

**THE PROTÉGÉ: A
POEM**

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The Protégé: A Poem by William Bausman

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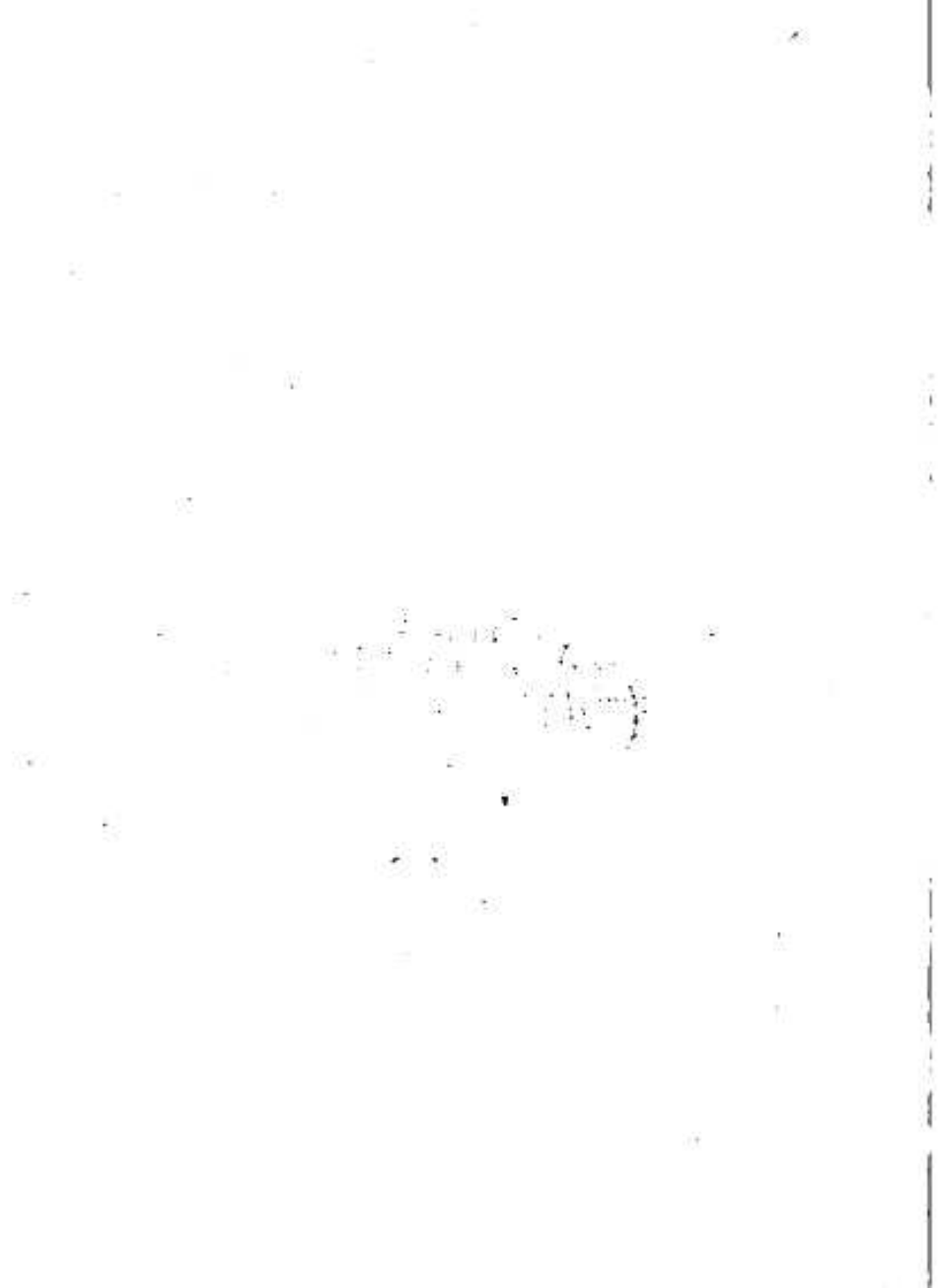
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WILLIAM BAUSMAN

**THE PROTÉGÉ: A
POEM**



Mrs A Easton
With best respects of

THE PROTÉGÉ,

A POEM,

BY WILLIAM BAUSMAN.

DELIVERED

At the Metropolitan Theater on the 26th of April 1859, being the occasion
of the Fortieth Anniversary of the Introduction of Odd Fellowship
into the United States, commemorated by the United
Lodges and Encampment of the
Sacramento Division.



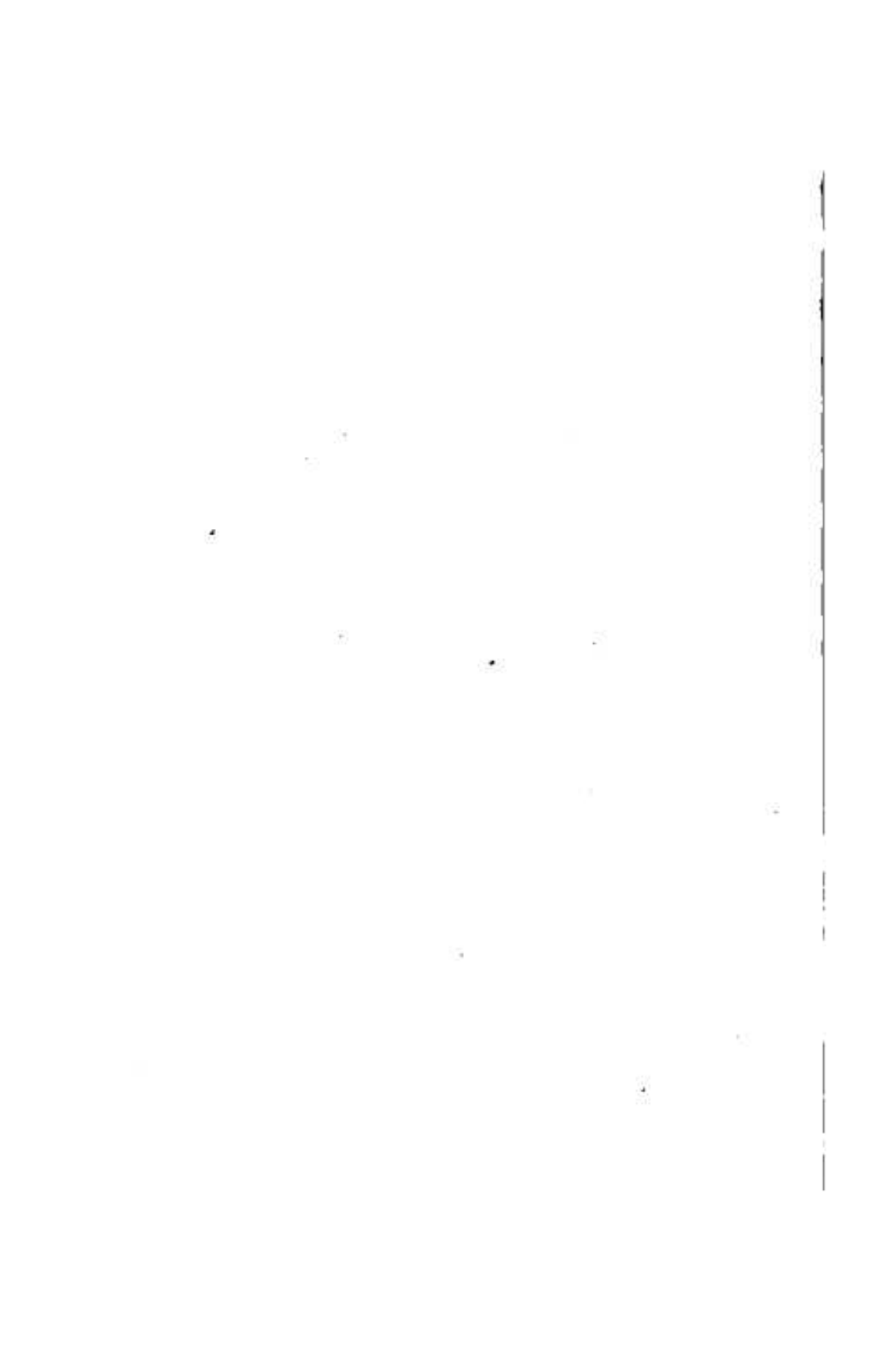
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for the Northern District of California.

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INTRODUCTION.

THE dramatist, whose story lacks a hero
Bloody and terrible, goes back to Nero.
Or Tarquin, or Caligula, or Draco—
Names to a tragedy rather ornamental—
When bowie-knives, revolvers and tobacco
Were little known or used ; and sentimental
Episodes among the ladies, transpired
After a fashion truly to be admired.
Roman Lucretia covered her disgrace
By self-destruction. She was a heroine ;
The proudest and the loveliest of her race,
And very different in her style from mine.
Her's was a noble genealogy,
Plucking its trophies from a family tree ;
Mine is bogus, tinselled, and presuming ;

INTRODUCTION.

Deficient in the power of illuming
A wholesome moral, acted on the stage,
Or rounded period to a written page.

The muse says thus much in extenuation
To her defects of incident and plot ;
Hoping to win the reader's approbation
Whether her effort merits it or not.
The poem aims to satirize frivolity
In certain people, of a spurious quality,
And is at least indiginous, however
It fails in object, or detailed endeavor.

DEDICATORY ODE.

When the Cycles first begun,
Marked by courses of the sun,
Time and Space, of instant birth,
Occupied and ruled the earth ;
Then the destinies of man
Were interwoven with the plan.
Tyrants flourished, kings arose ;
Nations armed themselves as foes ;
Freedom shrieked and wept in vain,
O'er her heroes crushed and slain ;
Still the crimson tide flowed on,
Whether foe or ally won ;
Still the desecrating flood
Flows in streams of human blood.

Is there no arresting hand
Stretching out o'er all the land ?
No Samaritan abroad,
Clothed with attributes from God ?
No elixir, sweet and pure,
Malady like this to cure ?
No encircling chain to bind,
One in heart and one in mind,