

alliance with a young lady whom he appears to have truly loved. The care of his sister was the chief aim of his life. Whenever the premonitory symptoms of her recurring malady reappeared, brother and sister would go, hand in hand, with heavy hearts and weeping eyes, to some asylum where Mary remained until she had sufficiently recovered to return to his tender care. The only blot on this thoroughly unselfish character is an occasional over-free indulgence in the use of tobacco and alcohol.

His first appearance as an author, in 1798, met with little success. A volume of poems, a tragedy and a comedy, were all unsuccessful. He was more fortunate with his story of "Rosamund Gray, which is still a favorite with his admirers." In 1807, in conjunction with his sister Mary, he wrote the series of "Tales from Shakespeare," and "The Adventures of Ulysses." But he is best known by his "Essays of Elia," a series of delightful essays on subjects of every nature. "Here, in a style ever happy and original, and with wit of the rarest and most pungent description, he has carried the short humorous essay to a point of excellence perhaps never before attained."

I. L.