

The Author to his Readers.

TO MY READERS.—The author of the foregoing Poems and Songs would beg that all who read them would look with a lenient eye upon the faults they may find in them. He had reached the age of fifty years before he composed a verse, although he had indulged a wish that he could do so, from boyhood ; but that wish might have remained without any practical results, had not a friend written an acrostic on my name, in trying to reply to which I found I could do something in the way of rhyming. From that time I found it comparatively easy to compose verse, and had I had no worldly troubles, I might have been able to lay before the public a larger book than this. However, it is perhaps large enough for all the good that's in it. Meantime my readers will have to take the will for the deed. I may as well state by way of explanation, that the "Wyfe or the Wuddy," is one of Wilson's Border Tales put in rhyme. "O'Connell and the Huckster," is also a metrical version of a popular story. With the exception of these and two other pieces, "The Sunbeam," and "Omnipresence," the rest are all original.

W. BRICHAN.

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