



The Works Of Alexander Pope Esq.

In Nine Volumes Complete. With His Last Corrections, Additions, And Improvements; As they were delivered to the Editor a little before his Death

Containing His Miscellaneous Pieces In Verse and Prose

Pope, Alexander

London, 1751

On Mr. Gay, in Westminster-abbey, 1732

Nutzungsbedingungen

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XL.

On Mr. G A Y.

In Westminster-Abbey, 1732.

O F Manners gentle, of Affections mild;
 In Wit, a Man; Simplicity, a Child:
 With native Humour temp'ring virtuous Rage,
 Form'd to delight at once and lash the age:
 Above Temptation, in a low Estate, 5
 And uncorrupted, ev'n among the Great:
 A safe Companion, and an easy Friend,
 Unblam'd thro' Life, lamented in thy End.
 These are Thy Honours! not that here thy Bust
 Is mix'd with Heroes, or with Kings thy dust; 10
 But that the Worthy and the Good shall say,
 Striking their pensive bosoms—*Here* lies GAY.

NOTES.

VER. 12. *Here lies Gay.*] i. e. in the hearts of the good and worthy.—Mr. Pope told me his conceit in this line was not generally understood. For, by peculiar ill luck, the *formulary* expression, which makes the beauty, misleads the reader into a sense which takes it quite away.