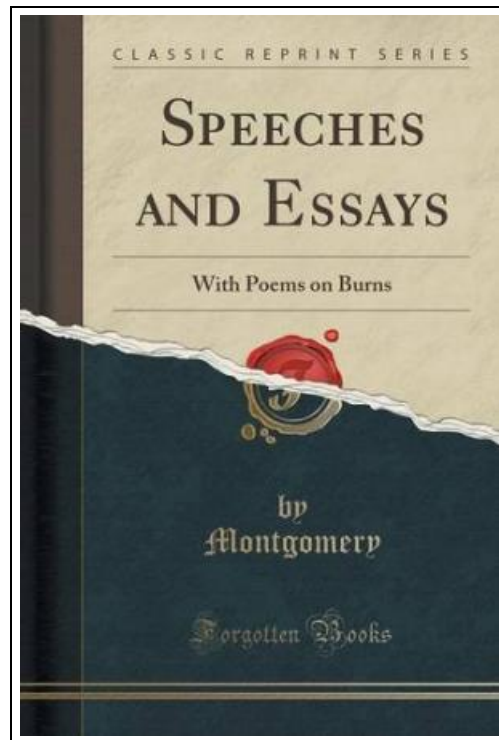


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(Matteo Johnson)

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Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Excerpt from *Speeches and Essays: With Poems on Burns* A Grand demonstration in honor of the genius of Robert Burns was suggested to the people of Scotland by the arrival from India of Col. William Burns, the poet's second son. August 6, 1844, was selected as a national holiday in Scotland. The great festival was presided over by the Earl of Eglinton, supported by hundreds of the nobility and men of letters, whose names filled columns of the public journals of that time. We select from the able speeches made on the occasion that of Prof. John Wilson, of *Blackwood's Magazine*: Were this festival to commemorate the genius of Burns, and it were asked what need is there of such commemoration, since his fame is co-extensive with the literature of our land, and inherent in every soul, I would answer that though admiration of the poet be indeed unbounded as the world, yet we, as compatriots to whom it is more especially dear, rejoice to see that universal sentiment concentrated in the voice of a great assembly of his own people - that we rejoice to meet in thousands to honor him who has delighted each single one of us all at his own hearth. But this commemoration expresses, too, if not a profounder, yet a more tender sentiment; for it is to welcome his sons to the land which their father illustrated - to indulge our national pride in a great name, while, at the same time, we gratify in full breasts the most pious of affections. It was customary, you know, in former times, to crown great poets. No such oblation honored our...



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