

**THE POET'S DREAM.  
A TALE OF  
CHRISTMAS**

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The Poet's Dream. A Tale of Christmas by Thomas Smelt & S. Mayson

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**THOMAS SMELT & S. MAYSON**

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THE POET'S DREAM:

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TALE OF CHRISTMAS.



THE  
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POET'S DREAM:

TALE OF CHRISTMAS.



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TO  
CHARLES SWAIN, ESQ.,  
THIS LITTLE WORK,  
DESIGNED TO ILLUSTRATE THE SUFFERINGS AND VICISSITUDES  
OF AUTHORS,  
IS, WITH EVERY SENTIMENT OF ADMIRATION FOR HIS GENIUS,  
AND  
OF ESTEEM FOR HIS CHARACTER,  
MOST RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED.



## P R E F A C E .

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WHEN this Book was written it was done in humble imitation of that very beautiful and talented little volume which was the pioneer to this class of literature. It was at first composed to be read at a meeting of a small, but really valuable, literary society, of which the Author was a member, and consequently then had more the character of an Essay; but as the subject developed itself into one every way calculated to set forth, in the most graphic and powerful manner, the trials and sufferings which men of genius have often to undergo, it was attempted to give to it more the character of a story, that it might