# INTERLUDES (THIRD SERIES) BEING TWO ESSAYS: A GHOST STORY, AND SOME VERSES

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Interludes (Third Series) Being Two Essays: A Ghost Story, and Some Verses by Horace Smith

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# **HORACE SMITH**

# INTERLUDES (THIRD SERIES) BEING TWO ESSAYS: A GHOST STORY, AND SOME VERSES



#### BY THE SAME AUTHOR.

## POEMS

1897

#### PRESS REVIEWS.

Times.—" Mr. Horace Smith, whose 'Interludes' were received with favour three years ago, has republished some 'Poems,' They all show observation, thoughtfulness, and a graceful gift of verse. Among the best are quasi-elegiacs called 'Strife,' lines which may perhaps have been inspired by Clough, and which Clough would have admired."

Athenaum.—" The feeling of these Hymns reveals a true fervour and sincerity. The author's work shows an earnestness and virility, which in these days should serve as a sufficient reason, if others were wanting, for its welcome,"

Oxford Magazine.—" Mr. Smith writes with a sensitive appreciation of the beauties of nature, and writes withal in a pleasant and graceful style. The Hymns are distinctly superior to the ordinary hymn."

Scottman,-" Hymns and Psalms distinguished by a simplicity and grace rare in religious poetry."

Observer.—" Mr. Smith's style of writing is at once graceful and versatile, and his sacred poetry has the merit of being as simple and unaffected as his boating song,"

Liverpool Post,—" His correct and polished verse is certainly more pleasant to read than the pretentious ignorances that sometimes serve for poetry in our day."

Speaker.—"The lyrics are graceful and charming, the work of a scholar and lover of poetry as well as of one with no small aptitude for the methods of poetry. The Hymns, by the way, have nobility of form and purity of expression,"

Yorkshire Post.-" They are without exception sweet, genuinely poetic, and good in form,"

Glasgow Herald.—" These poems are mostly secular, but there are five Hymns and twelve Psalms of quite superior quality. The writer of a good hymn is one in ten thousand. The secular pieces show a marked degree of lyrical ability, . . . strong pieces of blank verse, . . . songs suitable for music that should delight the heart of the composer and singer."

Manchester Guardian,—" Never falls below a level of uncommon merit in dexterity of phrase and breeziness of inspiration."

Western Daily Press,—" Every lover of good poetry should be able to count these excellent poems amongst the treasures of the library."

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#### BY THE SAME AUTHOR.

## INTERLUDES

#### FIRST SERIES

BEING

### TWO ESSAYS, A STORY, AND SOME VERSES

#### PRESS REVIEWS.

Daily Chronicle.—" The essays indicate good old-fashioned reading, and are well written."

Athenaum.—"His essays on 'Criticism and Luxury' are full of genial good sense, and are illuminated here and there by bits of legal anecdotes. The views he expresses are urged so pleasantly, and with so much modesty, that opposition is disarmed."

Globe.—"The essays are on 'Criticism and Luxury,' and show that Mr. Smith has read wisely and well. Perhaps the 'Farrago of Verses' will be best liked and longest remembered by the reader."

Manchester Guardian.—"A volume much more agreeable to read than the works of most professional jesters, or, for the matter of that, of some professional big wigs of literature."

National Observer.—"In no sense unpleasing . . . have an air of jauntiness which makes them rather amusing in these days of dulness and the New Humour."

Scotsman,-" Readable and suggestive."

Glasgow Herald.—"The 'Story' is a serio-comic description of the adventures of a reading party at the seaside. Mr. Smith has managed to pack into very small space matter that is usually spread over three volumes. Mr. Smith's poems are partly grave and partly gay, and nearly all tempt to quotation, and his book is worth getting, solely for the 'Farrago of Verses' which he seems to have thrown into the bargain."

#### BY THE SAME AUTHOR.

## INTERLUDES

#### SECOND SERIES

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### TWO ESSAYS, A FARCE, AND SOME VERSES

#### PRESS REVIEWS.

Times, —"Worthy sequel to the first issue, and an interesting proof that a man can be a busy and useful police magistrate and can yet fill his leisure with good literature."

Manchester Guardian.—"The favourable reception (in which we think we had some share) of the first little volume of 'Interludes,' which Mr. Horace Smith issued some time ago, seems to have encouraged him to issue a second. It is always good 'Interlude' work showing reading, sense, sound feeling, and a relish for literature that is literature. Some of the parodies are very neat and happy."

Academy.—"He has every right to claim recognition as a teller of good stories. Shrewd, humorous, ludicrous anecdotes trample on each other's heels through seventy delightful pages. We commend the book to the busy man who wants to be amused over his after-dinner pipe. It were hard to find a more genial companion than the author of 'Interludes.'"

Glasgow Herald.—"We once before spent a pleasant hour in Mr. Smith's company, and his present little literary variety entertainment is excellent of its kind."

Leeds Mercury.—"A new series of 'Interludes'—in a busy legal career—has just appeared, and the slim volume will not disappoint those who remember the shrewd, common-sense, and fine literary flavour of its predecessor."

Scotsman.—"The book is a small one, but it is never dull, and its versatility keeps a reader's attention pleasantly engaged throughout. It is the very book for a desultory reader. One who has once begun to read the book is sure to go right through with it."

Globe.—"Inspired by good sense, and enlivened by anecdote and literary allusion."

Athenaum. -- "Will be welcome to those who found pleasure in the first."

## INTERLUDES

(THIRD SERIES)

BEING

TWO ESSAYS, A GHOST STORY, AND SOME VERSES

# INTERLUDES

(THIRD SERIES)

BEING

# TWO ESSAYS, A GHOST STORY, AND SOME VERSES

BY

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MACMILLAN AND CO., LIMITED

NEW YORK: THE MACMILLAN COMPANY

1899

### PREFACE.

In the Preface to my volume of "Poems" published in 1897, I seized the opportunity of thanking my critics for their kindly welcome of my "Interludes." I now have further to thank them for their still heartier appreciation of my "Poems." With some temerity I challenged their approval of the Sacred Verses; and I am rather surprised, and much pleased to find that they meet with general acceptance. That they are not as good as they ought to be is very certain, and I wish they were better.

IVY BANK, BECKENHAM, April, 1899.

