THE LAY OF THE LADY ELLEN, A TALE OF 1834

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The lay of the lady Ellen, A Tale of 1834 by Harry Chester

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HARRY CHESTER

THE LAY OF THE LADY ELLEN, A TALE OF 1834



THE

LAY OF THE LADY ELLEN,

A TALE OF 1824.

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HARRY CHESTER, ESQ.

LONDON: SAUNDERS AND OTLEY, CONDUIT STREET. 1835.

39.



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THIS LITTLE TRIFLE

Is Dedicated

BY ONE WHO FEELS THAT THERE IS SOMETHING

"IN A NAME,"

WHEN SHE ACCORDS HIM THAT OF FRIEND.

August 28, 1835.
Alla Giornata.



THE

LAY OF THE LADY ELLEN.

1.

It is the hour when human woes Should find oblivion in repose—

When human toil should cease,
And aching hearts and weary heads
Should seek their "own delightful beds,
And rest awhile in peace.

2,

But what can Lady Ellen know
Of human toil, or care, or woe?
And why should curtained sleep
Be woo'd to close the laughing eyes
Of her whose bosom never sighs,
Who hath no cause to weep?

3.

Who loveth not the silent night,
So chastely fair, so mildly bright?
Whose is the heart denies
To feel in midnight's solemn hour,
The influence of Almighty power,
The magic of the skies?

4.

But Ellen's heart to pleasure given
Hath little time to think of Heaven,
And little she regards
The silver light which shines so bright,
The holy calm, the breathing balm,
So dear to thoughtful bards.

5.

In robe of virgin white arrayed

Her jocund steps awhile are stayed

Where yonder mirror shows

A form of symmetry and grace,

And blends in her reflected face

The lily and the rose.

G.

I said, her steps are stayed awhile,
And if upon her lips a smile
Of pride and maiden glee
Salute that mirror'd image bright,
What wonder that so fair a sight
Should thus saluted be?

7.

Ill nature's self could ne'er detect
Or fault, or blemish, or defect
In form so fair, so fairly deck'd—
What wonder then if Ellen's eye
Nor fault, nor blemish, can espy?
What wonder if she turn aside,
With feelings of a maiden's pride
From that bewitching sight?

From that bewitching sight?

What wonder if with dancing gait,

And spirits high and heart elate,

She sally forth to-night?