

PREFACE.

SIR EDMUND HEAD, shortly before his death, had collected these poems and translations (which had appeared from time to time in *Fraser's Magazine*) with a view to their being reprinted for private distribution amongst his friends. Those to whom the disposal of them has devolved have thought it better to republish them than to reprint them privately, because the circle of his friends and of those who take a friendly interest in dwelling upon all that he was and all that he did, is a very wide circle, and it would be difficult perhaps for any one to know where it ends, so as to include in a private distribution all whom he would himself have wished to be included, and all to whom any record of his mind, even in its lighter and more excursive operations, or any traces of his steps on earth, will have a