BYRON RE-STUDIED IN HIS DRAMAS; BEING A CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS A DEFINITIVE ESTIMATE OF HIS GENIUS. AN ESSAY

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Byron re-studied in his dramas; being a contribution towards a definitive estimate of his genius. An essay by William Gerard

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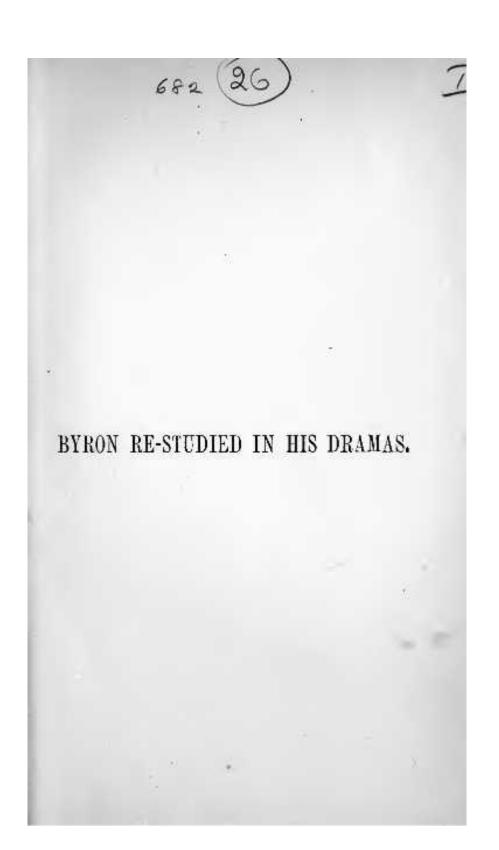
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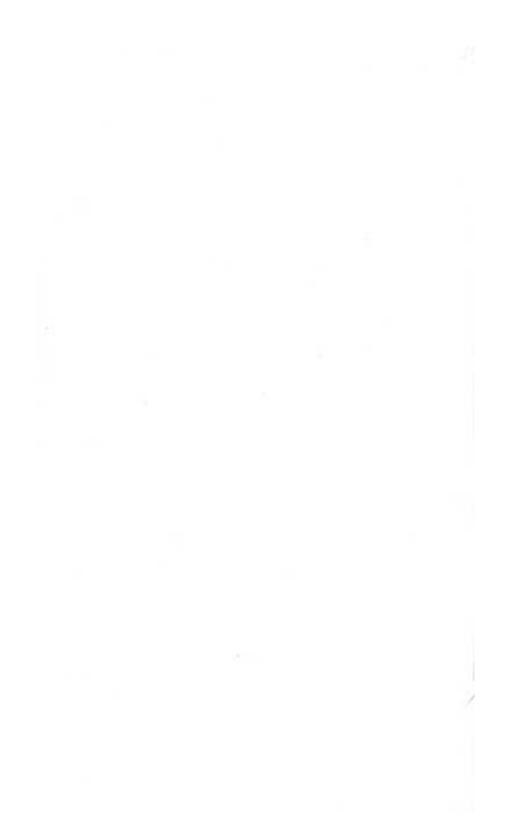
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WILLIAM GERARD

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AN ESSAY

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WILLIAM GERARD.

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"[Byron] must unquestionably be regarded as the greatest talent of the century . . . The English may think of [him] what they please, but it is certain that they can point to up poet who is his like. He is different from all the rest, and, in the main, greater."

Goethe. - Concernations with Eckermann.

"We are sustained, however, by the conviction that his nation will one day awake from the blind fury of abuse and obloquy with which it assailed him to a more rational temper, and perceive once for all that all the busks and dross of the individual and his time, through and beyond which the best have to work their way, had no permanence, but were only momentary and transient, while, on the contrary, the astonishing renown to which he has now and for all time raised his country, remains boundless in its splendour and inculculable in its consequences. Assuredly this nation, which has so many great names to boast of, will give him an illustrious place among those who confer on her abiding honour."

Goethe, of Byron.

"For the world thine eye was rarest, All the heart to thee was known : Thine were loves of women fairest, And a song thy very own."

Faust, Sec. Part, Act. III. (B. Taylor's Trans.)

"Our Byron was in his youth but what Schiller and Goethe had been in theirs. . . With longer life, all things were to have been hoped for from Byron; for he loved truth in his inmost heart, and would have discovered at last that his Corsairs and Harolds were not true. It was otherwise appointed. But with one man all hope does not die. If this way is the right one, we too shall find it."

Carlyle (in 1827).

"Charm is the glory which makes Song of the poet divine, Love is the fountain of charm. How without charm will thou draw, Poet | the world to thy way?

Charm is the poet's alone."

M. Arnold.

" Δεί με νῶν καθεύζειν."

Byron's last words.

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