LAST STUDIES

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Last studies by Hubert Montague Crackanthorpe

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HUBERT MONTAGUE CRACKANTHORPE

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Last Studies

By

Hubert Crackanthorpe

Author of "Sentimental Studics," "Wreckage," "Vignettes," &c.

> With a Poem by Stopford A. Brooke, and an Appreciation by Henry James

London William Heinemann 1897

424811

To the loyal friends of my beloved son, who saw in the unfolding flower of his manhood a renewal of the bright promise of his early youth, I dedicate, for an adding remembrance, these last fragments of his interrupted work

Blanche Alethea Crackanthorpe

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HUBERT, who loved the country and the town, Has left his friends; and England sees no more The young, slight figure musing on the down, Nor France his quiet eyes, that o'er and o'er Travelled her landscape, shaping it so well.

His joys were there, but pity for manhind Drew him where surging cities moved his soul: He wrote of men and women, wrecked, and pined With bitter surrow; and the misery stole Into his life till he bade life farewell.

Pity he could not stay, for he was true, Tender and chivalrous, and without spot ; Loving things great and good, and love like dew Fell from his heart on those that loved him not ; But those who loved him hnew that he loved well.

Too rough his sea, too dark its angry tides! Things of a day are we; shadows that move The lands of shadow; but, where he abides, Time is no more; and that great substance, Love, Is shadowless. And yet, we grieve. Farewell.

STOPFORD A. BROOKE



HUBERT CRACKANTHORPE

HUBERT CRACKANTHORPE, some months before his death, took part in a demonstration of the literary spirit which, however modest its object, singularly attained its mark. He joined forces with two other young men of letters, to offer, with a brief but emphasized compliment, to an older writer with whose work the three had been impressed, a substantial token of esteem. The older writer, the more surprised and touched as he was singularly unused to such approaches, found himself, by his emotion on this occasion, brought so much closer to each participant as to have on the spot the sense of a fresh interest, a curiosity quickened and warmed. Nothing could appeal to him more-if only to arrive at the luxury of a perception of what they might have appreciated in the results of his endeavour-than to

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