## THE POETICAL WORKS OF WILLIAM NICHOLSON. WITH A MEMOIR BY MALCOLM M'L. HARPER

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The Poetical Works of William Nicholson. With a Memoir by Malcolm M'L. Harper by William Nicholson

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WILLIAM NICHOLSON

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Trieste

### NICHOLSON'S POEMS.

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PORTRAIT OF

#### WILLIAM NICHOLSON.

#### By JOHN FAED, R.S.A.

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#### THE

### POETICAL WORKS

OF

### WILLIAM NICHOLSON

#### WITH A MEMOIR

BA

MALCOLM M'L. HARPER

WIT AUTHOR OF " BAMBLES IN CALLOWAY," &C.

32

FOURTH EDITION

DALBEATTIE : THOMAS FRASER. MDCCCXCVII.

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#### ADVERTISEMENT TO THE FIRST EDITION.

THE following pieces were chiefly composed as a consolation in the Author's solitary wanderings through the wild and beautiful scenery of his In them he has attempted to native county. delineate such of her pastoral graces as chanced to attract his untutored fancy, and also to draw a sketch of the sentiments and manners of a valuable class of the community, namely, those that surround, in social circle, the farmer's ingle. How far this is accomplished, the public must now determine. He is well aware that the whole would have required the polish of a more masterly hand, particularly in this meridian of poetry and criticism : he doubts not, however, but that those who are the most capable of judging, will be the readiest to forgive the frailties of the unlettered muse, thoughtlessly straying in the humbler walks of life. Though he does not offer himself to the public at the request of friends, from the vain affectation of reforming the age, nor altogether from the darling wish of poets-the love of fame; yet he is not without a secret hope that the compositions which have sometimes yielded to his own mind a silent pleasure, may prove to others an innocent amusement for a vacant hour ; and that congenial spirits, who make no pretensions to a superfine taste, or critical nicety, may sometimes recognize in them a picture of their own feelings,