THE BEAUTIES OF KIRKE WHITE, CONSISTING OF SELECTIONS FROM HIS POETRY AND PROSE

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The beauties of Kirke White, consisting of selections from his poetry and prose by Alfred Howard

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ALFRED HOWARD

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Trieste

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BY ALFRED HOWARD, ESQ.

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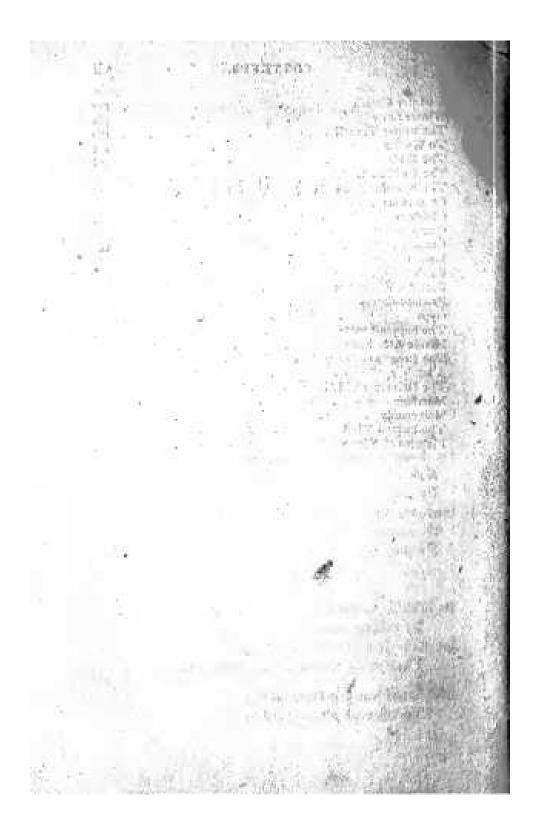
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KIRKE WHITE.

ON HEARING AN AOLIAN HARP.

So ravishingly soft upon the tide

Of the inforiate gust it did career,

It might have soothed its rugged charioteer, And sunk him to a zephyr :---then it died, Melting in melody :----and I descried,

Borne to some wixard stream, the form appear Of druid sage, who on the far-off car Pour'd his lone song, to which the surge replied: Or thought I heard the hapless pilgrim's kncll.

Lost in some wild cuchanted forest's bounds, By unseen beings sung; or are these sounds Such as, 'tis said, at night are known to swell, By startled shepherd on the lonely heath, Keeping his night-watch sad, portending death?

A BALLAD.

He hush'd, be hush'd, ye bitter winds, Ye pelting rains, a little rest: Lie still, lie still, ye busy thoughts, That wring with grief my aching breast.

Oh! cruel was my faithless love, To triumph o'er an artless maid ;

KIRKE WHITE.

Oh ! cruel was my faithless love, To leave the breast by him betray'd.

When exiled from my native home,

He should have wiped the bitter tear ; Nor left me faint and lone to ream,

A heart-sick weary wanderer here.

My child moans sadly in my arms, The winds they will not let it sleep:

Ah ! Ittle knows the hapless babe

What makes its wretched mother weep.

Now lie thee still, my infant dear, I cannot bear thy sobs to sec : Harsh is thy father, little one, And never will be shelter thee.

Oh that I were but in my grave,

And winds were piping o'er me loud, And thou, my poor, my orphan babe, Were nestling in thy mother's shroud !

MY OWN CHARACTER.

Addressed (during Illness) to a Lady.

Dear Fanny, I mean, now I'm laid on the shelf, To give you a sketch—ay, a sketch of myself. 'Tis a pitiful subject, I frankly confess, And one it would puzzle a painter to dress; But however, here goes, and as sure as a gun, I'll tell all my faults like a penitent nun; For I know, for my Fanny, before I address her, She won't be a cynical father confessor. Come, come, 'twill not do: put that purling brow down; You can't, for the soul of you, learn how to frown.

 $\mathbf{2}$