

**SCOTT'S LAY OF
THE LAST MINSTREL.
CANTOS IV-VI**

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Scott's Lay of the Last Minstrel. Cantos IV-VI by Walter Scott & G. H. Stuart & E. H. Elliot

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WALTER SCOTT & G. H. STUART & E. H. ELLIOT

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CANTOS IV-VI**

SCOTT'S
LAY OF THE LAST MINSTREL

CAVIO

SCOTT'S LAY OF
THE LAST MINSTREL

CANTOS IV.-VI.

WITH
INTRODUCTION AND NOTES

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PREFACE.

THE language of Scott's poetry is in general so clear, and the ideas so simple, that little is needed in the way of explanation. The notes therefore consist chiefly of such remarks on grammar and etymology as are suggested by the words and constructions in the text. At the same time I have tried to bear in mind that the series, of which this edition forms a part, is intended mainly for Indian students, most of them imperfectly acquainted with the English language, and almost entirely ignorant of Scotch and English habits and customs. I have therefore been obliged to enter into explanations of some matters that would be perfectly clear to an English school-boy. I have, as a rule, not given the meanings of ordinary words, unless I had something else to say about them, because I think that school-boys, English or Indian, should be encouraged in the use of the dictionary for themselves.

I have made free use of Scott's own notes to this poem and to the *Border Minstrelsy*, and have given illustrations from the latter work and from the novels wherever I could. For etymology my principal guide

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has been Skeat's *Etymological Dictionary*; I have also made use of the new English dictionary of the Philological Society as far as it has gone, and of Jamieson's *Scottish Dictionary* for purely Scotch words. For points of grammar, I have made references to Bain, *Higher English Grammar* (1884), and to Morris, *Historical Outlines of English Accidence* (1880), while I have occasionally consulted Maetzner, *English Grammar*, which is an excellent storehouse of examples.

I have been greatly assisted by the suggestions of Mr. E. H. Elliot, Assistant Professor of English at the Presidency College, who has freely placed at my disposal his long experience in teaching Indian boys.

PRESIDENCY COLLEGE,
MADRAS.

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