SELECTIONS FROM SCHILLER'S LYRICAL POEMS

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Selections from Schiller's Lyrical Poems by Friedrich Schiller & E. J. Turner & E. D. A. Morshead

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FRIEDRICH SCHILLER & E. J. TURNER & E. D. A. MORSHEAD

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Trieste

SELECTIONS

FROM

SCHILLER'S LYRICAL POEMS

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WITH NOTES AND MEMOIR OF SCHILLER

BY

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PREFACE

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THE following selection from Schiller's Minor Poems has been made with a view to school teaching; it is therefore necessarily incomplete; had it not been for the limits imposed by the special object, Kassandra would have found a place by the side of Das Siegesfest, and Die Künstler would have had equal claims for recognition with Der Spaziergang. For the same reason notes have been given only when they seemed necessary or helpful for a right understanding of the passage. We have endeavoured in all cases to explain allusions; but words and phrases have only been commented upon when more aid appeared to be needed than is provided by the ordinary school grammars and dictionaries, or when special care in rendering appeared to be necessary. The parallels and illustrations given from Classical or English poetry may appear in some cases hackneyed, but the editors conceived that it was better to err on

21.12

PREFACE.

the side of over-quotation, and to take their standard from the less cultured of their readers, than to lose any opportunity of stimulating a taste for poetical criticism and comparison.

Our memoir of Schiller does not aim at being : biography of the poet, still less at being a critica examination of his works: it is merely a summary of the main episodes of his career, and of the circum stances under which his greater poems were produced

We must acknowledge our debt to Düntzer': Commentary on Schiller's Poems, and to his Life o, Schiller, translated by Pinkerton; also to Bulwe Lytton's Poems and Ballads of Schiller, Carlyle's Lift of Schiller, and Lewes' Life of Goethe.

> E. J. T. E. D. A. M.

WINCHESTER, February 1886.

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INTRODUCTION

AT Marbach on the Neckar, about midnight of 10-11th November 1759, was born Johann Christoph Friedrich Schiller, second among the poets of Germany, and not without distinction in her splendid roll of historians,a man whose character, purposes, and achievements, in his short life of forty-five years, set him among the highest; a prophet certainly not without honour in his own country, and perhaps more widely known and loved outside its limits than any of his compatriots, unless Goethe be an exception. He holds a fame less fluctuating than commonly falls to the lot of poets in the generations immediately succeeding their own : even now the author of Wallenstein, if less adored, is less disparaged than the author of Faust. His father, Johann Caspar Schiller, of Bittenfeld in Würtemberg, was born in 1723, and became army-surgeon and subaltern in a Bavarian hussar regiment, with which he served in the Netherlands during the War of the Austrian Succession. Taken prisoner near Brussels by the French, he was forced to serve for a time in their ranks; but was again taken prisoner by the Austrians, and restored to his original regiment. Throughout his military career he seems to have combined the functions of combatant and surgeon. In April 1748 the promulgation of the Peace of Aix-la-Chapelle caused his regiment to be in great part disbanded ; and, after visiting London and Amsterdam, he returned homewards in 1749, and in the month of July