

TRANSRHENANE MEMOIRS

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Transrhenane Memoirs by John Richard Best

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JOHN RICHARD BEST

**TRANSRHENANE
MEMOIRS**

5 1.H. 1828.
TRANSRHENANE

MEMOIRS.

BY

JOHN RICHARD BEST, ESQ.

AUTHOR OF "TRANSALPINE MEMOIRS."

"Smoothing the raven-down
"Of darkness till it smiled."—Milton's *Comus*.

LONDON:

LONGMAN, REES, ORME, BROWNE AND GREEN;
AND RICHARD CRUTTWELL, BATH.

1828.

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PREFACE.

A Person to whom I had been lately introduced by name, enquired if I was related to the Lincolnshire gentleman, who, about thirty years ago, had left the Established Church and embraced the Catholic faith. I answered by a movement of assent, and our conversation proceeded in the same friendly tone. May I hope that those who have favourably received the anonymous writer of "Transalpine Memoirs," will not withdraw their approbation now that they discover his relation to the *obnoxious*

author of "Four Years in France?"—that they will still be willing to entertain towards him the same friendly dispositions, though they now know him by a name to which religious prejudice may have rendered them hostile; and that, whithersoever it may lead, they will acknowledge the merits of conscientious disinterestedness, and not allow the illiberality of the politician to influence the decision of the literary judge:

cur dextra jungere dextram

Non datur, ac veras audire et reddere voces?

As to my first work, "Transalpine Memoirs," most of the reviewers who have noticed it, have done so with indulgence and commendation: I beg them to accept my thanks. There are, however, two heads of accusation against me: some have questioned my judgment in matters relating to the Fine Arts; and one—the Monthly Review—after show-