POEMS, SONGS, AND BALLADS

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Poems, Songs, and Ballads by Walter Towers

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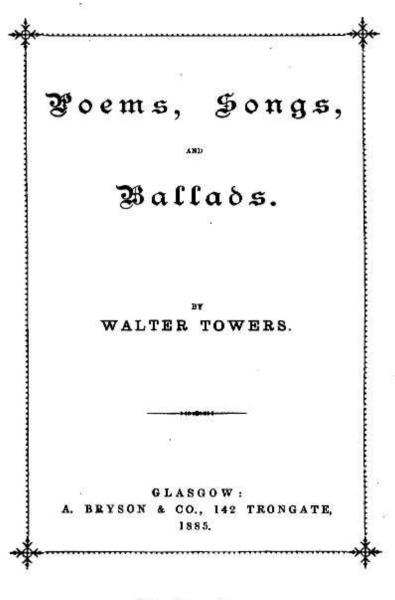
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PREFAGE.

HE contents of the following pages are the result of pleasant musings in leisure hours. But in case anyone may be inclined to look into them with a severely critical eye, it may be as well to say that the author has to earn his livelihood at a carpenter's bench, hence the sphere of his labour limits the opportunity for extensively cultivating the acquaintanceship of the Muses. Although there is no desire on his part to escape adverse criticism, it is only natural that he may hope to be looked at from a proper stand-point : this of course applies to the immediate future, for it may with truth be conceded that the flattery of critics never saved a work that was worthless, nor did their condemnation ever send one to oblivion that had merit. In the perusal of a book, even, if only a faint heart be made strong, or a weary one refreshed, the labour bestowed upon its production cannot be counted altogether fruitless.

It is with a feeling of the deepest gratitude that the author thanks his subscribers, and all those who have in any way interested themselves on his behalf. He regrets his productions are not a more adequate recompense for their trouble; for he is perfectly sensible of the fact that, but for the help of others, it would have been quite impossible for him to have brought the undertaking to a successful issue.

W. T.

175 PAISLEY ROAD, WEST, GLASGOW, June, 1885.

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