

**THE POETICAL
WORKS OF
ANDREW STEEL**

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The Poetical Works of Andrew Steel by Andrew Steel

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ANDREW STEEL

**THE POETICAL
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Ever Yours &c,
Andrew Stebbins

THE
POETICAL WORKS

OF

ANDREW STEEL.

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P R E F A C E.

IN again bringing under the notice of a discerning public, the following sheets of my leisure and happiest hours, I humbly beg to solicit their sympathy and indulgence towards my literary efforts, as none, I candidly assure my friends and supporters, can be more sensitively alive to, or conscious of, his own weaknesses or shortcomings, than I am of mine. Still, I am far from being without the laudable feelings, both of ambition and hope, in reference to these effusions of my private pastime, many of which, I am certain, will be warmly and intelligently appreciated, as they have been long well known, and most favourably reviewed, by many, who, in every respect, were amply qualified for the task. The attentive and observant reader will, I flatter myself, be gratified to observe many very material corrections and improvements in several of the old and familiar subjects, as well as the introduction of many new topics, written

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on very special and interesting occasions, and which it is fondly anticipated, will meet with the unqualified acceptance of the majority of those who may bestow upon them the honour of a careful perusal. Be the fate of the Volume whatever it may—whether it may sink or swim on the shoreless ocean of Literature—I now embrace the opportunity of thanking my friends and patrons, principally of the Scottish Borders, for their munificent and unprecedented patronage. Above and beyond all, the generous and independent inhabitants of Hawick; by no means forgetting, at the same time, and for the same reasons, those of Jedburgh, Galashiels, Melrose, and Selkirk. I owe them much, far beyond what I can ever pay, and shall ever regard them with the deepest gratitude and esteem.

A. S.

DICKSON STREET (WILTON),
HAWICK, *October*, 1871.

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