

**SELECTIONS FROM
THE POETRY OF
ROBERT HERRICK**

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Selections from the poetry of Robert Herrick by Robert Herrick & Edward Everett Hale

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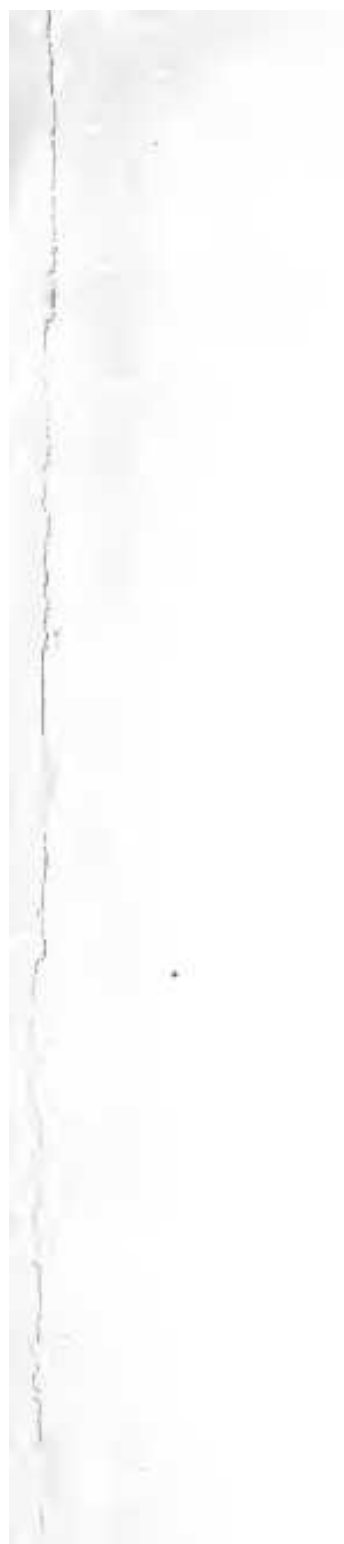
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ROBERT HERRICK & EDWARD EVERETT HALE

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ROBERT HERRICK.

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SELECTIONS

FROM THE POETRY OF

ROBERT HERRICK

EDITED BY

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P R E F A C E.

THIS volume of selections is meant as well for those readers who are content to enjoy Herrick's poetry as for those who desire to study a little the things which they have enjoyed. With such a double object there have been certain difficulties ; some things which are interesting to the student are very dry to the lover of poetry, and something might be said on the other side as well. Some concessions have to be made to each necessity. I have tried to give all Herrick's best poems ; but I have also, by including some that are by no means his best, aimed at giving an idea of his work that would be fairly accurate as well as pleasing. I have not thought it necessary to preserve the original and often erroneous spelling and punctuation ; but it has seemed well to follow it where it really tells us something about the pronunciation, whether for the sake of the metre or for other reasons. I have tried to point out some of the things which are delightful in Herrick's poetry ; but I have not shunned the discussion of several matters which may seem aridly scholastic. I have also omitted a few lines here and there, as is indicated by the numbering.

I have been aided by the studies of several of my predecessors who are mentioned in the Bibliography, and must especially acknowledge the help I have had from the work of Dr. Grosart and Mr. Pollard. Their editions are referred to so often that I have used merely the initials G. and P. I may also remark here that the abbreviation *Diss.* refers to the Dissertation mentioned on p. lxx, and that poems are referred to by the number in Mr. Pollard's edition.

Lastly, I am glad to mention the kindness of my colleague Professor A. N. Currier, who has always been ready to aid my recollections of the Latin poets whom Herrick admired so much, and, most particularly, that of Professor G. L. Kittredge, who has helped me with many a reference not only to the Latin but to English poets as well, and whose suggestions throughout have been of the greatest value.

STATE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA,

April 4th, 1895.