

**MINOR POEMS AND
TRANSLATIONS IN VERSE, FROM
ADMIRER COMPOSITIONS OF THE
ANCIENT CELTIC BARDS, WITH THE
GAELIC, AND ILLUSTRATIVE NOTES**

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Minor poems and translations in verse, from admired compositions of the ancient Celtic bards, with the Gaelic, and illustrative notes by Robert Munro

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ROBERT MUNRO

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AND
TRANSLATIONS, IN VERSE,

FROM ADMIRERD COMPOSITIONS OF

THE ANCIENT CELTIC BARDS;

With the Gaelic,

AND ILLUSTRATIVE NOTES,

BY ROBERT MUNRO.

SECOND ISSUE.

"It must strike every impartial inquirer into the subject, that the collectors of the ancient, or supposed ancient, compositions of the Highlanders have produced to the world poetry which, in sublimity and tenderness, will, it is believed, be admitted to be at least equal to the compositions of the best modern poets, and but little inferior to the most admired among the ancient."—HENRY MACKENZIE, in *Report of Highland Society's Committee on Ossian*.

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POEMS AND TRANSLATIONS.

TO THE SEA.

O BEAUTIFUL, O faithless Sea !
Thou peerless in magnificence—
Thou darkest in fatality !
Heaven be his stay and sure defence
Who trusteth in thy constancy !

The hardy one, who, for a life
Of little joy and frequent strife,
Upon thy changeful breast to roam,
Hath bartered all the sweets of home,—
When years have dimmed his lustrous eye
And silvered o'er his raven hair,
And spared his life to linger by
The hearth his childhood loved to share,

In words of truth will oft declare
How much his checkered days have known
Of pleasure unalloyed by care,
And wretchedness and care anon ;
And of thy ever-changing mood,
In many a winning hour will tell,
How furious now, and now subdued
By love and pity, prove thee well—
So deadly in thine influence—
So fair in thy magnificence—
So twined, through safety and through scath,
With life, and loveliness, and death !

The mariner, how blest with peace,
When winds and waves their tumults cease :
What time, becalmed, his bark must rest
Upon thy calm and tranquil breast,
In solitude, in summer time,
In some serene and orient clime,
Where western zephyrs oft repair
To rest their weary pinions there !

That mariner, how light at heart
To watch successive suns depart,
As oft restoring to his view
The blest monctony of blue !