

**DUNBAR: BEING A SELECTION
FROM THE POEMS OF AN
OLD MAKAR, ADAPTED FOR
MODERN READERS**

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Dunbar: Being a Selection from the Poems of an Old Makar, Adapted for Modern Readers by
Hugh Haliburton

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HUGH HALIBURTON

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DUNBAR

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BEING A SELECTION FROM THE POEMS OF
AN OLD MAKAR,
ADAPTED FOR MODERN READERS.

BY

HUGH HALIBURTON,

AUTHOR OF

"HORACE IN HOMESPUN," "OCHIL IBYLLS," ETC.

LONDON: WALTER SCOTT, LTD.,
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1895.

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INSCRIBED TO
CHARLES ALFRED COOPER, Esq.,
WITH
EVERY SENTIMENT OF RESPECT
AND ESTEEM.

PREFACE.



TO WILLIAM DUNBAR.

*From Scotland's later glory, Burns,
The flower of Nature, fully blown,
My reverence instinctive turns
To kneel at thy neglected throne,
Thou finer spirit, backward driven,
Confined in priestly garments here,
Who found in Art a nearer heaven
Wherein was neither sin nor fear.*

*With thee I tread the city ways,
To wait at Royal James's court,
And watch with thine observant gaze
Its pains, its follies, and its sport.
They welcome thee in bower and hall,
The sprightly wits those chambers hold,
Thou alchemist, that turnest all
In humour's crucible to gold.*

*Nor fails in thee the kindly heart
That would thy brethren all embrace:
Beneath the friar's hood of Art
Appears the thoughtful human face.
The mysteries of life and death
Opprest thee, as they press us now;
Therefore is thine yet living breath—
Our secret cares still speakest thou.*

*Thy fame, that waits in lingering bud,
Had blossom'd long before our day,
But Flodden's red and raging flood
Swept valour and thy voice away.
Alas, alas for Flodden yet,
Heroic Scotland's early grave!
Can any after-growth forget
The harvest sunk in Flodden's wave?*

—OCHIL IDYLLS AND OTHER POEMS.

CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE,

ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE LIFE AND WRITINGS OF

WILLIAM DUNBAR.

- 1460. Probable date of his birth.
- 1475. Matriculation at St. Andrews University.
- 1477. Bachelor's degree.
- 1479. M.A. degree.
- 1480. About this time a novitiate (probably) in the Greyfriars' Convent, Edinburgh.
- 1491. A member of the Royal Commission in France.
- 1500. Pensioned, and in attendance at Holyrood.
- 1501-2. On an embassy to London. Poet Laureate.
- 1503. Writes "The Thrissil and the Rose."
- 1508. Eight of his poems printed in Edinburgh by Chapman and Myllar.
- 1510. His pension raised to £80.