FIFTY Favourite Scotch Airs. For a Violin, German-Flute and Violoncello With a Thorough Bals for the HARPSICHORD. Dedicated ?-So the Right Honoinable S AMES. Carl of Errollo. Lord high Constable of Scotland, 20 By Francis Peacock. nos, Printed for the Publicher in Aberdeen and Sold by M. Johnson in Chraptide, Hompfon and Is Church-yard London - R. Bremner, N. Sideart in Edinburgh, and A. Angus in Aberdeen Friends of Wighton Item 12 Peacock Fifty Favourite Scotch Airs

Shand Collection. Vol.3



# PREFACE.

O Species of Pathoral Mufic is more diffinguished by the applaufe and admiration of all go.d Judges, than the Songs of DAVID RIZZIO. We cannot indeed, with certainty, diffinguish His compositions from those of his Imitators; nor can we determine, whether He formed the mufical tafte of the Sons, or only adapted himfelf to the national tafte established before his time : but if we may believe tradition, it is to him that the Sons are indebted for many of their finest Airs; and cultom has now affixed his name to this particular Mode of Mufical Compofition.

So delicate is the fimplicity, and fo affelting the expression, of the Source Airs in general, that, when judiciously performed, they never full to yield uncommon delight. I mylelf have felt their power ; and have often regreted that pation for refinement and extravagance, which certain Maskcians have indulged to fach a degree, as to make it now almost impossible to affercain the trike melody of these delicate Songs. All that can at prefent be done by one who is defirous of giving a Corsrect Edition of them, is, to collect from a variety of copies, their featured benuties, and to make choice of fach melodies as appear most natural. This plan I have all along kept in view in preparing the following Collection, which has been the amatement of my leifure hours for fome years path. I have procured access to fome very old Manuferipts ; and, that the Melody might be rendered as complete as possible. I have fpared no pains in examining and comparing them.

But as Melody, however complete, is incapable of yielding the highest degree of pleafare without the affiltance of Harmony, I have endeavoured to unite the two Powers ; and I flatter my/elf, that my endeavours have not been altogether unfacefiful. To fet proper Baffes to Statch Tunes is generally accounted no eafy take. It can be done only by one who duly attends to their peculiar modulation, and who is more careful to preferve and affit their expression, than to indulge the laxeriance of his own fancy.

In compliance with a taffe not yet entirely fallen into differente, I have fabjoined Variations to a few of thefe Tanes: a freedom, which it is hoped the warmeit affertors of the Original Simplicity of the Search Mufic will not feverely blame, when they are told, that it is taken with a view only to render this ColleChion more univerfally entertaining. Indeed I am well aware, that it is almoit im joffible to give general fatisfaction where the taftes of men are fo various, and where every one will demand his favourite airs and favourite paffages : yet I hope my little Work may be thought worthy of fome notice by thofe who are real Judges of Search Mafic ; and if I be difappointed, I shall have nothing to regret, but that my power has been unequal to my inclination of contributing to the amufement of the Public.

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