SILENT LOYE: A POEM

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649374335

Silent love: a poem by James Wilson

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JAMES WILSON

SILENT LOVE: A POEM





PAISLEY:

PUBLISHED BY MURRAY & STEWART.



Frontispiece

NEILSON AND MURBAY, PRINTERS.

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PREFACE TO THE FOURTH EDITION.

HIS being the Fourth Edition of "SILENT LOVE," an expensive experiment has been made to render it still more worthy of public favour, and the Editor is indebted to the talented J. Noel Paton, for the elegant illustrations designed and engraven by him for this edition. The demand for copies of last impression from all parts of the kingdom, still unanswered, gave confidence to the Publishers in making the present important changes, while the alteration in price is no more than a remuneration for the additional expense in getting up the work.

The critics of the public press having been lavishly kind in their commendations, and the Editor being anxious that his introduction shall be so brief as not to interfere with the Poem itself, he will, therefore, only quote a few opinions, and commence with a paragraph from the most widely circulated and approved journal of this or any other country.

"We read, with wonder, in strains as musical as Pope's, feelings as impassioned, yet as delicate as those of Tasso, and all this from a Paisley apothecary who lived and died obscurely forty years ago. The whole production is a literary curiosity of a very singular kind."

—Chambers' Edinburgh Journal, 9th Dec., 1843.

"This wonderful poem has already attained its third edition, and is now produced in a style of elegance truly superb. It has been likened, by the Chambers', to the writings of Pope or Tasso, and by others to the 'Pleasures of Memory,' and even to Campbell's 'Pleasures of Hope,' " &c.—Glasgos Courier.

"It is needless to praise this poem, a third edition having appeared in so short a period, and praises having already been so fully bestowed on the talented and truth-speaking production."—Glasgow Argus.

"This is a short but singular piece. The author has contrived to tell his tale of 'Silent Love' within bounds so limited as to be quite unparalleled in the history of poets and poetry. Trite though the subject be, one almost regrets this, for a perusal of the poem will satisfy the reader that the writer was well qualified for holding converse with the Muses. His lines are free from that stiffness which often betrays the tyro whose thirst for poetic fame exceeds his capabilities to merit it. He seems to possess all the sweetness and tenderness of Cowper, and is not far removed from the masterly finish of Pope."—London Paper.

We now present the work in its improved form to the public, along with a brief Sketch of the Author's life, which appeared in the former editions.—En.

PAIRLEY, 1st January, 1845.