THE SISTER OF CHARITY; THE MAGIC LANTERN; A TRIBUTE TO THE MEMORY OF LAFAYETTE; WITH MINOR POEMS AND TRANSLATIONS

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The Sister of Charity; The Magic Lantern; A Tribute to the Memory of Lafayette; With Minor Poems and Translations by Edward Farhill

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EDWARD FARHILL

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BY EDWARD FARHILL.



LONDON:

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HER ROYAL HIGHNESS

THE DUCHESS OF KENT,

THIS VOLUME OF FOETRY

15, WITH PERMISSION, INSCRIDED,

BY HER ROYAL HIGHNESS'S

.

NOST RESPECTFULLY ATTACHED

AND DEVOTED

HUMBLE SERVANT,

THE AUTHOR.

-

O Matre pulchra! Fills pulchrior !

SwEET, blooming floweret, nurtured in the shade,-The hope of Israel,-mild, illustrious maid |---On thee this Kingdom casts an anxious eye; Fond expectation ! Time may not belie. And men contemplative would read, e'en now, Upon the Virgin's pure and candid brow, The embryo glories of a rising day, Beneath a Woman's just and virtuous away. Oh! may the sordid minds that haunt a court,---An empire's by-word, the reproach and sport,-Ne'er cross thy path, their baneful doctrines fling, Or taint a youthful genius at the spring ! On this terrestrial scene, in good or ill, Few have the means, though most possess the will ; And still with sceptered Potentates must rest The envied task, to make a people blest ; To rule with justice, and maintain the laws,-Nor draw the sword in any odious cause : To send the olive-token on the breeze That wafts our commerce over distant seas,-

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That noble mission of a heavenly birth, Good-will towards mankind, and peace on earth ; To aid the weak and fatherless in need,-To protect all,-and leave to each his creed : These are the attributes of grace divine ; And such, we trust, fair Princess, may be thine ! Then shall Great Britain, in suspicious hour, Screened by an Ægis of resistless power, Strong in her wave-girt fortress, bold and free, A chaplet weave to the Immortal Three ! While, with the tongue's yet legendary dress, Quaint bards Eliza's wide renown express,-And well-bred poets, in Horatian strain, Record the deeds of Anna's classic reign,-Future historians shall alike unfold Annals as bright, in characters of gold,-The haloyon era, fraught with joy and love,---And their pen trace VICTORIA's name above !

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