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CONTENTS.

Calendar—Pages 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7.

Literary Matter—Pages 10, 13, 16, 20 and 23.

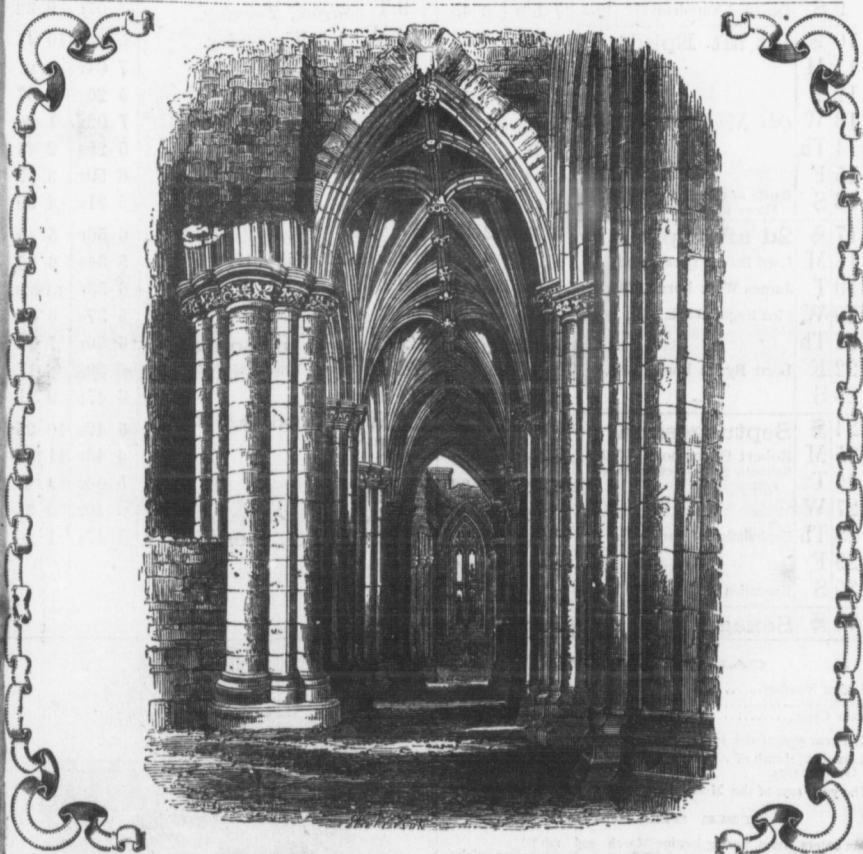
Illustrations—Pages 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 15, 16,
19, 20, 22 and 23.

Music with Words—Pages 9, 14, 18 and 21.

Poetry—Pages 1, 11, 15 and 19.

Postal Information, &c—Page 24.

Standard Preparations—Pages 8, 12, 17 and 22.



If thou would'st view fair Melrose aright,
Go visit it by the pale moonlight;
For the gay beams of lightsome day
Gild, but to flout, the ruins grey.
When the broken arches are black in
night,
And each shafted oriel glimmers white;
When the cold light's uncertain shower
Streams on the ruin'd central tower,
When buttress and buttress, alternately,
Seem framed of ebon and ivory;

When silver edges the imagery,
And the scrolls that teach thee to live and
die;
When distant Tweed is heard to rave,
And the owl to hoot o'er the dead man's
grave,
Then go—but go alone the while—
Then view St. David's ruin'd pile;
And, home returning, soothly swear,
Was never scene so sad and fair!