

**POEMS AND BALLADS FOR
PENNY READINGS,
ORIGINAL AND TRANSLATED
FROM THE GERMAN**

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Poems and Ballads for Penny Readings, Original and Translated from the German by Agra

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TEL-EL-KEBIR.

[Lieutenant Harvey Goodwin Brookes, of the Gordon Highlanders, fell at Tel-el-Kebir pierced by four rifle-balls, leading his men with no other weapon than a spade, having lost his claymore in the sand. His body was found twenty yards beyond the first trench.]

BURY him here in the blood-stain'd sand,
On the spot where he bravely fell ;
With his broken spade in his cold right hand,
The spade that he swung so well.

We halted our march through the starlit night
One hour, the attack to form ;
Gleam'd bright in his eye the battle light,
And he burn'd for the coming storm.

The word to advance pass'd whisper'd down
Our determined and silent ranks ;
The bristling earthworks before us frown,
A grey line of low sandy banks.

He had laid him down on the ground to rest,
With his claymore by his side ;
To the assault his kilted warriors press'd,
Where he as a hero died.

In the dawning twilight his buried blade
Was not at the moment found,
But he seized for the charge a sapper's spade,
And the earthwork foremost crown'd.

The battle was won ere the sun arose—
We found him among the dead—
In the thick of the fray, in the midst of foes,
Had his hero spirit fled.

Then bury him here in the blood-stain'd sand,
On the spot where he bravely fell ;
With his broken spade in his cold right hand,
The spade that he swung so well.