

POEMS

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Poems by Charles H. Hitchings

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CHARLES H. HITCHINGS

POEMS

P O E M S .

P O E M S :

BY

CHARLES H. HITCHINGS,

(OF THE MIDDLE TEMPLE.)

LONDON :

T. BOSWORTH, 215, REGENT STREET,

1851.

280. n. 317.

TO HIS MOTHER

These Poems

ARE AFFECTIONATELY DEDICATED

BY

THE AUTHOR.

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P O E M S .

THE CHILDREN'S VOICES IN THE
COLOSSEUM AT ROME.

'T WAS the noontide in the city of the high imperial
name ;
And the sun struck broad and fierce along those paths
of ancient fame,
Where, of old, went glittering triumphs, mail-clad
musters, purple shows,
High-born dames, and princely poets with the laurel
on their brows.

And I sate within the Circus, musing deep on all the
past,
Conning o'er the age-worn moral of the glory spent
at last—
Dwindled down to distant legends ; ruin only left to
tell
Where the lofty Cæsar flourished, where the lonely
Cæsar fell.

And my thoughts swept slowly backward to the grand
and glorious time
When the earth was all the Roman's, and the world
was in its prime—
When the ways were thronged with warriors, proud
to show their soldier's scars—
When the captive Briton glowering moved behind the
stately cars.

And my reverie waxed deeper, when upon that mourn-
ful ground,
Changing all the dream of Fancy, came a blithe re-
joyceful sound,
Heard beneath the broken arches of the ruin old and
grey—
Children's voices shrill and gleesome — children's
voices at their play.