

**THE PODESTA'S  
DAUGHTER AND OTHER  
MISCELLANEOUS POEMS**

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The Podesta's Daughter and Other Miscellaneous Poems by George H. Boker

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BY

GEORGE H. BOKER,

Author of "Calynce," "Anne Boleyn," "The Betrothal," &c.

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THE  
PODESTA'S DAUGHTER:

A DRAMATIC SKETCH.

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SCENE. *Before and within the gate of an Italian Church-yard. Enter, as if from the wars, DUKE ODO, VINCENZO, and a train of men-at-arms.*

DUKE ODO. (*Dismounting.*)

HARK you, Vincenzo; here will I dismount.  
Lead on Falcone to the castle. See  
He lack no provender or barley-straw  
To ease his battered sides. Poor war-worn horse!  
When last we galloped past this church-yard gate  
He was a colt, gamesome and hot of blood,  
Bearing against the bit until my arm

Ached with his humors. Mark the old jade now—  
He knows we talk about him—a mere boy  
Might ride him bare-backed. Give my people note  
Of my approach, and tell them, for yourself,  
I will not look too strictly at my house :  
An absent lord trains careless servitors.  
I wish no bonfires lighted on the hills,  
No peaceful cannon roused to mimic wrath ;  
Say, I have seen cities burn, and shouting ranks  
Of solid steel-clad footmen melt away  
Before a hundred pieces. Say I come  
For rest, not jollity ; and all I seek  
Is a calm welcome in their lighted eyes,  
And quiet murmurs that appear to come  
More from the heart than lips. Remember this.  
Yon old gray man who wanders through the tombs,  
Like Time among his spoils, is the first face,  
Of all the many strange ones we have passed,  
That I can call by name : I'll question him.  
See Marco's bed be soft. Let him be laid  
In the south turret, close beside my room :  
His wound aches cruelly. I must not forget  
The cry of love with which he dashed between