

stand." It is interesting to learn from him that "The Dark Ladie" and "Christabel" were intended to appear in this collection, but had not been written when Wordsworth was ready with his contribution. It is superfluous to remark that every word of Coleridge's criticism is of value, and deserves to be weighed by those who would understand the Lyrical Ballads and the genius of Wordsworth in general.

It should be mentioned that several of the most beautiful poems in the second volume of the Lyrical Ballads were written in Germany during the winter of 1798 and 1799. Wordsworth and his sister were accompanied by Coleridge as far as Hamburg; and when he proceeded first to Ratzeburg, where he spent four months, and afterwards to Göttingen, for five more, where he studied German philosophy and other subjects, Wordsworth and Dora proceeded to Goslar, in Hanover, on the borders of the Hartz Forest, where they spent a bitter winter in comparative isolation. Unlike Coleridge, who became saturated with German ideas, Wordsworth was living his old English life over again, producing, among other poems, "Lucy Gray," the four poems on "Lucy," "Ruth," "The Fountain," "Matthew," and "Nutting."

The last of these poems, he tells us, was intended as part of a poem on his own life, but struck out as not being wanted there. The verses arose out of the remembrance of feelings he had often had when a boy, and particularly in the woods that stretch from the side of Erthwaite Lake towards Grasmere. He left Goslar on the 10th of February, 1799, and at this time wrote the opening passage of the "Prelude." In December of the same year he and his sister removed to Grasmere, where the poet spent