

**ROBIN HOOD: A COLLECTION OF ALL THE
ANCIENT POEMS, SONGS, AND BALLADS,
NOW EXTANT RELATIVE TO THAT CELEBRATED
ENGLISH OUTLAW. TO WHICH ARE PREFIXED
HISTORICAL ANECDOTES OF HIS LIFE, IN TWO
VOLUMES, VOL. I. [LONDON-1832]**

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Robin Hood: A Collection of All the Ancient Poems, Songs, and Ballads, Now Extant Relative to That Celebrated English Outlaw. To Which Are Prefixed Historical Anecdotes of His Life, in Two Volumes, Vol. I. [London-1832] by Joseph Ritson

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JOSEPH RITSON

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IN TWO VOLUMES.

VOL. I.



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BY JOSEPH RITSON, Esq.

VOL. I.

*Dum juga montis aper, fluvios dum piscis amabit,
Dumque thymo pascentur apes, dum rore cicadae;
Semper honos, nomenque tuum, laudesque manebunt.*

Vinc.

Second Edition.

LONDON :
WILLIAM PICKERING :

J. AND G. TODD, YORK.

1832.

CHARLES WHITTENHAM, TOOKS COURT,
CHANCERY LANE.

1853
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ADVERTISEMENT.

THE former edition of **ROBIN HOOD** was published by Mr. Ritson in 1795, who continued from time to time to make additions to his own copy, from which the present edition has been carefully printed.

The original engravings, by the celebrated Bewick, have been again used; and from the improved art of wood-cut-printing, will be found superior in clearness and beauty to the first impression.

The tale of "Robin Hood and the Monk," of which the existence was unknown to Mr. Ritson, though he has anxiously preserved a small fragment of it (i. lxxxv), is now added to the "Appendix."

Stockton-upon-Tees,
12th June, 1832.

PREFACE.

THE singular circumstance, that the name of an outlawed individual of the twelfth or thirteenth century should continue traditionally popular, be chanted in ballads, and, as one may say,

Familiar in our mouth as household words,

at the end of the eighteenth, excited the editors curiosity to retrieve all the historical or poetical remains concerning him that could be met with: an object which he has occasionally pursued for many years; and of which pursuit he now publishes the result. He cannot, indeed, pretend that his researches, extensive as they must appear, have been attended with all the success he could have wished; but, at the same time, it ought to be acknowledged that many poetical pieces, of great antiquity and some merit, are deservedly rescued from oblivion.

The materials collected for "the life" of this celebrated character, which are either preserved