

**ROBIN HOOD: A COLLECTION OF ALL THE
ANCIENT POEMS, SONGS AND BALLADS,
NOW EXTANT, RELATIVE TO THAT CELEBRATED
ENGLISH OUTLAW. TO WHICH ARE PREFIXED
HISTORICAL ANECDOTES OF HIS LIFE. IN TWO
VOLUMES, VOL. I. [LONDON, 1887]**

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Robin Hood: A Collection of All the Ancient Poems, Songs and Ballads, Now Extant, Relative to That Celebrated English Outlaw. To Which Are Prefixed Historical Anecdotes of His Life. In Two Volumes, Vol. I. [London, 1887] by Joseph Ritson

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JOSEPH RITSON

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RITSON.

VOLUME I.





J. Kitfon.

RITSON

ROBIN HOOD

A Collection of all the Ancient Poems,
Songs and Ballads, now extant, Relative to
that Celebrated English Outlaw

TO WHICH ARE PREFIXED HISTORICAL ANECDOTES
OF HIS LIFE

By JOSEPH RITSON

With Eighty Wood Engravings

By BEWICK

PRINTED ON CHINA PAPER

Also Nine Etchings from Original Paintings

By A. H. TOURRIER AND E. BUCKMAN

IN TWO VOLUMES

VOL. I.

LONDON

JOHN C. NIMMO

14, KING WILLIAM STREET, STRAND, W.C.

1887



PUBLISHER'S NOTICE.

THIS edition of ROBIN HOOD is printed from that published in 1832, which was carefully edited and printed from Mr. RITSON'S own annotated edition of 1795.

The original wood engravings, by the celebrated BEWICK, have been again used; and from being printed on China paper, will be found superior in clearness and beauty to the first impression.

The nine etchings now given have been newly etched from original pictures painted by A. H. TOURRIER and E. BUCKMAN.



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PREFACE.

THE singular circumstance that the name of an outlawed individual of the twelfth or thirteenth century should continue traditionally popular, be chanted in ballads, and, as one may say,

Familiar in our mouth as household words,

at the end of the eighteenth, excited the editor's curiosity to retrieve all the historical or poetical remains concerning him that could be met with: an object which he has occasionally pursued for many years; and of which pursuit he now publishes the result. He cannot, indeed, pretend that his researches, extensive as they must appear, have been attended with all the success he could have wished; but, at the same time, it ought to be acknowledged that many poetical pieces, of great antiquity and some merit, are deservedly rescued from oblivion.

The materials collected for the "Life" of this celebrated character, which are either preserved at