

**POEMS, BALLADS,
AND BUCOLICS**

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Poems, Ballads, and Bucolics by H. D. Rawnsley

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H. D. RAWNSLEY

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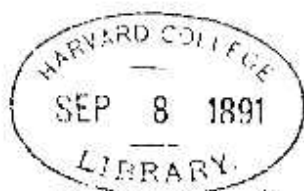
POEMS, BALLADS, AND RUCOLICS.

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AND BUCOLICS.

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TO
PHILLIPS BROOKS,
OF BOSTON, U.S.A.,
IN MEMORY OF A DAY AT CROSTHWAITE,
AND WITH GRATITUDE FOR ALL HE HAS DONE FOR
THE RELIGIOUS THOUGHT OF ENGLAND;
AND TO THOSE OF HIS FELLOW-CITIZENS WHO
REMEMBER THAT THEIR FOREFATHERS
SAILED FROM LINCOLNSHIRE,
I DEDICATE THIS BOOK.

PREFACE.

SOME of these poems have appeared in contemporary periodicals. The Ballads, for the most part, record heroic deeds done in Great Britain and America during the past few years. The Bucolics are sketches from real life in Lincolnshire. The language of these latter has been made familiar by the poet Laureate. Those who find alterations in the diction will remember that changes have taken place in the dialect within the past fifty years. In a few instances variations in the spelling of the same word have been admitted because both forms are met with, in others the usual way of spelling has been adopted, *e.g.*, "grows" for "groäs." The "o" before an "i," wherever met with, should be pronounced very softly; it serves generally to give a broad sound to the "i," as in "squire," "toime." Sometimes the "o" has been omitted for fear of over emphasis in pronunciation, this especially when the "oi" precedes a "k," as in the word "loike," and when the word is a rhyming word at the end of a line. The "s" of the possessive case has also been at times purposely left out from the word "it." Readers of dialect will bear in mind that the dialect herein spoken, and the folk-lore alluded to, are those of the old Danish colony whose children live between Horncastle, Louth, and Boston.

H. D. R.

CROSTHWAITHE VICARAGE,
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116

117