



The Poems of John Gay Volume 1 (Paperback)

By John Gay

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Excerpt: . He thrives upon the public ruin. Antiochus , with hardy pace, Provoked the dangers of the chase; And, lost from all his menial train, Traversed the wood and pathless plain. A cottage lodged the royal guest; The Parthian clown brought forth his best. The king unknown his feast enjoy d, And various chat the hours employ d. From wine what sudden friendship springs! Frankly they talk d of courts and kings. We country-folks (the clown replies) Could ope our gracious monarch s eyes. The king, (as all our neighbours say) Might he (God bless him!) have his way, Is sound at heart, and means our good, And he would do it if he could. 1 Plutarch. If truth in courts were not forbid, Nor kings nor subjects would be rid. Were he in power, we need not doubt him; But that transferr d to...

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