HORÆ POETICÆ; OR, EFFUSIONS OF CANDOR

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Horæ poeticæ; Or, Effusions of candor by Anonymous

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ANONYMOUS

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EFFUSIONS OF CANDOR.

BY A BRITISH OFFICER.

Of the tongue that can finiter, O reader Beware!
As we commonly find a decoy mask a snare;
And should Candor's lash happen to touch on a flaw,
Pray thyself deem exempted by good-breeding's isw.
Fain would I please all, but 'twere vain to attempt,
For what here finds a smile, oft there moets contempt:
I have therefore determin'd to truth to adhere,
Esteem approbation, and leagh at the sneer.

LONDON:

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HALL COURT, LUDGATE STREET; AND W. ANDERSON,
PICCADILLY.

1825.

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LIEUT. COL. GEORGE WILKINS, C. B.

THESE POEMS

ARE AFFECTIONATELY INSCRIBED,

AS A SMALL TRIBUTE TO HIS WORTH,

AND ESTEEMED PRIENDSHIP, IN DAYS PAST,

BY HIS EVER SINCERE,

AND DEVOTED SERVANT,

THE AUTHOR.

November, 1894.

PREFACE.

So repugnant is our perverse nature to the salutary precepts of Virtue; and so lamentably disregarded is the sway of her unsullied sceptre, in this our degenerate day, in which skilful invention sedulously prompts the ready propensities of the human breast; that I do not so much as presume to trust the following feeble effusions of my pen, will materially arouse the criminal apathy of the one, or in any wise, restrain the baneful efforts of the other: yet, violated as her honorable mandates are, conscious that they are calculated to smooth the chequered paths of life, and point our way to peace, I derive a satisfaction in vindicating them, far more grateful than the empty approbation of vice, or the fallacious smile of folly. Actuated then, by such feelings, I composed the following humble work, which I now submit to a discerning Public, with diffidence in every sense but this,