

OLD IRELAND

A Collection of Ancient Irish Melodies

THE WORDS WRITTEN BY THE

AUTHOR OF "JOHN HALIFAX, GENTLEMAN"

THE SYMPHONIES AND ACCOMPANIMENTS BY

BERTHOLD TOURS.

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KATHLEEN ASTHORE.

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THE HIGH-BORN ORPHAN.

PREFACE.

Some years ago I found, among the Petrie Collection, many rare and beautiful Irish airs, to which from time to time I wrote words. The result is the present publication.

M. Berthold Tours has, in his symphonies and accompaniments, done exactly what should be done with national remedies—namely, as little as possible. For such music, simplicity is the truest art.

Being myself an Irishwoman, my work has been a work of love; hoping to sing—not sermonise—into the English heart a tenderer feeling towards Old Ireland. I prefer to dwell, not on the faults, but the virtues of my people; their domestic purity, their strong affections, their innate loyalty, courage, and fidelity; also, last, not least, their indomitable gaiété de cœur, which implies neither hardness, shallowness, nor selfishness of heart, yet enables the Celtic nature to tide over trouble in a way which the more sombre Saxon can hardly understand. If I can do this, I shall go on singing. Thus taking up Thomas Moore's harp, I may lay it down, as he did, with his own farewell words—

I was but as the wind passing heedlessly over, And all the wild sweetness I waked was thine own.

THE AUTHOR OF "JOHN HALIFAX, GENTLEMAN."

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LIFE OF MOZART

BY

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TRANSLATED FROM THE GERMAN BY

PAULINE D. TOWNSEND

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DAILY NEWS.

"He (Jahn) has made admirable use of Nissen, with his laborious compilation, and of all other authorities, and he has succeeded in producing a work which is complete without being confusing through excess of detail, and in which the interest of the narrative is not broken by undue reference to other writers who, treating of the same points, have treated them differently and often incorrectly. . . . The work has been well translated, and it is prefaced by a brief but interesting introduction from the pen of Mr. George Grove."

THE ATHENÆUM.

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