

**THE POETRY OF MILTON'S  
PROSE; SELECTED, WITH  
NOTES AND AN  
INTRODUCTORY ESSAY**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649675975

The Poetry of Milton's Prose; Selected, With Notes and an Introductory Essay by John Milton

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**JOHN MILTON**

**THE POETRY OF MILTON'S  
PROSE; SELECTED, WITH  
NOTES AND AN  
INTRODUCTORY ESSAY**



*L.A. 1827*

THE  
POETRY  
OF  
MILTON'S PROSE;

SELECTED  
FROM HIS VARIOUS WRITINGS;  
WITH  
NOTES,  
AND AN INTRODUCTORY ESSAY.

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He was not like those stars which only shine,  
When to pale mariners they storms portend:  
He had his calmer influence, and his mien  
Did love and majesty together blend.

DRYDEN.



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LONDON:  
PRINTED FOR  
LONGMAN, REES, ORME, BROWN, AND GREEN,  
PATERNOSTER ROW.

1827.

*207.*

## ADVERTISEMENT.

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ALTHOUGH in the Introduction the Editor has endeavoured to anticipate the curiosity of the reader, regarding the writings and opinions of our great national poet, he is anxious to state that, in making the following selections, his object has been to form a suitable, appropriate accompaniment to Milton's Poetical Works—extracting only such passages as none of the various classes of his admirers “ would willingly let die.” The collection might easily have been extended to a much greater length, but not, perhaps, without detracting from the general character and interest of the work. When Lord Chesterfield was once presented with a small volume, entitled—“ The Beauties of Shakspeare,”—he is said to have asked, “ Where are the other seven volumes ?” This elegant, em-

phatic compliment could not be applied to the Prose compositions of Milton. They were written chiefly in stormy times, and for temporary purposes; and partake of the heat and violence inseparable from party contests. But as the animosities or prejudices of men ought to die with the circumstances that produce them, so the errors or intemperance of an author ought not to blind us to his sincerity, patriotism, or eloquence. Deducting from the Prose Works of Milton all that may justly be urged against them—all that the most bitter of his enemies, or the most fastidious of his critics, have propagated—we shall still see, even in his harsh, neglected Treatises, what Johnson saw in *Comus*, “the dawn or twilight of *Paradise Lost*.”

C.

*Huntingdon, January 29, 1827.*

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