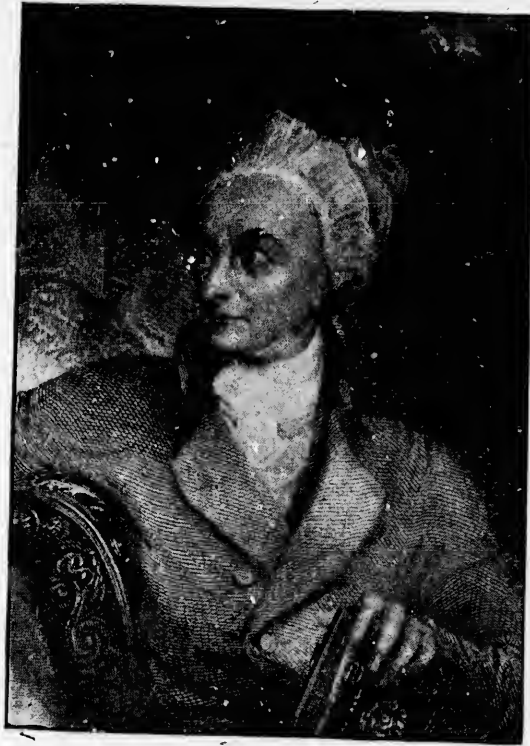


BOADICEA.
BY WILLIAM COWPER.



believe me yours
Wm Cowper.

I.—INTRODUCTORY.

HISTORICAL BASIS OF THE POEM.—Boadicea (*bō-dī-sē'-a*) was a British queen in the time of the Emperor Nero. She was the wife of Prasutagus, King of the Iceni, a people inhabiting the eastern coast of Britain. On his death-bed, 60 A.D., Prasutagus named the Emperor heir to his accumulated