

**THE VILLAGE  
BEAUTY: AND  
OTHER POEMS**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649729579

The Village Beauty: And Other Poems by Robert Gemmell

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Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

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# THE VILLAGE BEAUTY,

AND

## OTHER POEMS.

By ROBERT GEMMELL,

AUTHOR OF "MONTAGUE, A DRAMA, AND OTHER POEMS"; "THE  
DESENTER, AND OTHER MILITARY TALES AND SKETCHES :  
OR SOLDIERING THIRTY YEARS AGO," ETC.

"Above, below, in ocean, earth, and sky,  
Thy fairy worlds, imagination, lie."

CAMPBELL.

GLASGOW: PORTEOUS BROTHERS.

EDINBURGH: ANDREW ELLIOT.

LONDON: SIMPKIN, MARSHALL & CO.

1886.

ANX0977



TO  
ANDREW WALLACE, ESQUIRE,  
AS A TOKEN OF ESTEEM AND FRIENDSHIP,  
*This Volume of Poems*  
IS RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED BY  
THE AUTHOR.





## PREFACE.

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THIRTEEN years have rolled away since the publication of my last book, *The Deserter*, and eighteen years have also sped their course since I published *Montague, and Other Poems*, and now I have thought of another venture in the publication of the present volume. I had cherished the desire to publish these poems for a considerable time, but refrained from doing so through the dread of loss. At the earnest desire of friends I was at length induced to consent to the publication of this volume, and I hope the same success which I have experienced in the past will not desert me on the present occasion.

To write in verse has at all times been to me a very great source of pleasure, and though perhaps the flow was not always a continuous stream, nevertheless the desire to express my thoughts in this form has come at times so strongly upon me that I was compelled to yield to it. But while there may be interest in the fact that these effusions have thus come from the

heart, I would also hope they will be found good in feeling and substance, without which even the finest compositions would be of little value. I have placed "The Village Beauty" first, not that I think it the best piece in the volume, but rather on account of its length and the nature of the subject. The other pieces are arranged more with a view to harmony as a whole than in the order of merit. Several of the short poems have already appeared in periodicals and other publications, but are now presented for the first time in a collected form.

In sending forth this volume I would humbly hope that these productions, which in their composition have had such a delightful effect upon myself, may in some degree be helpful to the happiness of others.

R. G.

181 HOSPITAL STREET,  
GLASGOW, *2nd April, 1886.*