

**THE MUTE: A POEM
OF VICTORIA. AND
OTHER POEMS**

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The Mute: A Poem of Victoria. And Other Poems by John Owen Tucker

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JOHN OWEN TUCKER

**THE MUTE: A POEM
OF VICTORIA. AND
OTHER POEMS**

*Acq. Victoria
S. B. Wright
Bourke Street
1874*

THE MUTE;

A POEM OF VICTORIA.

AND OTHER POEMS.

By JOHN OWEN TUCKER

(Author of "The Golden Spring," &c.)

Melbourne:

H. T. DWIGHT, BOURKE STREET EAST.

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of the Public Library
of Victoria.

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To James Smith, Esq.

DEAR SIR,

IN my humble efforts to attain a position in the early literature of Victoria, it has been my good fortune to obtain the friendly counsel and encouragement of some of her best citizens; among these I may rank yourself, for upon no occasion have I appealed to you in vain for that help which has been so beneficial in somewhat smoothing the numbers of my verse. It is, then, a source of the greatest pleasure to me that the publication of this work gives me the honor of dedicating to the poet and scholar the following productions.

Wishing that you may long live to tender to others that literary aid which has always been gratefully accepted by me,

I beg to remain,

Ever your obliged and obedient servant,

THE AUTHOR.

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THE MUTE.

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I.

NUSE of the hours—nay, minutes—that I steal
From the lone nights, woo from the o'ercharged brain
This mental texture, mirrored from the real
Belongings of the past, so that nor vain
Somewhat may live amid a country's weal;
E'en as th' well-matched dame in life's meridian
Surveys with all that mem'ry wakes to feel
The portrait of her maiden bloom long ta'en.
Then, Muse, assert thy power and reveal
Thy votary's creation in this vein;
Rude tho' it be, the subject may appeal
To better judgments, and this strain
With such may breathe when I am lowly lain.