

**POEMS OF RURAL
LIFE IN THE DORSET
DIALECT**

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Poems of Rural Life in the Dorset Dialect by William Barnes

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WILLIAM BARNES

**POEMS OF RURAL
LIFE IN THE DORSET
DIALECT**

POEMS
OF
RURAL LIFE
IN
The Dorset Dialect,
BY
WILLIAM BARNES.

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POEMS

IN

THE DORSETSHIRE DIALECT.

BLACKMWARE MAIDENS.

THE primwose in the sheide do blow,
The cowslip in the zun,
The thyme upon the down do grow,
The clote¹ where streams do run ;
An' where do pretty maidens grow
An' blow, but where the tow'r
Do rise among the bricken tuns,
In Blackmwore by the Stour.

If you could zee their comely gait,
An' pretty feaces' smiles,
A-trrippèn on so light o' waight,
An' steppèn off the stiles ;
A-gwaïn to church, as bells do swing
An' ring within the tow'r,
You'd own the pretty maidens' pleâce
Is Blackmwore by the Stour.

¹ The water-lily.