

**REMAINS, HISTORICAL AND LITERARY,  
CONNECTED WITH THE PALATINE COUNTIES OF  
LANCASTER AND CHESTER, VOL. C;  
COLLECTANEA ANGLO-POETICA: OR, A  
BIBLIOGRAPHICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE  
CATALOGUE OF A POSITION OF A COLLECTION  
OF EARLY ENGLISH POETRY. PART VI, PP. 251-47**

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**THOMAS CORSER**

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COLLECTANEA ANGLO-POETICA:

OR,

A BIBLIOGRAPHICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE

CATALOGUE

OF A PORTION OF A COLLECTION OF

EARLY ENGLISH POETRY,

WITH OCCASIONAL EXTRACTS AND REMARKS

BIOGRAPHICAL AND CRITICAL.

BY THE LATE

REV. THOMAS CORSER, M.A., F.S.A.,

RECTOR OF STAND, LANCASHIRE; AND VICAR OF  
NORTON, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

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## INTRODUCTORY NOTICE.

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THE printing of the present volume had not proceeded further than the fiftieth page when, after a short final attack, the lamented death of the Venerable Editor took place on the 24th August, 1876, in the eighty-fourth year of his age. The delay which had occurred, the fifth part having appeared in 1873, arose, not from any abatement in the interest which he took in this his favourite labour of love, nor from any failure of intellectual activity—for his faculties remained bright and vigorous to the last—but simply from the fact that the *MSS.* which he had prepared for the continuation of the *Collectanea* were so scattered among the miscellaneous mass of his papers, that it required a greater effort than his physical disabilities would allow him to make, to search for and put them together in regular order and connection; and thus it became to be a matter of doubt whether Drayton would not be the last author to whose works the publication would extend.

On my calling upon him some short time before his death, he adverted, in the course of our conversation, to the state of the *Collectanea*, and earnestly requested that in the event of his death I would, if the manuscript portions were forthcoming, undertake to revise and see them through the press, in case the Council of the Chetham Society should determine upon their publication. This, having performed a similar

office in relation to the five volumes which had already appeared, I had no difficulty in acceding to, not, however, anticipating, as there seemed to be no symptoms of any rapid decline, that that was to be our last conversation.

On Mr. Corser's executors being informed, after his death, of his wishes in reference to the work, they most obligingly—and thanks are especially due to his daughter, Mrs. Richard Corser, for the trouble she took—made the requisite search amongst his papers for the manuscripts prepared by him for the continuation of his collections, the results of which were placed in my hands. On examining them it appeared that there was sufficient material to carry on the series of authors and works included in his plan to the end of the alphabet, and to afford, beyond the completion of the present volume, three or four parts more, which would bring the work to its regular close. These the Council of the Chetnam Society have determined to issue without any further delay than may be occasioned by due regard being had to the other works announced as being in progress for publication by the Society.

As indicated in the preface to part v, Mr. Corser found it necessary, as he proceeded with his undertaking, to reduce it to more manageable limits than those proposed in his original plan, which, if carried out, would have extended it to most voluminous dimensions. Accordingly it will be perceived that a more rigorous selection is exercised in the works described under the remaining letters than in those of the first four of the alphabet, but the articles themselves will be found as full, satisfactory, and exact, as those which pre-