

**WINCHESTER, AND A FEW  
OTHER COMPOSITIONS,  
IN PROSE AND VERSE**

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Winchester, and a few other compositions, in prose and verse by Chas. Townsend

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**CHAS. TOWNSEND**

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Winchester:  
JAMES ROBBINS, COLLEGE STREET.

M.DCCC.XXXV.

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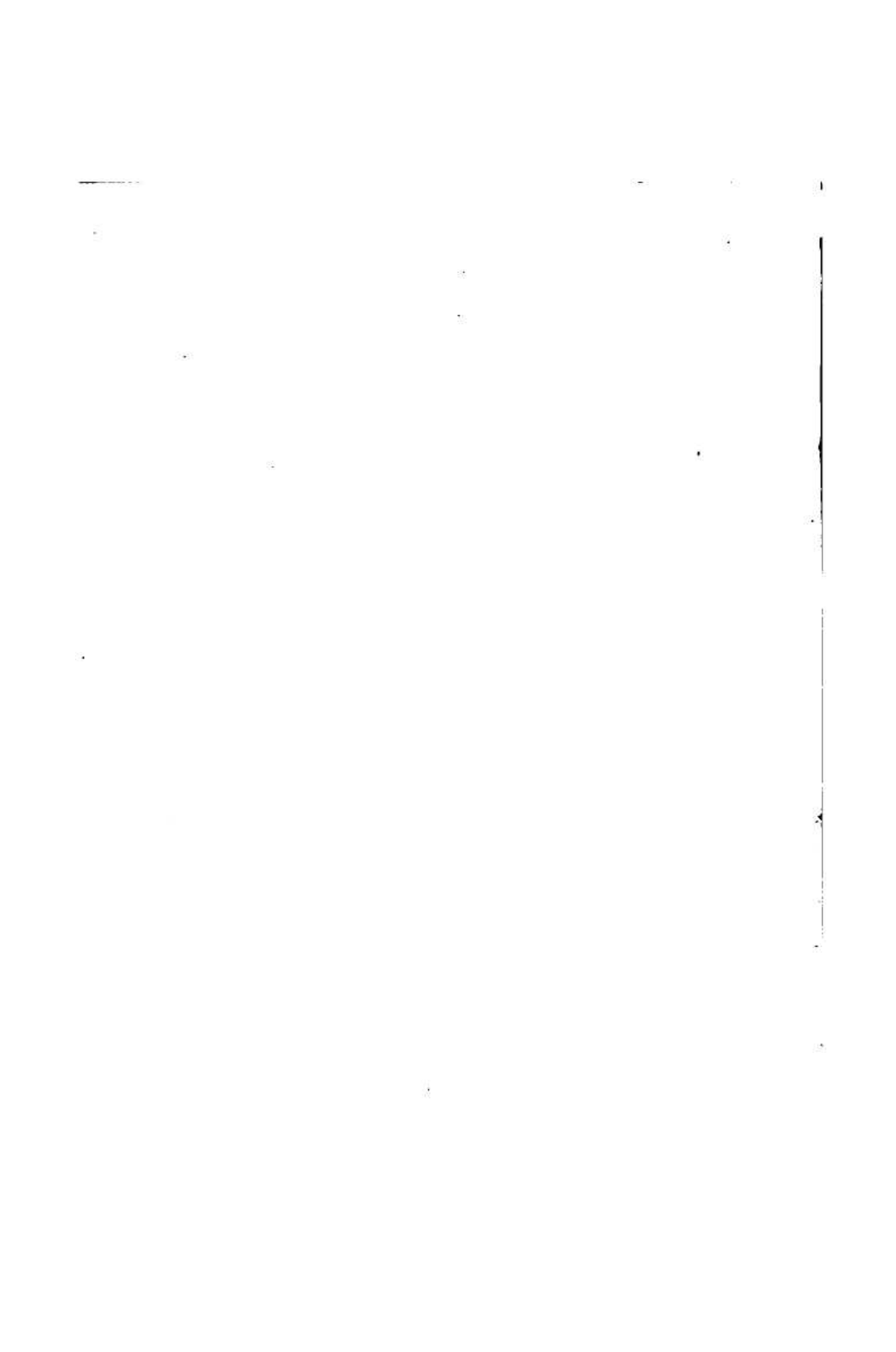
TO

THE EARL OF EGREMONT,

*This Volume is Dedicated,*

AS A TOKEN OF

RESPECT AND GRATITUDE.



## PREFACE.

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THE Pieces that make up this little Volume were written in some of the happy hours spent at the Curacy of Preston, in Sussex, the Village Church of which Parish forms one of the Sketches in the Collection; and the object of the Author in bringing together these brevities, has chiefly been to preserve a record of the tone of feeling and thoughtful enjoyment which he kept in exercise for many years during his residence at that place; a period of life in which "man, following still the funeral of the boy,"<sup>†</sup> keeps the decaying gladness and vivacity of the heart alive and dwelling in the stronger defences of thought and imagination.

A Collection more in number might easily have been made; yet, as the Pieces would have been found to possess a uniformity of sentiment, no varied manifestation of style or character would perhaps have been produced by enlarging it. The time and patience of the reader

<sup>†</sup> Keble.



have not, therefore, been taxed by much unnecessary matter, and only enough given to shew the unforced fruit of a quiet and happy mind, in its casual disengagements from professional and other pursuits: the Volume has, therefore, more value from individualities and affections, than any arising from poetical or intellectual excellence, and the pleasure of having it to present to those held in love and esteem, has been the only inducement to print it, and with no hope whatever of praise for any display of skilful or author-like acquirements. If this unobtrusive and unpublished Volume should have the good fortune to obtain for its reward the sympathy of a few gentle and thoughtful minds, their generous welcome and affectionate acceptance of it, I should know how to value above literary distinction or more general applause.

*CHAS TOWNSEND.*

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