

# Sonnet

Written at Donnington Castle near Newbury, said to have been the latest residence of Charles, & celebrated for its resistance to the Parliamentary Army during the Civil War.

Oh for some gentle spirit to surround  
With clinging ivy thy high-seated towers  
Fair Donnington, & wipe from Charles's bowers  
The last rude touch of war! All sight all sound  
Of the old strife soon hatched from the ground  
Hath banished. Here the trench no longer lours,  
But like a bosky dell, begirt with flowers  
And garlanded with May, sinks dimpling round,  
A very spot for youthful lover's dreams  
In the prime hour. Givethis' mournful lay,  
The half-told tale would sound still sweeter here —  
Oh for some hand to hide with ivy spray  
War's savages, & chase the jarring themes  
Of King & State, Roundhead & Cavalier.

M. M. Mitford

\*"Or call up him who left half told  
The story of Cambuscan told."

Wilton of Charles - 1642