

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649408627

Canadian Melodies and Poems by George E. Merkley

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# **GEORGE E. MERKLEY**

# CANADIAN MELODIES AND POEMS

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CANADIAN MELODIES.

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## CANADIAN MELODIES

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### POEMS

BY

GEORGE EN MERKLEY.

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TORONTO: HART & RIDDELL 1893

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[Entered seconding to Act of Parliament of Canada, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and ninety three, by George E. Merkley, in the office of the Minister of Agriculture.]

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HIS EXCELLENCY THE MARQUIS OF LORNE, THIS VOLUME IS DEDICATED.

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TO ONE WHOM CANADIANS EVERYWHERE HOLD IN GRATEFUL REMEMBRANCE,

DEDICATION. .

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Nam neque chorda sonum reddit quem vult manus et meus, Poscentique gravem persaepe remittit acutum ; Nec semper feriet quodcunque minobitur arcus.

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#### PREFACE.

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NO apology is made for bringing this volume before the public. Several of the poems it contains were mere attempts to relieve the monotonous routine of college life; many of them were written under foreign skies, and this will account for that lack of national spirit which the title of the volume might seem to imply. They have all been written hastily, and with frequent interruptions, so that no time was left for refining or amplifying. These remarks are not made to forestall criticism. Those who look with a jealous eye to the honor of English literature, are bound to pass what judgment they please upon every intruder into the groves of Parnassus, regardless of any extenuating circumstances which may be brought forth by way of palliation.

The dearth of national literature in Canada is to be deplored; and whatever may have a tendency to stimulate activity in this line ought

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