

**ORCADIAN SKETCHES:  
LEGENDARY AND  
LYRICAL PIECES**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649663651

Orcadian Sketches: Legendary and Lyrical Pieces by David Vedder

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**DAVID VEDDER**

**ORCADIAN SKETCHES:  
LEGENDARY AND  
LYRICAL PIECES**



**ORCADIAN SKETCHES.**

**ORCADIAN SKETCHES;**

**LEGENDARY**

AND

**LYRICAL PIECES.**

---

BY

**DAVID VEDDER,**

AUTHOR OF "THE COVENANTER'S COMMUNION."

---

**EDINBURGH:**

**WILLIAM TAIT, 78, PRINCES' STREET;**  
**LONGMAN AND CO. LONDON; ATKINSON AND CO. GLASGOW.**

**MDCCKKXII.**

TO  
**ALLAN CUNNINGHAM, Esq.**

THIS VOLUME  
IS MOST RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED

BY  
HIS ATTACHED FRIEND,

**THE AUTHOR.**

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20 21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40



## CONTENTS.

---

	PAGE.
To Orkney,.....	9
The Laird o' Yarpba,.....	11
Hempie the Ferry Louper,.....	21
The Baronet of Burra,.....	33
Some Passages in the Life of Magnus Halcro,.....	42
<b>NAUTICAL REMINISCENCES—</b>	
Chapter First,.....	51
— Second,.....	60
— Third,.....	64
— Fourth,.....	70
The Anniversary of Robert Burns,.....	76
Rose Jamieson,.....	88
<b>MY NATIVE PARISH—</b>	
Chapter First, The Dominie,.....	99
— Second, The Dancing Master Abroad,...	106
Aurora Borealis in Orkney,.....	113
The Battle of Luncarty,.....	119
The Temple of Nature,.....	128
The Death of the Red Comyn,.....	131
To Freedom,.....	134
The Constellation,.....	136
The Witch o' Pittenweem,.....	139
Stanzas,.....	147
Stanzas on the Death of a Beautiful Infant,.....	149
Stanzas to a Daughter,.....	151
Lament of the Duke of Rothesay,.....	153
The Civic Dinner,.....	156
He Would be a Soldier,.....	160

	PAGE.
The Laird o' Windlestrawtown,.....	164
Valedictory Stanzas to 1831,.....	168
SONGS—	
I.—Heard ye the Tidings,.....	170
II.—The First of May,.....	172
III.—The Gleaming star is gleaming,.....	174
IV.—Robin is my joy, my dear,.....	176
V.—For the Anniversary of Burns,.....	178
VI.—I neither gat plenishing, siller, nor land,.....	180
VII.—Song of the Scottish Exile,.....	181
VIII.—There is a pang for every heart,.....	183
IX.—The sun-flowers droop, the breezes sigh,.....	184
X.—To Lady ———,.....	186
XI.—Yes; I will deem thee like the rose,.....	188
XII.—Now gloamin o'er the walkin weaves,.....	189
XIII.—The Spaewife,.....	191
XIV.—Lament for Mary Queen of Scots,.....	193
XV.—The Warlock,.....	195
XVI.—Lord George Douglas' Song,.....	197
XVII.—Provost Pawkie's Lament,.....	199
XVIII.—Lord George Murray to the Clans,.....	201
XIX.—The sun's in the east, &c.,.....	203
XX.—The tempest is raging,.....	204
Emmeline—a Ballad,.....	206
The Death of Douglas,.....	211
Stanzas written on a Blank Leaf of Lockhart's Life of Burns,.....	214
The Last Hours of Moses,.....	216
Margaret's Reminiscences,.....	219
My own <i>Blue</i> Bell,.....	222
To Patience,.....	226

## TO ORKNEY.

---

LAND of the whirlpool—torrent—foam,  
Where oceans meet in madd'ning shock ;  
The beetling cliff—the shelving holm—  
The dark insidious rock :  
Land of the bleak, the treeless moor—  
The sterile mountain, sere and riven ;  
The shapeless cairn, the ruined tower  
Scathed by the bolts of heaven :  
The yawning gulf—the treacherous sand—  
I love thee still, my native land.

Land of the dark—the Runic rhyme—  
The mystic ring—the cavern hoar ;  
The Scandinavian seer—sublime  
In legendary lore :  
Land of a thousand Sea-kings' graves,  
—Those tameless spirits of the past,  
Fierce as their subject Arctic waves,  
Or hyperborean blast ;