

LIFE AND TIMES

OF THE

REV. ROBERT BURNS, D.D.,

F.A.S., F.R.S.E.

CHAPTER I.

EARLY DAYS.

HE day of my birth is entered in the public record as on the 13th of February, 1789. My earliest distinct recollections reach no further back than the victory of Lord Howe, on the 1st of June, 1794. This was fresh on my mind when, in May, 1812, my first visit to London brought me into contact with that noble monument of a nation's gratitude to its brave defenders, the Naval Asylum of Greenwich Hospital. I was accompanied on that occasion by a kind friend, who had suffered the chopping away of the better half of the great toe of his right foot, the effect of which was a slight palpitation of limb, as he walked. On coming home from

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