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A Collection Of Poems In Six Volumes. By Several Hands

Dodsley, Robert

London, 1758

On the Report of a Wooden Bridge to be built at Westminster. By the
Same.

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On the Report of a WOODEN BRIDGE to be
built at Westminster.

By the Same.

BY Rufus' hall, where Thames polluted flows,
Provok'd, the Genius of the river rose,
And thus exclaim'd—" Have I, ye British swains,
" Have I, for ages, lav'd your fertile plains?
" Given herds, and flocks, and villages increase,
" And fed a richer than the Golden Fleece?
" Have I, ye merchants, with each swelling tide,
" Pour'd Affrick's treasure in, and India's pride?
" Lent you the fruit of ev'ry nation's toil?
" Made every climate yours, and every soil?
" Yet pilfer'd from the poor, by gaming base,
" Yet must a Wooden Bridge my waves disgrace?
" Tell not to foreign streams the shameful tale,
" And be it publish'd in no Gallick vale."
He said;—and plunging to his crystal dome,
White o'er his head the circling waters foam.

THE