

POEMS

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Poems by Oliver Wendell Holmes

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OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES

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BY

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NOTE BY THE ENGLISH PUBLISHER.

THIS volume contains all of Dr. Holmes's Poems published in the last Boston edition. Those which follow "The Hot Season," on page 141, are here collected for the first time from Magazines and other sources, available to the English Editor; who has also added a short Memoir of the Author from Griswold's "POETS AND POETRY OF AMERICA."

PREFACE

TO THE FIRST AMERICAN EDITION.

As the poem which stands at the head of this collection was received kindly enough to warrant its publication, I have availed myself of this occasion as an apology for offering a little book to the public. Among the poems which it contains are several, which the wishes of others rather than my own have led me to admit. Besides, having written comparatively little, and nothing of late years, until within a few months, I could ill afford to be over nice in my selection, unless I were willing to reduce my volume to dimensions odious alike to the self-love of authors and the cupidity of booksellers. If the good-natured reader, then, should find some pages a little over dull, or over extravagant, let him take it for