SHAKESPEARE'S SONNETS

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Shakespeare's Sonnets by William Shakespeare & William J. Rolf

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WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE & WILLIAM J. ROLF

SHAKESPEARE'S SONNETS

Trieste



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Full many a glorious morning have I seen Flatter the mountain tops with sovereign eye, Kinsing with golden face the needdows green, Gilding pale streams with heavenly alchemy (Sonn. 13).



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EDITED, WITH NOTES,

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BY

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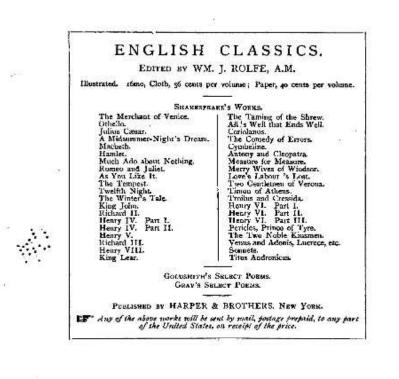
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PREFACE.

In this volume, as almost every page of the Introduction and the Notes hears witness, I have been under special obligations to Professor Dowden's excellent editions of the Sonnets. I have not, however, drawn at all from Part II. of the Introduction to his *larger* edition (see the footnote on p. 11), which condenses into some seventy-five pages the entire literature of the Sonnets. For the critical student this careful *résumit* answers a double purpose: as a bibliography of the subject, directing him to the many books and papers that have been written upon the Sonnets, if he is moved to read any or all of them; and as a compact and convenient substitute for these books and papers, if he wants to know their gist and substance without the drudgery of wading through them. I doubt not that the majority of students will be thankful that Professor Dowden has relieved them of the drudgery by compressing many a duli volume or magazine article into a page or a paragraph.

I will only add that the text of the Sounds, like that of the Poims, is given without omission or expurgation.

NOTE TO REVISED EDITION OF 1890.

For new matter, giving the substance of the latest researches in the history of the Sonnets, see "Addenda," p. 184 fol. Certain changes have also been made in the Introduction (pp. 10, 11, 12) and here and there in the Notes.



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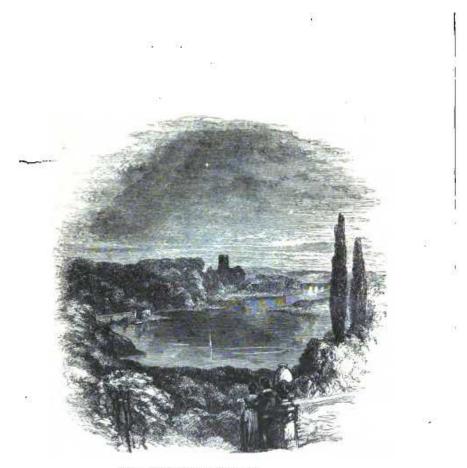
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Nor that full star that ushers in the even Doth half that glory to the soler west As those two mourning eyes become thy face (Sonn. 132).