

PREFACE

THOUGH Poe was constantly reprinting and revising his poems, there is in most cases no difficulty about deciding upon the text which must be accepted as final. It has been observed that, except in one case, Poe never returned to an earlier reading, and we must therefore obviously accept, for such poems as occur therein, the latest edition published during his lifetime — that of 1845. Of this volume, moreover, Messrs. Edmund Clarence Stedman and George Edward Woodberry, editors of the *Works of Edgar Allan Poe* in ten volumes, were fortunate enough to find a copy, 'recently bequeathed by James Lorimer Graham, Esq., to the Century Association,' which is enriched by marginal notes in Poe's handwriting 'for the purpose of being incorporated in later editions'. By the courtesy of Messrs. Duffield & Co., 'publishers of the Stedman-Woodberry edition, copyright 1894,' we have been enabled to incorporate this valuable material.¹

The Raven and other Poems, by Edgar A. Poe, 1845, contained the bulk of its author's work in this kind, and has been here reprinted, with preface and dedication, precisely as issued, except for the poems revised

¹ An edition of this work was also issued in England by Messrs. Lawrence & Bullen, who have kindly confirmed Messrs. Duffield's permission.