JOHN GILDART: AN HEROIC POEM

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John Gildart: An Heroic Poem by M. E. Henry-Ruffin

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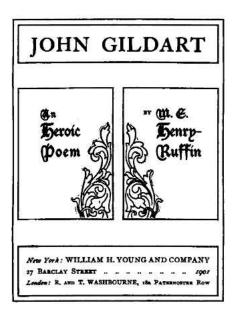
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E.

MY ALMA KATER ST. JOREPH'S ACADEMY, EMDITSBURG, MARYLAND, WITH AN INSPIRING MEMORY OF NATURE IN ITS NOBLEST PRASES, AND WITH A REVERENTIAL GRATITUDE FOR ALL THAT WAS ELEVATING IN ITS INFLUENCE, PRECEPT AND EXAMPLE, I DEDICATE THES WORK.

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JOHN GILDART.

VIRGINIA! Beloved of the mountains! we bend

To thy lofty-browed beauty in homage and hail.

Superb in the cloudland, all majesty's awe On the crown of thy crests shall not fail.

With their blush when the bridegroom sun uplifts

With luminous touch, the morning's veil; On through the noonglow's throbbing sea, When isles of purple shadow sail;

Or flamed with the track of the sunset fire, When the drooping torches of twilight trail; Or solemnly still for the silver step

Of the gliding moonbeam, pure and pale;

The sunlight's shadow sanctified ; The dead day's spirit purified.

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