

The Complete Poetical Works



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This volume completes the Oxford English Texts edition of Byron's Poetical Works. Included here are the poems from the last two years of Byron's life, 1823-4, when he decided to leave Italy to join the Greeks in their struggle for independence from the Ottoman Empire. Three major works date from this period - the neglected late satire, *The Age of Bronze*; Byron's treatment of the Bounty mutiny, *The Island*; and his greatest lyric poem, 'January 22nd 1824. Messolonghi. On this day I complete my thirty-sixth year.' Several new poems are added to the corpus, two in the regular sequence of works set down in 1980, and three others in Appendix C. An important feature of this volume is its set of appendices dealing with the corpus of Byron's work. Of special significance are those detailing all relevant information about attributed and spurious Byron poems. This material is important not only for establishing a reliable corpus of the work, but also as a fundamental resource for the study of the Byron legend. Included here are the texts of newly authenticated poems and of attributed poems which have some reasonable claim to authenticity, as well as a list of unauthentic poems. The latter augments the list given in Volume I of this edition. This material is followed by a discussion of Byron forgeries; and a list of corrections and additions to Volumes I-V. This volume also contains comprehensive indexes of titles, of first lines, and of all the poems by volume and page number, and a general index.

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