

THE ESPOUSALS

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649144662

The espousals by Coventry Kersey Dighton Patmore

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THE ESPOUSALS

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LONDON

JOHN W. PARKER AND SON WEST STRAND

1856



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PROLOGUE.





THE PROLOGUE.

HER sons pursue the butterflies,
Her baby daughter mocks the
doves

With throbbing coo : in his fond eyes
She 's Venus with her little Loves ;
Her step 's an honour to the earth,
Her form 's the native-land of grace,
And, lo, his coming lights with mirth
Beauty's metropolis, her face !
Of such a lady proud 's the lord ;
And that her happy bosom knows :
She takes his arm without a word,
In lanes of laurel and of rose.