

**THE EVER GREEN: A COLLECTION
OF SCOTS POEMS, WROTE BY THE
INGENIOUS BEFORE 1600, IN TWO
VOLUMES, VOL. I. REPRINTED
FROM THE ORIGINAL EDITION**

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ALLAN RAMSAY

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The Ever Green

A COLLECTION

OF

Scots **P**oems

Wrote by the Ingenious before 1600

BY ALLAN RAMSAY

Reprinted from the Original Edition

IN TWO VOLUMES

VOLUME FIRST

Glasgow

JOHN CRUM, ST. VINCENT STREET

1874

T H E
Ever Green,
BEING A
COLLECTION
O F
SCOTS POEMS,
Wrote by the Ingenious before 1600.

VOL. I.

Published by ALLAN RAMSAY.

*Still green with Bays each ancient Altar stands,
Above the Reach of sacrilegious Hands,
Secure from Flames, from Envy's fiercer Rage,
Destructive War and all devouring Age.*

POPE.



EDINBURGH,

Printed by Mr. THOMAS RUDDIMAN for the Pu-
blisher, at his Shop, near the Cross, M.DCC.XXIV.



To His GRACE

JAMES

Duke of HAMILTON, &c.

Captain General,

And the rest of the Honourable
MEMBERS of the

Royal COMPANY of ARCHERS.

My LORDS and GENTLEMEN,

WHEN the more eminent Concerns
of Life, or the agreeable Diversion
of the BOW, do not employ your
leisure

leasure Time, the following OLD BARDS present you with an Intertainment that can never be disagreeable to any SCOTS Man, who despises the Fopery of admiring nothing but what is either new or foreign, and is a Lover of his Country. Such the Royal Company of ARCHERS are, and such every good Man should strive to be.

THE Spirit of Freedom that shines through both the serious and comick Performances of our old Poets, appears of a Piece with that Love of Liberty that our antient Heroes contended for, and maintained Sword in Hand. From you then, *My Lords and Gentlemen*, who take Pleasure to represent our brave Ancestors, these POETS claim Regard and Patronage; they now make a Demand for that Immortal
Fame

DEDICATION. v.

Fame that tuned their Souls some Hundred Years ago, which is in your Power, by countenancing to bestow. They do not address you with an indigent Face, and a Thousand pityful Apologies, to bribe the good Will of the Criticks. No! 'tis long since they were superiour to the Spleen of these four Gentlemen.

EVERY one who has Generosity, and is not byassed with a mistaken Prejudice, will allow, that good Sense, sharp Satyre, and witty Mirth, may be express'd with a true Spirit, altho' in antiquated Words and Phrases: When one bestows but a very small Pains to enter into the Authors Manner, then 'tis not to be doubted but the ROYAL COMPANY will receive and approve of these valuable Remains, and have a due Regard to the Memory of these

these meritorious Authors, and accept this
Dedication from,

My LORDS and GENTLEMEN,

Their faithful Publisher,

And your most humble

And devoted Servant,

ALLAN RAMSAY.

Edin. Octob.

15. 1724.



P R E F A C E.



I Have observed that Readers of the best and most exquisite Discernment frequently complain of our modern Writings, as filled with affected Delicacies and studied Refinements, which they would gladly exchange for that natural Strength of Thought and Simplicity of Stile our Forefathers practised: To such, I hope, the following Collection of Poems will not be displeasing.

When these good old Bards wrote, we had not yet made Use of imported Trimming upon our Cloaths, nor of foreign Embroidery in our Writings. Their Poetry is the Product of their own Country, not pilfered and spoiled in the Transportation from abroad: Their Images are native, and their Landskips domestick