

Who spoke the spectre-hound¹ in Man. 454
 At length, by fits, he darkly told,
 With broken hint, and shuddering cold —
 That he had seen, right certainly,
A shape with amice wrapp'd around,
With a wrought Spanish baldric bound, 456
Like pilgrim from beyond the sea;
 And knew — but how it matter'd not —
 It was the wizard, Michael Scott.

XXVII

The anxious crowd, with horror pale,
 All trembling heard the wondrous tale; 466
 No sound was made, no word was spoke,
 Till noble Angus silence broke;
 And he a solemn sacred plight
 Did to St. Bride of Douglas² make,
 That he a pilgrimage would take 470
 To Melrose Abbey, for the sake
 Of Michael's restless sprite.
 Then each, to ease his troubled breast,
 To some bless'd saint his prayers address'd:
 Some to St. Modan³ made their vows, 473
 Some to St. Mary of the Lowes,
 Some to the Holy Rood⁴ of Lisle,
 Some to our Ladye of the Isle;
 Each did his patron witness make,
 That he such pilgrimage would take, 480

¹ *Spectre-hound*—A dog called the *Mauthe Doog*, formerly haunted the Isle of Man. On one occasion a drunken soldier encountered the spectre and spoke to it. He was struck dumb and died three days later in agony.

² *St. Bride*—The favourite saint of the house of Douglas, and of the Earl of Angus in particular.

³ *St. Modan*—A Scottish abbot of the seventh century.

⁴ *Holy Rood*—Holy Cross.