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978-1-107-43264-2 - Richard Crashaw: Steps to the Temple Delights of
the Muses and Other Poems
The Text Edited by A. R. Waller
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CAMBRIDGE ENGLISH CLASSICS

Poems
by
Richard Crashaw

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RICHARD CRASHAW

Born, 1613?

Died, 1649.

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STEPS TO THE TEMPLE
DELIGHTS OF THE MUSES
AND OTHER POEMS

THE TEXT EDITED BY
A. R. WALLER



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at the University Press
1904

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NOTE.

THIS edition contains the whole of Crashaw's Poems, English and Latin, now for the first time collected in one volume.

Although not 'English Classics,' it has been thought best to include Crashaw's Latin and Greek poems, for completeness' sake. These are reproduced faithfully from the original issues printed at the Cambridge University Press in 1634 and 1670 and from photographs of the Sancroft MS. No attempt has been made to "improve" Crashaw's spelling or punctuation save in the one or two trifling instances mentioned in the notes, and save in the use of the modern type-forms for *j*, *s*, *u*, *m̃*, etc.

The arrangement of the text is as follows:

I. *Epigrammatum Sacrorum Liber*, from the volume ($5\frac{3}{4} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$ ins.) of 1634. A few additional epigrams that occur in the second edition of 1670 will be found on pp. 299—306.

II. *Steps to the Temple* and *The Delights of the Muses*. The text of 1648 ($5\frac{3}{4} \times 3\frac{3}{8}$ ins.) has been followed, but only those poems have been printed which were not revised at a later date for the volume entitled *Carmen Deo Nostro*, 1652 (see III. below). The text of the first edition of *Steps to the Temple. Sacred Poems, with other Delights of the Muses...Printed and Published according to Order...Printed by T. W. for*

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NOTE

Humphrey Moseley,...1646, has been collated with that of 1648, and both texts with that of *Carmen Deo Nostrò*, and the verbal alterations, omissions and additions in these three texts will be found in the Appendix, this course being deemed more satisfactory than to form an eclectic text by guesswork. Certain poems belonging to these three volumes are also in Archbishop Sancroft's MS. (see IV. below) and in the British Museum MSS. (see V. below); variations between these MSS. and the printed volumes will be found in the Appendix. In the text, the latest published form has been printed in each case. For the loan of copies of the texts of 1646 and 1648 I am indebted to the Library of Trinity College, Cambridge.

III. The revised collection of poems entitled *Carmen Deo Nostrò* ($6\frac{1}{2} \times 4$ ins.), printed and published in Paris in 1652 and adorned with small plates engraved from Crashaw's own drawings, has been followed from the first page to the last. It bears evidence of having been printed abroad, as its simple errors of the press are numerous. These have been corrected and their places marked by square brackets, and in the Appendix will be found reproductions of the engravings, with indications of their place. Copies of the edition of 1652 are very rare indeed, and it has been thought well to preserve its eccentricities of spacing and its generosity in the matter of titles and half-titles.

IV. The volume of Crashaw's (and other) poems, copied by Archbishop Sancroft and now preserved in the Bodleian, was kindly forwarded from Oxford to the Cambridge University Library, to enable me to collate it. I am much indebted to the authorities at Oxford for this privilege, and to the University Librarian here for making the examination of the MS. as easy as possible.

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A great many poems in it were first published by Dr Grosart in his *Fuller Worthies'* edition of 1872–3; they were rearranged by him to fall in with the scheme of his edition, but in the following pages they will be found printed in the order in which they occur in the MS., the poems published by Crashaw being, of course, omitted. As indicated above (see II.), verbal differences between MS. and published text will be found in the notes to the latter.

The evidence that some poems other than those indicated in the MS. by the initials R.C. are Crashaw's is mainly based upon Abp Sancroft's table of contents to his volume, a photograph of which I have had made. I regret that in one case the evidence seems clear that a poem printed by Dr Grosart as Crashaw's cannot be his, and it does not therefore find a place in the present text.

Abp Sancroft's table of contents begins thus: 'Mr Crashaw's poems transcrib'd frō his own copie, before they were printed; among w^{ch} | are some not printed. Latin, on y^e Gospels v. p. 7. On other subjects. p. 39. 95. 229. English sacred | poems p. 111. on other subjects—39. 162. 164. v. 167. v. 196. 202. v. 206. 223. v. Suspetto di Herode. | translat'd frō Car. Marino. p. 287 v.' The table then gives the titles of poems other than Crashaw's, and amongst these are indexed the two unsigned poems written on p. 205 of the MS., 'On a Freind. On a Cobler': of these, Dr Grosart printed one as Crashaw's and not the other. Dr Grosart took '202. v. 206' to mean that all the poems on and between those pages were Crashaw's. If that were so then the verses 'On a Cobler' would be Crashaw's and these he omitted. But, apart from the fact that these two poems are indexed elsewhere among Abp Sancroft's miscellaneous and anonymous collection, they are preceded by a
 vii

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 The Text Edited by A. R. Waller
 Frontmatter
[More information](#)

NOTE

poem to which Abp Sancroft affixed the initials R. Cr., are followed by one bearing the same initials, and are themselves unsigned.

Dr Grosart printed the following seven poems as Crashaw's: Three 'On ye Gunpowder-Treason' (see pp. 349-354), two 'Upon the King's Coronation' (pp. 355-6), 'Upon the birth of the Princesse Elizabeth' (pp. 357-8) and 'An Elegie on the death of Dr Porter' (pp. 362-3). The external evidence, however, is not so strong as Dr Grosart indicated on p. xxii of the Preface to Vol. I. of his edition of 1872. He says 'All entered thus 164 v. 167 are by him and so these being entered under his name in Index as 167 v. 196 must belong to him.' Of the poems in the MS. on pp. 164-167, the first, 'Upon a gnatt burnt in a candle,' though lacking the initials, I take to be Crashaw's, because it is the only one on that page and that page is credited to him in the Index. Pp. 165 and 6 contain 'Love's Horoscope,' signed R. Cr., p. 166 'Ad amicam,' signed T. R. [Thomas Randolph]. On p. 167 begins the long poem 'Fidicinis et Philomelae' ('Musicks Duell'), signed R. Cr., which extends to p. 171 and is followed by other poems, *all* bearing the initials R. Cr., on pp. 171-179. On pp. 180-187 the five Gunpowder-Treason and King's Coronation poems are transcribed and they lack the initials. Pp. 187-190 contain the 'Panegyrick upon the Birth of the Duke of York,' with the initials R. Cr., pp. 190-192 the poem 'Upon the birth of the Princesse Elizabeth,' mentioned above, and again lacking initials, pp. 192-195 contain poems certainly by other hands, whose authors are either there given or indexed by Abp Sancroft, and p. 196 contains 'Ex Euphormione' with the initials R. Cr. again.

The 'Elegie on the death of Dr Porter' is attributed to Crashaw by Dr Grosart because it is 'entered in Index
 viii

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NOTE

under Crashaw' (Grosart, *ib.* p. xxiii). But it will be seen by a reference to Abp Sancroft's contents given above that '229' seems to refer to Latin poems. Now p. 229 contains the Latin 'In Eundem Scazon,' with the initials R. Cr., and the beginning of the Dr Porter poem, which lacks the initials.

Against this negative evidence, which seems to me worthy of consideration, there is the fact that the poems in question are not elsewhere indexed by Abp Sancroft as anonymous or miscellaneous, and the internal evidence of their being from Crashaw's hand is not insignificant. I have therefore decided to print them, after stating the doubts concerning them.

This MS. volume of Abp Sancroft has many interesting poems in it, other than Crashaw's, and my photograph of his table of contents is at the service of other students who may be working at the literature of that period.

V. In 1887-8 Dr Grosart issued a supplement containing a collation of a small MS. volume, recently acquired by the British Museum (Addit. MS. 33,219), considered to be in the handwriting of Crashaw himself. The volume was evidently a transcript of some of his English poems, intended possibly as a gift, since it begins with a few dedicatory lines and a longer dedicatory poem. In his supplement Dr Grosart printed these lines and poem, together with a translation from Grotius and two more poems, as 'hitherto unprinted and unknown.' I have printed the two dedicatory poems and the Grotius, but the other two ('Midst all the darke and knotty snares' and 'Is murder no sin') were already printed by Crashaw in his 'Steps to the Temple,' 1646 and 1648, and will be found in Dr Grosart's own 1872-3 edition on pp. 47 Vol. I. and 144 Vol. II. respectively. In the notes to the various published English poems will be found, as in

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NOTE

the case of the Sancroft MS., variations between them and this British Museum MS.

A further acquisition by the British Museum in 1894 (Addit. MS. 34,692) contains a transcript of Crashaw's 'Loe heere a little volume' and 'Upon the Assumption.' It is dated 1642 and seems to have belonged to 'Thom: Lenthall: Pemb: Hall:' in which college Crashaw began his academical career. Its variations are recorded in the notes, as are those of the poems in Harl. MSS. 6917-8, and of the earliest appearances of some of Crashaw's verses in sundry volumes of contemporary verse and prose. Of these, attention may be called to the interesting alternative readings found in the lines under the portrait of Bp Andrewes (see pp. 134 and 372).

For assistance in the collation of the British Museum MSS. I am indebted to Mr Richard Askham, and Mr Albert Ivatt, of Christ's College, has very kindly prepared the indexes for me.

The copy of *Carmen Deo Nostro* used for the purpose of the present edition will rest in future in the library of Peterhouse, of which College Crashaw was made Fellow in 1637 and from which he was ejected, with others, six years later for refusing to accept the Solemn League and Covenant.

A. R. WALLER.

CAMBRIDGE,
 May 15, 1904.