

Canto V.

1-9. The honour and the courtesy of a soldier in time of war are as fair as the first light of morning is to the pilgrim who has lost his way.

3. the dreary brow of night. The meaning is obscure. Perhaps *the brow of night* is the dark horizon over which the first beams of light appear.

5. fearful. Dangerous.

6. although the fairest far. Although it is the fairest of all beams.

7-9. The light of morning shining on a scene of horror makes it beautiful, and lighting up a scene of danger makes it splendid; so also the faith and courtesy of the soldier shine brightly through the stormy scenes of war.

10. sheen. Beautiful, bright.

22. wildering. Bewildering.

43. With hardihood. Boldly.

47. bracken. Fern.

51. Dank osiers. Moist willows.

62. Gael. Celt. Highlander.

64. sooth to tell. To tell the truth.

76-7. The workman's actions are governed by fixed rules. Are our movements to be controlled in the same way?

89. Mar. See note on IV., 152-3.

95. had. Would have. Past subjunctive.

102. show. Show yourself to be.

108. the Regent. The Duke of Albany. See Historical Introduction.

112. arraignment. Accusation.

119. Holy-Rood. See note on II., 221.

123-7. See Historical Introduction.

125. truncheon. A staff or baton, used as a sign of authority or command.

126. mewed. Confined. Literally, *mew* means to confine a hawk in its cage while moulting.

132. Methinks. It seems to me.

147. fell. A rocky hill.

163. maze. Windings.