

**SPREES OF THE HALL, OF
CASUALTY, A POEM IN
FOUR CANTOS. FINALE, À
LA BYRON; A FRAGMENT**

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Sprees of the Hall, of Casualty, a Poem in Four Cantos. Finale, à La Byron; A Fragment by
Henry Pellatt

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HENRY PELLATT

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CASUALTY, A POEM IN
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LA BYRON; A FRAGMENT**

T. White, Printer,
2, Johnson's Court, Fleet Street.

TO
RICHARD PINDER,
OF
RICKMANSWORTH,
IN
THE COUNTY OF HERTS, ESQ.

DEAR AND HONORED SIR,

THERE is no one to whom I can with more propriety dedicate this volume than yourself, as the scenes introduced into it are, most of them, associated with your own recollections and presence. I flatter myself that the perusal of the following poem may bring to your remembrance those deeply dramatic situations celebrated beneath your roof of hospitality, and not altogether fail of interest. There will be, at all events, one advan-

tage arising from the reminiscence of them, which their enacting had not—total freedom from noise and clamor; and, indeed, I conceive that an apology is due from me for having so conspicuously stood forward, of all the *dramatis persone*, in those diurnal and nocturnal revelries.

In conclusion, Dear Sir, allow me to say, that it will, at all times, afford me the highest gratification to obey your summons of hospitality, to that roof whence sprung the "SPRINGS OF THE HALL;" though I earnestly hope, for your sake, and the lovers of rural abstraction and quietude, a second edition may not be called for—as it regards myself, I am indifferent.

I remain,

Dear Sir,

With high respect,

Yours very truly,

Henry Bellatt.

ADVERTISEMENT.

THE Author begs leave to assure Mr. Crabbe, that it was far from his intention, in the present volume, to build either his title or his design on Mr. Crabbe's beautiful poem, called "The Tales of the Hall;" he regrets that the titles of two poems, published in the same century, should so nearly accord; upon a careful perusal of the two books, it will be seen, however, that so far from the present author being indebted to Mr. Crabbe for any of his ideas, versifications, or metres, it would have been a decided advantage to Mr. Crabbe, had the "Sprees of the Hall" been published first. Every candid Reader must be compelled to allow this, withal.

PREFACE.



I HAVE hardly deemed a preface to the following poem necessary. Some consider a preface as the indispensable key-stone to their work, others deem it as a compliment from the author to the reader—let it answer both purposes in my case. I have only one apology to make upon this occasion, which is, for the length of time occurring between the gift of the subject and the printing of this poem, and the apology will be deemed sufficient when I inform my friends that I have hastily snatched some few half hours from the uncongenial claims of professional bondage

for this work, and, that the whole has been gathered together in the most hurried manner. This work has not been printed for the public eye, but to save time, trouble, and copying, at the request of some select and valued friends, for the purpose of perpetuating a few hours of social mirth, as connected with divers sprees and odd recollections; let this declaration disarm criticism; if it does not—I can't help it.

W. P.

London, October 10, 1823.