

**GIULIANO DE'
MEDICI, AND
OTHER POEMS**

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Giuliano de' Medici, and Other Poems by E. Battye

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E. BATTYE

**GIULIANO DE'
MEDICI, AND
OTHER POEMS**

GIULIANO DE' MEDICI,

AND OTHER

P O E M S,

BY

E. BATTYE.

I do present you, Ladies
With a garland of wreathed flowers—some bright,
Some sad—like life, made up of smiles and tears;
Contemn them not; what one dislikes, some other one
May favour—

THE DREAM OF ARCADY.

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P R E F A C E.

WHEN a Book is presented to the public, custom authorizes us to expect, that it should be accompanied by a prefatory explanation, stating the why and wherefore of its appearance; accordingly, the author either endeavours to rest his claims to public attention on the simple yet solid basis of *Truth*, or, on the other hand, raises a fabric of *Fiction*, whereby to support them: in either case, the work depends entirely upon its own merits for any share of praise, or censure, that may be bestowed upon it; while to gratify the caprice of *custom*, the writer's brain is often racked to produce a plausible something, for intruding the productions of his pen to the world. As little attempt as yet been made, to emancipate us from these fetters which gall the mind, I am constrained to tread in the footsteps of my predecessors; yet, as avoiding any attempt at imposition, I shall candidly avow, that my purpose in

writing was to employ and please myself; — but united to the *hope*, that *some* gratification might be extended to the minds of those, who, are content with humble sources of amusement, and will deign to be acquainted with the domestic intercourse of passing things; for my writings will not be found to afford scope to imaginations, which, like Eagle's wings, delight but in soaring over the loftiest heights, and find a resting place, only amid supernal sublimities. — My path is earth, and earth-born sympathies my theme; having introduced as little fiction into my subjects as might be consistent with poetry; and considering that facts, particularly historical facts, are to the enlightened, more pleasing in the simplicity of their truth, than the excursive flights of poetic license, which too often mislead the understanding, and render it unfit for the *realities* of life. — In conclusion, I must beg the leniency of my readers for the poems now presented; as by far the greater portion was written years ago, and without any idea of their being read beyond the circle of my own friends; — but since my determination to send them into a more extended sphere, they have undergone such corrections as appeared necessary.

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