145. Satirical Poem on Mr. Rowbotham, second half of November, MS VIII. Unpublished.

This poem is inked out with such care as to insure illegibility--a manner of erasure very rare in the juvenilia--as if Ruskin was ashamed of having written it. See no. 146 for a possible apology.

Cook and Wedderburn identify the poem as satirizing Ruskin’s tutor, Mr. Rowbotham, and I am just able to make out words relating to mathematics. For Ruskin’s dislike of this dry tutor, see nos. 87, 173.