

WILLOW AND WATTLE: POEMS

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Willow and Wattle: Poems by Robert Richardson

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ROBERT RICHARDSON

**WILLOW AND
WATTLE: POEMS**

Willow and Wattle

POEMS.

BY ROBERT RICHARDSON.

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NOTE.

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NOCTURNE.

THE fine line makes a perfect arc
Above the level brows ;
No lily mates the swift white throat
That e'er in garden blows ;
The little parted lips make pale
The red heart of the rose.

Guerdon beyond all dream were his
(Seeking no other prize)
Who'll kiss the violet-veined lids
That screen the twilight eyes,
And hear her heart leap on his heart,
And die there in faint sighs.

Her voice is like the wind-harp's voice,
Which the warm west wind guides ;
Now floating low and tremulous
On passionate song-tides ;
Now like the bell-bird's one dear note
That tells where the cool creek hides.

Sometimes at night, 'twixt dark and light,
She visits me in dreams ;
About her, like a midnight robe,
Her dusk-gold hair down streams ;
And the deep violet of her eyes
Softer than star-mist gleams.

And then my lady finds such words
As by day she may not speak ;
And with lips grown cold for trembling
I kiss her mouth and cheek ;
And my lady is no longer strange,
But maiden-sweet and meek.