

**QUATRAINS: LIFE'S
MYSTERY, AND
OTHER POEMS**

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Quatrains: Life's Mystery, and Other Poems by Lowe Martin

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LOWE MARTIN

**QUATRAINS: LIFE'S
MYSTERY, AND
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Quatrains
LIFE'S MYSTERY
AND
OTHER POEMS

BY
WM. WILSEY MARTIN

AUTHOR OF
"By Solent and Danube," "Poems and Ballads," &c.



LONDON:
ELKIN MATHEWS
AT THE SIGN OF THE BODLEY HEAD IN VIGO STREET
1891

APAS904

*'The Moving Finger writes, and, having writ,
Moves on ; nor all your Piety nor Wit
Shall lure it back to cancel half a line,
Nor all your tears wash out a word of it.*

OMAR-I-KHAYYAM.

TO
THE QUAIN, ART-LOVING, AND ERUDITE
FRATERNITY
VLEKED
"YE SETTE OF ODDE VOLUMES"
(*George Charles Haité, Esq., President*)
THESE FORMS
ARE
BY PERMISSION, RESPECTFULLY
DEDICATED.

*' To friends and eke to foes true kindness show:
No kindly heart can prove unkind, I trow:
Harshness will alienate a bosom friend,
And kindness reconcile a deadly foe.'*

OMAR-I-KHAYYAM.

Quatrains.

*' Hark at the lips of this pink whorl of shell,
And you shall hear the ocean's surge and roar ;
So in the Quatrain's measure, written well,
A thousand lines shall all be sung in four.'*

F. DEMPSTER SHERMAN.



Quatrains.

WORDS.

I.

WORDS are the stranded foam the sea-winds blew,
Or bloom-snow falling in the springing weeks ;
Unless the character of him who speaks
Stand out, behind the words, as good and true!

II.

Words are but feathers, bright or black or grey,
Upon the small winds' fingers borne and lost ;
But actions are the great rocks—tempest cross'd,
Though fretted by a million storms, they stay.