

**POETICAL
WORKS, VOL. III**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649229376

Poetical works, Vol. III by Henry Taylor

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

HENRY TAYLOR

**POETICAL
WORKS, VOL. III**

LE
T242P

A SICILIAN SUMMER.

ST. CLEMENT'S EVE.

THE EVE OF THE CONQUEST, AND OTHER POEMS.

514
1800-1856
BY HENRY TAYLOR, D. C. L.

138838
21 | 6 | 16

LONDON:
CHAPMAN AND HALL, PICCADILLY.

1864.

THE POETICAL WORKS

OF

HENRY TAYLOR, D. C. L.

VOL. III.

A Sicilian Summer.

St. Clement's Eve.

The Eve of the Conquest, and other Poems.

LONDON:

CHAPMAN AND HALL, PICCADILLY.

1864.

PREFACE.

IN a letter which Mr. Southey wrote many years ago, on a first and very juvenile attempt of mine in dramatic composition, he observed that pure tragedy was what few but the young could bear. I felt the truth of the observation before youth was past; and though there are other grounds on which I should have preferred the mixed drama—it is so much more various in its spirit, more wide and general in its scope—yet the oppressiveness of pure tragedy would have been sufficient of itself to turn me away from it ere long; and as life advances, tragedy of any kind, however mixed and attempered, seems to demand more of the hardihood, perhaps, I may say, the hardness of youth, than it is either likely or desirable that after years should be armed with.

Comedy is doubtless a lower, and, in some measure,

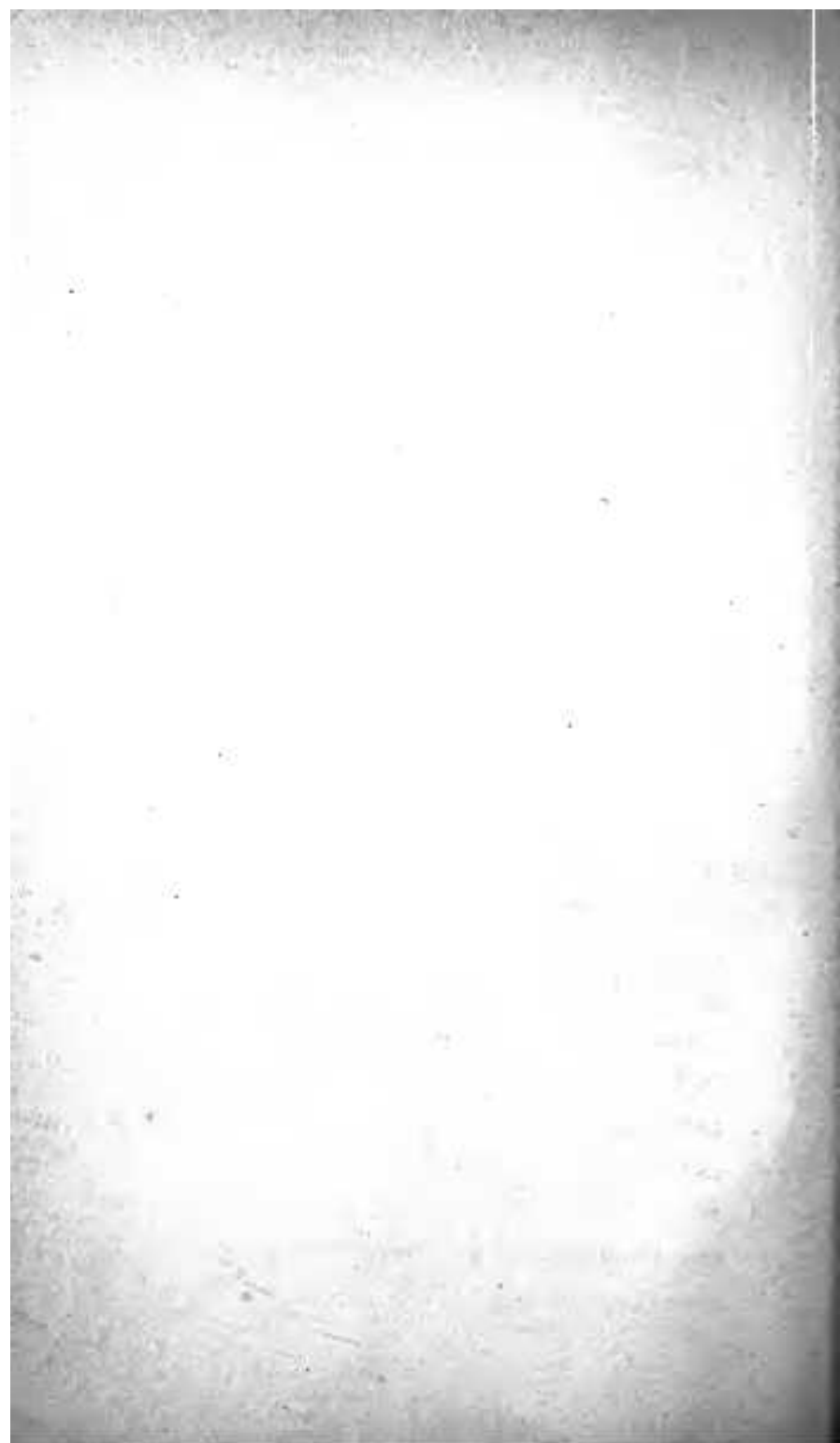
a lesser sphere ; for whilst tragedy—that is, the mixed and romantic tragedy—admits all elements, not excepting the comic, comedy does not admit the tragic,—which, indeed, can hardly exist except through a general and predominating effect. This, however, is the only element which comedy necessarily excludes. The mere comedy of manners and repartee which has been written for the last two centuries, is, no doubt, with all the brilliancy which it has occasionally exhibited, a somewhat narrow representation of human life. But the romantic and poetic comedy which preceded, includes, though not the four seasons, yet the spring, summer, and autumn of nature. It is light and sweet for the most part ; but without losing its prevailing character of lightness and sweetness, it can in turn be serious, pathetic, and still more eminently wise. In no works are the pleasantries of wisdom more bright and abundant than in the comedy of the Elizabethan age.

I wish it were possible, not indeed to repeat that comedy, but to renew the spirit which gave birth to it. Fictions are written in these days often with great power and ability ; but to me they seem powerful only to give pain. Our writers of fictions would appear to despair of getting an answer from the popular imagination in any other way than by breaking it on the wheel. I well know that in times of rapid movement

light pressures are not easily felt. But I venture to believe that, here and there, in the recesses of society, there may still be found persons, who, like myself, do not desire to be *harrowed*, and are better pleased to be taken amongst the amenities of fiction, than amongst its glooms and terrors.

LADON HOUSE, MORTLAKE,

1st May, 1850.



CONTENTS.

| | PAGE |
|-------------------------|------|
| A SICILIAN SUMMER | 1 |
| ST. CLEMENT'S EVE | 99 |

MINOR POEMS.

| | |
|--|-----|
| THE EVE OF THE CONQUEST | 203 |
| "SOFT BE THE VOICE" | 222 |
| IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE HON. EDWARD ERNEST VILLIERS | 223 |
| "OH TENDER LEAVES AND FLOWERS" | 224 |
| LAGO VARESE | 227 |
| LAGO LUGANO | 231 |
| TO _____ | 238 |
| THE AMPHITHEATRE AT POZZUOLI | 239 |
| TWO WAYS OF LIFE | 240 |