



The Cid ballads and other poems and translations from Spanish and German (Volume 2)

James Young Gibson

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This historic book may have numerous typos, missing text or index. Purchasers can download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. 1887. Not illustrated. Excerpt: ... APPENDIX. ON A PHOTOGRAPH, Taken In 1882, Of Mr. J. V. Gibson Playing At Chess With His Bride. By Mrs. Gustav Plaut. Meinen lieben Freunden Herrn und Frau Gibson. DAS SCHACHBILD. Am Schachisch seh' ich einen edlen Schotten, Ihm vis-a-vis ein hochbegabtes Weib; Sein kluges Lacheln scheint des Spiels zu spotten, Ihm ist der Kampf doch nur ein Zeitvertreib. Noch einen Dritten find' ich auf dem Bilde; Es schwebte ungesehn und leis' herbei Der Liebesgott--er fiihrt etwas im Schilde-- Blickt auf die Spielenden voll Schelmerei, Er priift das Spiel, und scheint dann nachzudenken, Wie fein, wie schlaue, er jetzt das Kopfchen wiegt, Und endlich weiss das Spiel er so zu lenken, Dasz sie, die "matt" wird, dennoch ihn besiegt. Bertha Plaut. Leipzig, December 1883. TRANSLATION BY JAMES Y. GIBSON. THE CHESS PICTURE. At game of chess a gallant Scot I see, A gifted lady is his vis-a-vis; His knowing smile appears the game to slight, He thinks it pastime, and no earnest fight. Yet in the picture, lo! a third I find, Who hovers gently and unseen behind. It is the God of Love, on mischief bent, Who eyes the players with a sly intent. He marks the play, and then begins to think, He wags his head with many a roguish wink; And so contrives the game, in curious whim, That she must "mated" be, yet conquer him t LINES WRITTEN ON READING MR. GIBSON'S COMPARISON OF THE CID WITH DON QUIXOTE. (See Preface, vol. i.) Wide floating o'er the land of Spain, In dim historic ether, Before the portals of my brain, Two heroes pass together. The Cid was made of flesh and blood, But by his deeds stupendous, In rolling back the Moorish flood, Has grown a myth tremendous. The other, Don Quixote,1 erst A creature quite ideal, Is now, when Time has done its worst, Most real of the real. The Cid by royal Fe...

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