



King Victor and King Charles (1842). by: Robert Browning: Drama (Paperback)

By Robert Browning

Createspace Independent Publishing Platform, United States, 2017. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.King Victor and King Charles was the second play written by Robert Browning for the stage. He completed it in 1839 for William Macready, who had staged *Strafford* two years before, but Macready rejected it as unsuitable and it was never performed. It was published in 1842 as the second number of *Bells and Pomegranates*. The subject of the play is the strange incident in 1730-32 in the Kingdom of Sardinia in which the elderly king, Victor Amadeus II, first abdicated in favour of his son Charles Emmanuel III, and then after months of ever-increasing complaints unexpectedly demanded to be restored. He was imprisoned until his death a year later. Browning's treatment is based on 18th century sources which cast Victor as deliberately deceptive, but he goes further to create a secret history in which Charles is exonerated from all charges of cruelty. The play is in four acts and has only four main characters: Victor, Charles, Charles's wife Polyxena, and the minister D Ormea. Charles suffers from an inferiority complex. He has always been regarded as the...



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