

**THE TRIUMPH OF
MUSIC WITH
OTHER POEMS**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649725212

The Triumph of Music with Other Poems by Francis Champion

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FRANCIS CHAMPION

**THE TRIUMPH OF
MUSIC WITH
OTHER POEMS**

Champion's Edition.

THE

TRIUMPH OF MUSIC

WITH OTHER POEMS,

BY

THE BLIND BARD OF CICESTRIA.

"I was all ear—
And took in strains that might create a soul
Under the ribs of death."

COMUS.

CHICHESTER :

WILLIAM HAYLEY MASON, EAST STREET.

1841.

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TO THE MOST NOBLE
CHARLES GORDON LENNOX
DUKE OF RICHMOND,
&c. &c.

It is with humility I indulge the hope that my little Volume thus ushered to the Public, under your Grace's protection, may meet with all the candour and sympathy, its arduous strugglings, to emerge from obscurity, may seem to demand.

The pieces already before the world (through the medium of Ephemeral Publications) having received the highest commendations, encourages a hope almost amounting to confidence, that your Grace will not have cause to regret your condescension, in thus permitting my muse to hand your name as a passport for her appearance on the fields of literature.

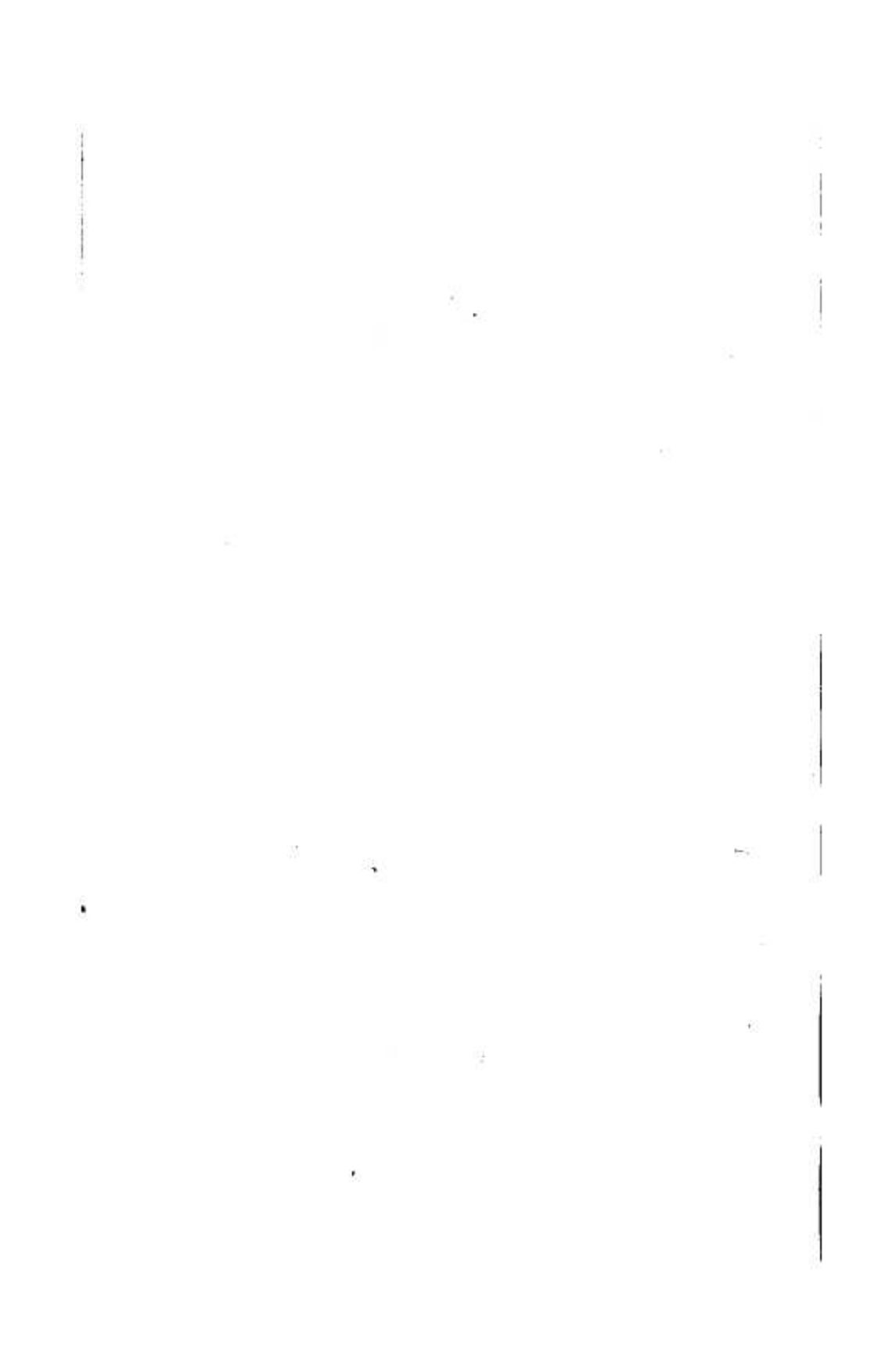
With the utmost sincerity,
I humbly beg leave to subscribe myself,
Your Grace's obliged and grateful servant,
FRANCIS CHAMPION.

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ADVERTISEMENT.

This little volume is not presented to the world, as containing the effusions of a mind, revelling in the sunshine of a liberal education; but as wild flowers putting forth their humble varieties in the bleak regions of relentless penury. At the early age of ten years the Author found himself a contributor to his own support, from which time up to the sad visitation of Blindness, his life was a continuation of active (though not laborious) employment. At the time when his mind was most susceptible of improvement, schools were not so general, or deemed of such consequence as at the present period; indeed the only assistance he received of this nature, was, what could be derived by an enquiring and juvenile mind, from a good old School-master, during the short space of twelve months. In justice to himself the Author considers he ought to acquaint the reader, that the usual amusements of youth, were thrown aside for the more pleasing and useful study of self-improvement; every leisure hour, every book and every intelligent person, being eagerly sought as a prize of sterling value. The poems are decidedly his own; but three grammatical objections appeared in the work which were rectified by the author: the faults noted in the errata were not in the manuscript. Here, he would intrude one hint to the young, "That as the benefits arising from self-improvement are various, so are they pleasing and permanent, they having cast a ray of light over the dark hiatus riven in his path (by the absence of vision,) which neither grief, nor care, nor malice can ever extinguish." The author became blind at the age of twenty-four, has since passed the same length of time, not only surrounded by darkness, but the most discouraging difficulties; deprived by penury of the common channels of knowledge and many of the most simple necessities of life, therefore the poems here offered ought to pass the ordeal of criticism, rather as the thoughts and ideas of the age of twenty-four than as the productions of a more advanced period of life. With these few prefatory remarks, the author commends the following pieces into the hands of an impartial, (and in his case) he trusts indulgent public, entreating it to bear in mind the above statements as a guide to its judgment in the delivery of its verdict.

South Street, 1841.



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