# THE FOREST-ALTAR, AND OTHER POEMS

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The Forest-Altar, and Other Poems by James Edward Richardson

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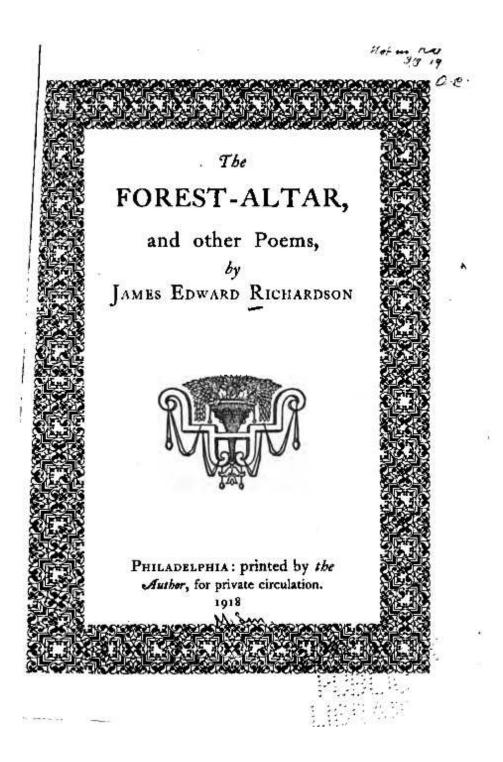
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## JAMES EDWARD RICHARDSON

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#### PREFACE

UESTIONABLE, even dangerous though the omission may seem, the volume herewith presented, as a contribution to the inferior poetry of the United States, has been extended to include no lyric of patriotism which might serve as a conscious offset to its remaining utterances.

The reason ought to involve no special disclaimer. The volume, containing poems written for the greater part long before the war, became possible only a year ago, and then only by dint of the author's undertaking, with no knowledge of typography, to set it up and print it with his own hands. This simple labor, taken up at whiles, has occupied the whole of the intervening months. Begun in a period of self-survey, — so dangerous for the individual, so salutary for the nation, the book and its contents therefore have been left standing in a past era by the swift migration of the American consciousness.