

**THE FOREST MINSTREL; A  
SELECTION OF SONGS,  
ADAPTED TO THE MOST  
FAVOURITE SCOTTISH AIRS**

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The Forest Minstrel; A Selection of Songs, Adapted to the Most Favourite Scottish Airs by  
James Hogg

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FOREST MINSTREL;

A  
SELECTION OF SONGS,  
ADAPTED  
TO THE MOST FAVOURITE SCOTTISH AIRS.

FEW OF THEM EVER BEFORE PUBLISHED.

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BY  
JAMES HOGG  
THE ETTRICK SHEPHERD,  
AND OTHERS.

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Even the rapt traveller would stay,  
Forgetful of the closing day;  
And noble youths, the strain to hear,  
Forsook the hunting of the deer;  
And Yarrow, as he flow'd along,  
Bore burden to the Minstrel's song. SCOTT.

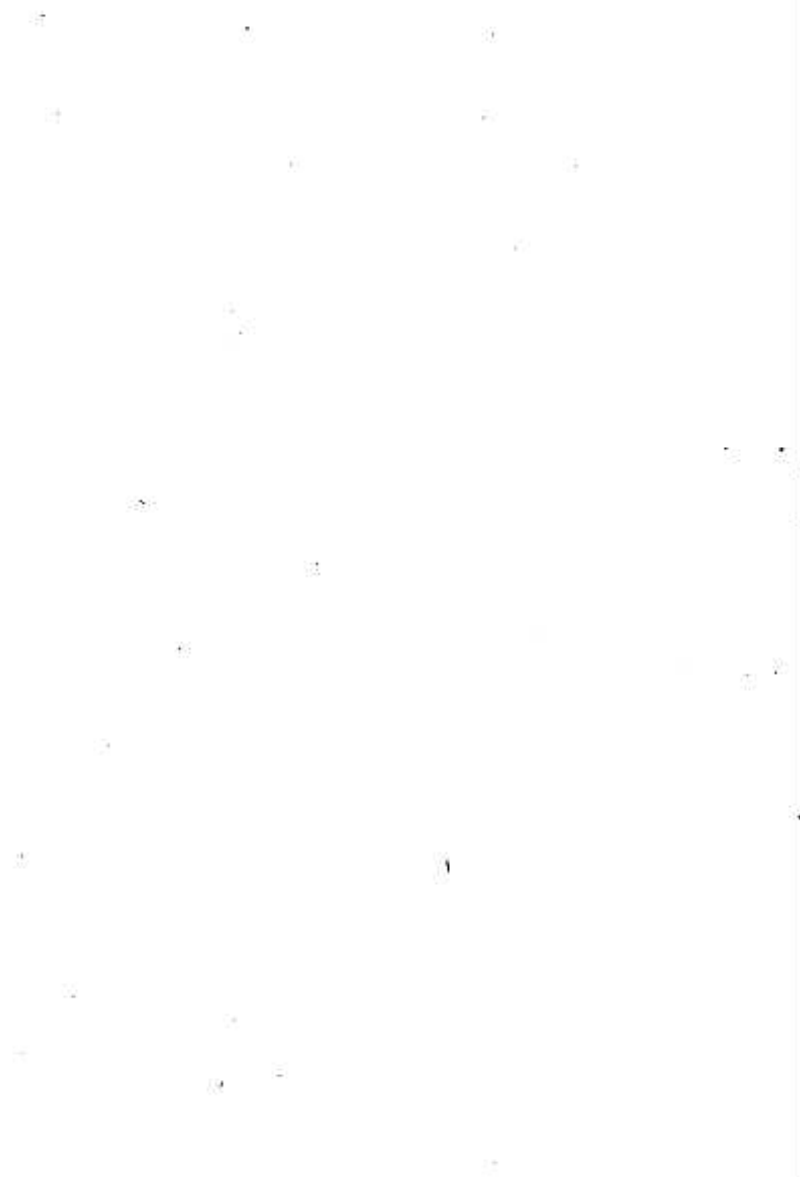
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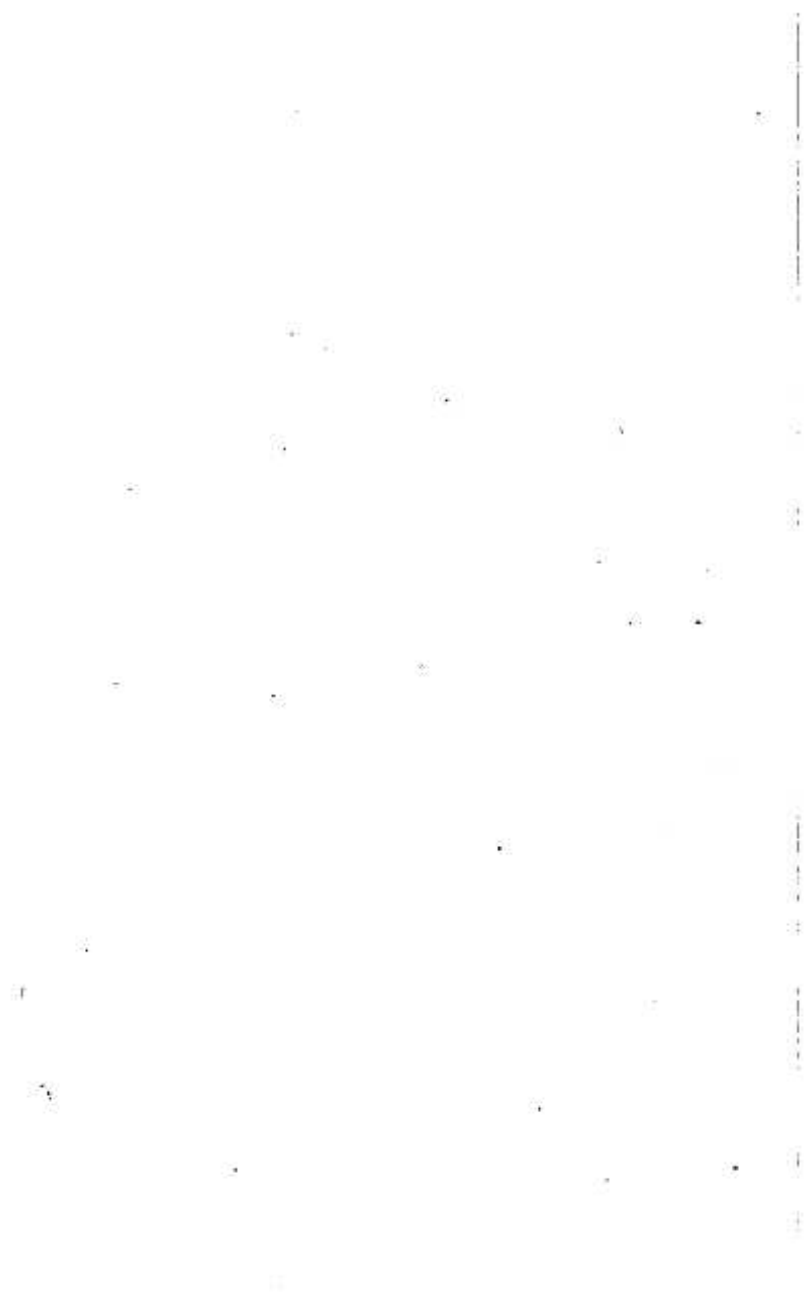


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for

TO  
THE STAY OF GENIUS  
AND  
THE SHIELD OF MERIT,  
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE  
HARRIET,  
COUNTESS OF DALKEITH,  
THE  
*FOREST MINSTREL*  
IS RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED,  
BY HER LADYSHIP'S MOST DEVOTED AND  
HUMBLE SERVANT,  
THE EDITOR.

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## PREFACE.

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AFTER so many collections of songs as have of late appeared, it may seem to some presumptive in an Editor offering to public notice a collection, most of which have never been published before; but from this very argument, his principal incentive and hope of approbation is derived. All our late collections of *Scottish Songs* are only selected from divers others, that have been published and republished in an hundred various ways and manners, with respect to size, shape, and title; and, by some fatality, all the best songs of our best authors seem too soon to have become public property, and are already in every body's

mouth and every body's hands. The consequence is, that a singer has little chance of pleasing the social circle by any means than singing better than others; the same song commonly forming a part of the entertainment of every night, in various families. When any of Burns's best songs are asked, the answer most commonly is, *That is quite thread-bare now*. In truth, a young lady cannot, without hesitating reluctance, sit down to her piano, and sing what every ballad-hawker in the street is singing at times.

Since the Songs of Burns were published, not one collection of new Scottish songs hath appeared; and to this circumstance is certainly to be attributed the introduction, into very many genteel families, of those English songs, which are set to music quite artificial and complicated, and destitute, in a great measure, of the natural melody and exhilarating strains of our own national mu-

sic, which, of all others, will ever continue to fill a Scotsman's breast with the most pleasing sensations; and though he is at present obliged, in conformity to a false taste imposed on him by a set of pretended connoisseurs, to sit with patience and resignation listening to his orchestra and concerts chattering and trilling away their foreign airs, natural feeling will in a short time prevail, in spite of all their arts to overcome and persuade him out of it. The Scot will never suffer that music to be spurned and despised, which has been admired by every nation where introduced. When did any of us see the orchestra hailed with such plaudits of approbation, on performing any of their Italian tirlie-whirlies, as they were on their performance of the Highland music introduced in *The Family Legend*? That single circumstance, exclusive of many others, strongly attests what music would please the far greatest part of a Scottish au-