

**AUBREY DE VERE'S
POEMS: A
SELECTION**

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Aubrey de Vere's poems: a selection by Aubrey De Vere & John Dennis

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AUBREY DE VERE & JOHN DENNIS

**AUBREY DE VERE'S
POEMS: A
SELECTION**

AUBREY DE VERE'S POEMS.

THE POETICAL WORKS OF AUBREY DE VERE.

- I. THE SEARCH AFTER PROSERPINE, AND OTHER POEMS, CLASSICAL AND MEDITATIVE.
- II. THE LEGENDS OF ST. PATRICK, AND LEGENDS OF IRELAND'S HEROIC AGE.
- III. ALEXANDER THE GREAT; SAINT THOMAS OF CANTERBURY; AND OTHER POEMS.
-

By the same Author.

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SONNETS. (PICKERING.)

AUBREY DE VERE'S POEMS

A Selection.

EDITED BY

JOHN DENNIS,

AUTHOR OF "STUDIES IN ENGLISH LITERATURE," AND EDITOR OF
"ENGLISH SONNETS: A SELECTION."



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P R E F A C E .

MR. DE VERE'S poetry, like good wine, needs no bush ; but a few remarks by way of introducing this selection to the public may not be out of place.

Verse of a fine order is not necessarily popular. If it deal with large issues and does not appeal to momentary interests, if it be free from all attempts to catch the trick of the time, and expresses the nobler and more permanent aspects of human life, it will in all likelihood fail for a while to reach the position it can justly claim. A "fit audience" will, indeed, gladly listen to the poetic voice and appreciate its beauty ; but, invaluable though this judgment may be, since it indicates in a measure the verdict of futurity, it is not all-sufficing. A poet's hope is to touch the heart of his nation, even if—like Milton—he be content with a world so small and it is his joy to know that thoughts which have given pleasure to him are diffusing pleasure far and wide. This is surely an ambition which a man