

ADVERTISEMENT
TO THE SECOND EDITION.*

It is necessary to explain the omission in the first edition of the Preface of the Vision of Judgment, as well as the cause of those mistakes, obviously too considerable for mere errors of the press, which are noticed in the *errata*. The fact is, that Mr. Murray the bookseller, who was to have been the original publisher of the Vision, sent the present publisher a copy *not* corrected by the author, and also wanting the Preface,—from which copy the first edition was consequently printed. It was not till after the First Number of the Liberal had appeared, that the Publisher was informed there was a Preface, and that the copy of the poem sent to him to print from, was not the proper one with the necessary corrections by the Author. The only mode left of repairing this mischief, was to print the Preface and the corrections for the poem in a Second Edition, which is now done, and would have been done sooner, but for the time lost,—first, in endeavouring (though unsuccessfully) to obtain the corrected copy, which had passed through the Author's hands,—afterwards in procuring his corrections a second time from abroad. The reader need hardly be told, that the Author can with no more justice be held responsible for the mistakes in the first edition, than if his poem had been published at once from his MS. without the proofs being submitted to his revision. And it should be mentioned as aggravating the evil in this case, that the writings of the Author of the Vision of Judgment were mostly printed from the *rough and only manuscripts*—and that consequently he relied on seeing the proof-sheets, in order both to correct the errors of the printer, and to make such alterations as more mature consideration might suggest. This circumstance made it a particular duty in the publisher to take every possible care of the proofs corrected by the Author, and especially to see that those proofs alone were followed in the final printing.

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* Author: Leigh Hunt / Transcribed and annotated by Diego Saglia.