POEMS WRITTEN AT RUHLEBEN

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Poems written at Ruhleben by Terence Philip

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TERENCE PHILIP

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Poems

Written at Ruhleben

Terence Philip



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All the poems in this volume were written during four years of imprisonment in Germany.

Contents

	Page
The Princess of Cathay	9
Song	10
Summer Rain	11
Song	12
A Memory	13
An Old Prisoner Dying	14
The Young Prisoner	15
In a Garden	16
The Coming of Spring	17
In the City	18
Summer	19
The Last Word	20
To Clouds	21
The Starlight Night	32
The Pilot	23
Sonnet	24
Storm	25
Before Daybreak	26
The News	27
The Messenger	31
November in England	32
June Night	33
Eros	34
The Grey Nightfall	35
Letter to a Friend	36
From a Prison Camp	39
In a Year	40
Pleasure and Pain	41
Chimneys	42
Hate	44
Summer, 1915	45
To a Dead Rebel	48
Hope	49
Song	50
Dew in the Grass	51
Prelude	56

The Princess of Cathay

Swish of silk and bray of gong, Bear the palanquin along!

Crystal flash and burning gold, Azure curtains fold on fold.

Crimson sash and sable bow, See the bristling archers go!

Solemn princes of the land, Snow-white sole on yellow sand, Sleeves of blue where dragons crawl Round and round a fiery ball.

Suddenly an evening breeze, Bowing the anemones At the roadside where I stand, Parts the curtain and I see— Just a little quiet hand Resting on a silken knee.

Song

IF music were the child of Light
Then I could all my longing prove,—
Bind me a captive in your sight
And tell you how I love.

Alas! My songs are born in woe
And absence gives my tongue release,
In darkest night I singing go
And sigh my heart's increase.

But when you turn to me again
Then do I stand in radiant day,
A flaming joy within my brain
And not a word to say.

Summer Rain

LITTLE lark, like golden rain Ran your music in my brain! But the silver rain is falling, Only cuckoo now is calling— Sing again, O sing again!