PROMETHEUS BOUND, AND OTHER POEMS: INCLUDING SONNETS FROM THE PORTUGUESE. CASA GUIDI WINDOWS, ETC.

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Prometheus Bound, and Other Poems: Including Sonnets from the Portuguese. Casa Guidi Windows, Etc. by Elizabeth Barrett Browning

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ELIZABETH BARRETT BROWNING

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BY ELIZABETH BARRETT BROWNING.



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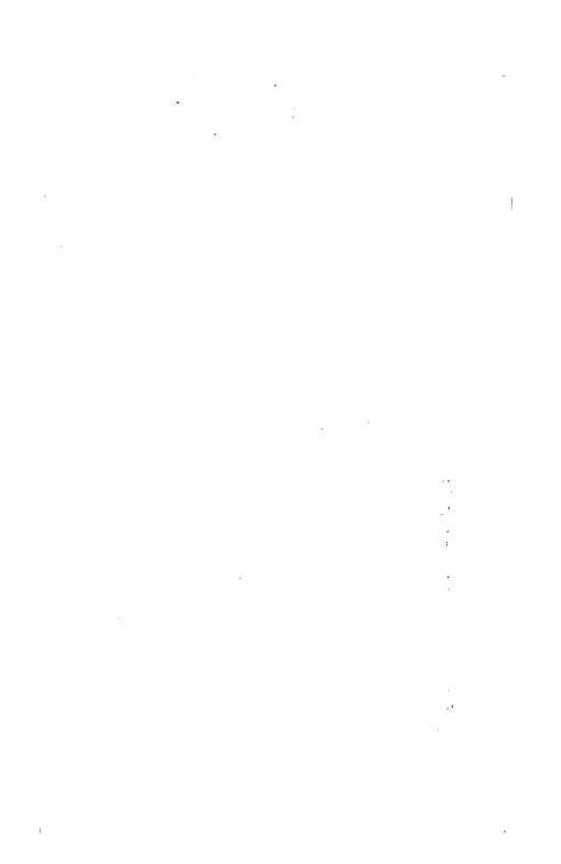
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PROMETHEUS BOUND.



PROMETHEUS BOUND.

PERSONS OF THE DRAMA.

PROMETHECS.

HEFRESTES,

OCRAHUS. HERNES. lo, daughter of Inschus. STREETH and FORCE.

CHORUS of Coops Nymphs.

Schur.—Streets and Force, Hernestes and Propertures, at the Rocks.

Strength.

WE reach the utmost limit of the earth,
The Scythian track, the desert without man,—
And now, Hephæstus, thou must needs fulfill
The mandate of our father, and, with links
Indiscoluble of adamantine chains,
Fasten against this beetling precipice,
This guilty god! Because he filched away
Thine own bright flower, the glory of plastic fire,
And gifted mortals with it,—such a sin,
It doth behoove he expiate to the gods,
And learn free service to the rule of Zeus,
And leave disused his trick of loving man.

Hephæstus. O Strength and Force—for you out

Hephastus. O Strength and Force,—for you, our Zeus's will

Presents a deed for doing.—No more !—but *I*, I lack your daring, up this storm-rent chasm, To fix with violent hands a kindred god, Howbeit necessity compels me so