

**ODE TO THE DUKE
OF WELLINGTON,
AND OTHER POEMS**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649660506

Ode to the Duke of Wellington, and other poems by Robert Charles Dallas

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ROBERT CHARLES DALLAS

**ODE TO THE DUKE
OF WELLINGTON,
AND OTHER POEMS**



Robert Charles Dallas
the youngest son of Sir George Dallas, Bart
AGED 211.

F. G. Lewis sculp.
1850

THIS Ode to the Duke of Wellington, and the little Poems which follow it, are the genuine compositions of my youngest Son, and have been selected from a large collection of his Poetry in my possession, some of it written at the early age of eight years, and thence progressively up to fourteen, the age which he has at present reached.

They are presented to the public, with a due sense of that respect which should prevent any man, from intruding impertinent pretensions upon it; but at the same time under the influence of an opinion, that many will be pleased with these natural specimens of poetical genius in a child; and not without confidence in their candid appreciation of a talent, which, though yet imperfectly developed, has very rarely been

observable in an equal degree at so early an age; and perhaps never with so remarkable, and so constant an evidence of the possession of the technical language of Poetry, or greater instinctive discretion in the application of it.

I do not disguise from myself the danger of praise at so tender an age; or even that of inspiring into a school-boy, a taste for extra-academical fame. I trust nevertheless, that as these exercises are the fruits of industry, during his vacations and leisure hours at school; and as neither parental nor professional care will be wanting to preserve the necessary limits of future indulgence in this respect; little or no mischief will arise from permitting this little volume to appear.

Some of those who may cast an eye over it, and who may be disposed (I venture to think inconsiderately,) to extinguish all the pittle seeds of vanity in the tender mind, will perhaps give themselves the pleasure of contributing to check at least, their growth on the

present occasion. Others, who may be pleased to look propitiously on the first efforts of a scarcely fledged Poet, and give a gracious reception to so young, and so honest a candidate for public favour, will I trust in due time meet the reward of their kindness, by recognizing in his maturity, more exalted or more extensive titles to distinction.

GEORGE DALLAS.

*St. Margaret's, Titchfield,
Hants, June, 1819.*



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