

**POEMS OF THE  
FIELDS  
AND THE TOWN**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649674282

Poems of the Fields and the Town by John Alfred Langford

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**JOHN ALFRED LANGFORD**

**POEMS OF THE  
FIELDS  
AND THE TOWN**



P O E M S

OF THE

•  
F I E L D S   A N D   T H E   T O W N .

# POEMS

OF THE

## FIELDS AND THE TOWN.

BY

JOHN ALFRED LANGFORD,

*Author of the "Lamp of Life," &c.*

---

Her divine skill taught me this,  
That from every thing I saw  
I could some invention draw:  
And raise pleasure to her sight,  
Through the meanest object's sight,  
By the murmur of a spring,  
Or the leaf's hush's rustling,  
By a daisy, whose leaves spread,  
Thus when Titan goes to bed;  
Or a shady branch of trees,  
She could more intune in me,  
Than all Nature's beauties can  
In some other wiser man.

GEORGE WITHER.

---

LONDON:  
SIMPKIN, MARSHALL AND CO.

MDCCCLIX.

[The Right of Translation is Reserved.]

280. N 373

TO MY FRIEND,  
EDWARD CAPERN,  
POSTMAN AND POET,  
IN REMEMBRANCE OF PLEASANT DAYS SPENT WITH HIM IN HIS  
OWN BEAUTIFUL COUNTY OF DEVON,  
THE FOLLOWING POEMS  
ARE INSCRIBED BY  
THE AUTHOR.

---

## P R E F A C E.

---

MOST of the short pieces in the present volume have appeared in the magazines and periodicals, and have thus obtained some public favour. Many of them have had the good fortune to be rendered into French by M. DE CHATELAIN, the able translator of Chaucer, Gay, and other English poets; and in this dress have won for themselves new friends. It remains to be seen whether the same kindness will be shown to them now they are collected and bound together. They recal dear and pleasant remembrances to their writer; and he naturally looks upon them with a loving and favourable eye, meeting them as old companions and friends with a smile, and a good word. This he cannot expect from others; but of one thing he is certain that his critics will praise where they justly can; and where they cannot they will as justly blame. After not a little experience in



contemporary literature, he feels assured that as a whole nothing can be conducted on fairer or more generous principles than modern criticism; and neither deprecating nor flattering this noble function, he is quite content to leave his works, such as they are, to speak for themselves, and to be judged accordingly. He dare not hope that any one will receive the same pleasure from the perusal as he has received in writing; but if only a part of this should prove reciprocal, he will be satisfied. Poetry has been to him its own rich reward. To it he owes some of the brightest hours of his life; and he can truly say with Burns,—

“ Leeze me on rhyme ! it’s aye a treasure,  
My chief, amais my only pleasure,  
At hame, a-fiel’, at wark, or leisure ;  
    The Muse, poor bizzie !  
Though rough and raploch be her measure,  
    She’s seldom lazy.”

## CONTENTS.

---

	PAGE
True Love's Coronet . . . . .	1
The Birth of Spring . . . . .	2
To an Early Blackbird . . . . .	4
To the First Cuckoo of the Year . . . . .	6
The Great Harpist . . . . .	8
Song . . . . .	9
Song . . . . .	10
The Lovers . . . . .	11
Going Home . . . . .	12
St. Valentine's Day . . . . .	13
St. Valentine's Day . . . . .	15
So Very Kind was He . . . . .	16
"When will the Letter Come?" . . . . .	17
The One Joy . . . . .	19
The Queen of Ferny Dall . . . . .	20
The Devonshire Lasses . . . . .	21
To Mary . . . . .	23
To Edward Capern . . . . .	24
Little Petsey . . . . .	26
The World is Very Fair . . . . .	28
The Wooing and Wedding . . . . .	30
Sunny Days . . . . .	31
Havelock . . . . .	32
Bride and Widow . . . . .	34
The Burden of Tyre . . . . .	35
Reward . . . . .	36

	PAGE
My Riches . . . . .	38
The Vote of the 19th . . . . .	41
To Annie . . . . .	43
Why I Love Thee . . . . .	45
A Portrait . . . . .	46
Autumn . . . . .	47
To my Wife . . . . .	49
O Sing Once More, My Bonnie Lassie . . . . .	55
Alfred the Great . . . . .	56
Love Charm . . . . .	62
The First Kiss . . . . .	63
O, Ask not Why I Love Thee . . . . .	65
The Light of Love . . . . .	66
Ode to the Memory of Shakspeare . . . . .	68
Night . . . . .	73
The Christmas Tree . . . . .	79
'Tis Christmas Time Again . . . . .	82
The Old Year and the New . . . . .	83
"The Course of True Love never did Run Smooth" . . . . .	85
In Memoriam . . . . .	95
Be Thankful . . . . .	96
La Naissance du Printemps . . . . .	99
Au Premier Merle du Printemps . . . . .	100
Au Premier Coucou de l'Année . . . . .	103
Chanson . . . . .	104
Allons Chez Nous . . . . .	105
Oh! le Monde est Bien Beau . . . . .	106
Jours Dorés par le Soleil . . . . .	108
Rendons Grâce à Celui qui B. Haut Trône aux Cieux! . . . . .	109