

# **FIRST-FRUITS OF SACRED SONG**

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First-Fruits of Sacred Song by Edwin Charles Wrenford

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**EDWIN CHARLES WRENFORD**

**FIRST-FRUITS OF  
SACRED SONG**



# FIRST-FRUITS OF SACRED SONG.

BY THE

REV. EDWIN CHARLES WRENFORD,

INCUMBENT OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND CHAPEL, MAIN:

AUTHOR OF

"Life More Abundant;" "What a Word is This!" "The Philosophy of Character;" "Questions and  
Answers on Confirmation" (5 Eds.); "A Liturgy for Sunday Schools," etc., etc.

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"He that abideth in the Spirit, shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting."  
GAL. VI. 8.

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LONDON:

S. W. PARTRIDGE & CO., 9 PATERNOSTER ROW.

MDCCLXXVI.

The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions. It emphasizes that every entry, no matter how small, should be recorded to ensure the integrity of the financial data. This includes not only sales and purchases but also expenses and income.

The second part of the document provides a detailed breakdown of the company's financial performance over the past year. It includes a comparison of actual results against budgeted figures, highlighting areas of both strength and weakness. The analysis shows that while sales have exceeded expectations, operating expenses have also increased significantly, leading to a narrower profit margin than anticipated.

The third part of the document outlines the company's financial strategy for the upcoming year. It focuses on cost control and revenue growth. Key initiatives include streamlining operations, negotiating better terms with suppliers, and expanding into new markets. The goal is to improve overall profitability and ensure long-term sustainability.

The fourth part of the document discusses the company's capital structure and financing needs. It notes that the current level of debt is manageable, but additional funding may be required to support the planned expansion. The company is exploring various options, including bank loans and equity financing, to meet these needs.

The fifth part of the document provides a summary of the company's financial position and outlook. It concludes that despite the challenges, the company remains well-positioned to achieve its strategic objectives. Continued focus on operational efficiency and market expansion is expected to drive future success.

TO  
MRS BRODIE OF BRODIE  
THIS VOLUME OF FIRST-FRUITS OF SACRED SONG,  
WRITTEN WITH THE SINCERE DESIRE  
TO PROMOTE THE GLORY OF GOD  
IN THE FULLER REALISATION OF THE "WONDROUS THINGS"  
OF DIVINE REVELATION,  
IS RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED  
BY THE AUTHOR,  
IN GRATEFUL ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE UNVARYING  
KINDNESS TOWARDS HIM BOTH OF  
HERSELF AND THE ENTIRE  
HOUSE OF BRODIE,  
DURING A PERIOD OF  
MORE THAN ELEVEN YEARS.

MARY AGNES  
AND  
CHARLES HENRY.

~~~~~  
IN LOVING REMEMBRANCE.  
~~~~~

1861. 1866.

—  
"Alive for evermore."



## P R E F A C E.

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- THE principal motive that has led to the publication of these Poems is a desire to aid in exciting a deeper practical interest in the profound truths of our living Christianity.

It must be admitted that, while those truths are accepted by every branch of the Church of Christ, their *power* over the heart and life is, to a great extent, in abeyance. Christians are not living in "the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace," "filled with the Spirit:" hence the necessity that they be stirred up to a view of their privileges as "SONS and DAUGHTERS" of the "KING ETERNAL, IMMORTAL, INVISIBLE."

"First-fruits" imply a harvest. If the quality of the former be fine the latter may be anticipated with joy. But both first-fruits and harvest of grain are things in a measure *realised*. This cannot be predicated of the Muse. Still, the quality of poetical first-fruits may foretoken the quality of the unknown harvest. Is it a good foretoken in the following pages? The reader must judge. There is some, nay much, excellent grain of God's own revealed truth in them. Let the chaff of imperfect expression be scattered, and that pure grain realised. This is the Author's anxious desire and prayer. Many may not appreciate that truth: they may prefer the "tares" of the world:—for such

persons there are many regrets, but their approval is not looked for. Can a blind man appreciate the clear shining of the sun? Neither can these persons the beauty of the "Truth in JESUS," the soul's true "Sun." Others may acknowledge that truth, yet shrink from receiving it. The object sought in these Poems is to *win* such to its reception. It is "the truth," and they know it to be such! And yet others will rejoice to accept it thoroughly, forgetting all "first-fruit" imperfections, and will look forward to a "harvest." Will there be such harvest? That lies in God's hands. The gathering of the first-fruits has truly been pleasant work, and the Author would desire to be permitted to penetrate into the very heart of the field of golden grain, and to bring many a ripe sheaf for the benefit of his fellow-Christians. But all this must be left in His hand from whom the inspiration of every holy thought, and of every good action, proceeds. Meanwhile, may He graciously honour the *motive* of this handful of "first-fruits," and cause what is imperfect in the work to be forgotten in the eager reception of the "seed" of His Word: and may many a "wave offering" of souls, gathered and raised to Himself, be made in the Heavenly Temple, as the fruit of the precious seed presented in this humble token of what *may* be!

MILLBANK HOUSE, NAIRN,  
Nov. 1, 1876.



## Prologue.

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- “ UNFURL the Christian Standard! lift it manfully on high,  
And rally where its shining folds wave out against the sky!  
Away with weak half-heartedness, with faithlessness and fear!  
Unfurl the Christian Standard, and follow with a cheer!
- “ Now, who is on the Lord's side, who? Come, through the battle-field;  
Be strong, and show that ye are men! Come forth with sword and  
shield!  
What peace, while traitorous Evil stalks in false array of light?  
What peace, while enemies of Christ are gathering to the fight?
- “ Unfurl the Christian Standard, with firm and fearless hands!  
For no pale flag of compromise with Error's legion bands,  
And no faint-hearted flag of truce with Mischief and with Wrong,  
Should lead the soldiers of the Cross, the faithful and the strong!
- “ The Lord of Hosts, in whom alone our weakness shall be strong,  
Shall lead us on to conquest with a mighty battle song;  
And soon the warfare shall be past, the glorious triumph won,  
The kingdoms of this world *shall* be the kingdoms of His Son!”

FRANCES RIDLEY HAVERGAL,  
(in "Under the Surface.")