

**THE POETICAL WORKS  
OF THOMAS MOORE, IN  
TEN VOLUMES, VOL. VI**

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The Poetical Works of Thomas Moore, in Ten Volumes, Vol. VI by Thomas Moore

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THE  
POETICAL WORKS  
OF  
THOMAS MOORE.

VOL. VI.





THE  
POETICAL WORKS  
OF  
THOMAS MOORE,

COLLECTED BY HIMSELF.

IN TEN VOLUMES.

VOL. VI.

LALLA ROCKH.

LONDON:  
LONGMAN, BROWN, GREEN, AND LONGMANS.  
1853.





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PREFACE

TO THE SIXTH VOLUME.

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THE Poem, or Romance, of LALLA ROOKEE, having now reached, I understand, its twentieth edition, a short account of the origin and progress of a work which has been hitherto so very fortunate in its course, may not be deemed, perhaps, superfluous or misplaced.

It was about the year 1812 that, far more through the encouraging suggestions of friends than from any confident promptings of my own ambition, I conceived the design of writing a Poem upon some Oriental subject, and of those quarto dimensions which Scott's successful publications in that form had then rendered the

regular poetical standard. A negotiation on the subject was opened with the Messrs. Longman, in the same year; but, from some causes which I cannot now recollect, led to no decisive result; nor was it till a year or two after, that any further steps were taken in the matter, — their house being the only one, it is right to add, with which, from first to last, I held any communication upon the subject.

On this last occasion, Mr. Perry kindly offered himself as my representative in the treaty; and, what with the friendly zeal of my negotiator on the one side, and the prompt and liberal spirit with which he was met on the other, there has seldom, I think, occurred any transaction in which Trade and Poesy have shone out so advantageously in each other's eyes. The short discussion that then took place, between the two parties, may be comprised in a very few sentences. "I am of opinion," said Mr. Perry, — enforcing his view of the case by arguments which it is not for me to cite, —