

THE SONGS OF IRELAND

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649708529

The Songs of Ireland by Michael Joseph Barry

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Cover @ 2017

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MICHAEL JOSEPH BARRY

**THE SONGS
OF IRELAND**

DUFFY'S LIBRARY OF IRELAND.

II.

THE BALLAD POETRY OF IRELAND,

Edited (with an Introduction and Notes) by Charles
Gavan Duffy, Esq. *Fifth Edition.*

III.

'RODY THE ROVER; OR, THE RIBBONMAN.

By William Carleton, Esq., author of "Valentine
M'Clutchy."

IV.

THE LIFE OF AODH O'NEILL, called by the Eng-
lish, Hugh, Earl of Tyrone.

By John Mitchell, Esq.

V.

PARRA SASTHA; OR, THE HISTORY OF
PADDY GO EASY AND HIS WIFE NANCY.

By William Carleton, Esq.

VI.

THE SONGS OF IRELAND.

Edited (with an Introduction and Notes) by M. J. Barry,
Esq.

On the 1st of January will be Published,
LITERARY AND HISTORICAL ESSAYS,
Illustrating the Character, Resources, History, Arts,
Antiquities, and Literature of IRELAND.
By Thomas Davis, Esq., M.R.I.A.

Henry G. Loring.

The

Songs of Ireland.

EDITED BY

MICHAEL JOSEPH BARRY.

DUBLIN:

**PUBLISHED BY JAMES DUFFY,
23, ANGLESEA-STREET.**

1845.

$\frac{1203}{8}$

1855.25.17



Minot fund

Stereotyped and Printed by
T. GOLDWELL, 50, CAPEL-STREET.

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TO THE NATIONAL BARD OF IRELAND,

THOMAS MOORE,

WITH

FEELINGS OF THE DEEPEST RESPECT AND ADMIRATION,

THIS VOLUME

OF

THE SONGS OF IRELAND,

IS INSCRIBED BY

MICHAEL JOSEPH BARRY.



PREFACE.

So large a portion of what Mr. Duffy has written in his Introduction to "The Ballad Poetry of Ireland," published in the present series, is equally applicable to the Songs of the country, as to limit to a narrow space the observations which, only for its priority of publication, I should be obliged to make.

The same necessities controlled, the same principles guided my selection which coerced or regulated his. Like him I have found myself, in the main, restricted to the last half century for the materials of my collection—the old songs of the country being still a sealed fountain to that large class of Irishmen whose knowledge is confined to foreign tongues—and like him, I have, of course, rejected those songs which were un-Irish in their character or language, and those miserable slang productions, which, representing the Irishman only as a blunderer, a bully, a fortune-hunter, or a drunkard, have done more than any thing else to degrade him in the