LAYS FROM MAORILAND: BEING SONGS AND POEMS, SCOTTISH AND ENGLISH

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Lays from Maoriland: Being Songs and Poems, Scottish and English by William M. Stenhouse

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WILLIAM M. STENHOUSE

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Being Songs and Poems Scottish and English

BY

WILLIAM M. STENHOUSE

President of the Dunedin Burns Club



PAISLEY: ALEXANDER GARDNER
Sublisher by Appointment to the late Queen Victoria
1908

Dedicated by the Butbor

TO THE

St. Undrew Society

ANT

The Scottish Rational Musical Association,

WITH THEIR

KINDRED SOCIETIES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD,
IN THE SINCERE HOPE THAT
SUCCESS AND PROSPERITY MAY ATTEND THEIR EFFORTS
TO PERPETUATE THE VALOUR AND WORTH OF
THEIR NATIVE LAND.

9

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TO MY WIFE.

Had I the poet's all-persuasive art,
And Music's magic numbers at command,
'Twould need them all to paint thy tender heart,
And show how pity still directs thy hand.

For every tale of woe thou hast a tear, All the unhappy find in thee a friend; And even the guilty may suppress their fears, And on thy gentle clemency depend.

How oft I've seen thee bending o'er some couch,
While words of pity issued from thy tongue,
And then some gift came stealing from thy pouch,
To show how much his woe thy bosom wrung.

Nor gifts alone, but cheerful service given,
As if such acts entailed no sacrifice,
But were the work appointed thee of Heaven,
As stepping-stones by which the lost may rise.

Compared to these, how vain the world's applause!

Its highest honours meretricious dross;

The humblest often is the noblest cause,

And Heaven's best gifts may simulate a cross.

WM. M. STENHOUSE.

June 24th, 1908.

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