarcely to be traced. It is also to be noticed, that although the ancient dialect is observed with great accuracy (generally speaking) by the lower personages of the romance, yet the language and manners of the higher rank are not *gothicized*, if the reader will permit the expression, in the same proportion. Lord Boteler, his daughter, and visitors, talk nearly like people of rank in the present day, while their domestics use the language of the feudal ages. It seems probable, that the author intended, at his leisure, to harmonize these jarring parts of his picture, and that the present narrative only presents the outline and main plan of his building, without the gothic *façade*, which should