

**SAMUEL LOVER, A
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH WITH
SELECTIONS FROM HIS WRITINGS
AND CORRESPONDENCE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649251681

Samuel Lover, a biographical sketch with selections from his writings and correspondence by
Andrew James Symington

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

ANDREW JAMES SYMINGTON

**SAMUEL LOVER, A
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH WITH
SELECTIONS FROM HIS WRITINGS
AND CORRESPONDENCE**



SAMUEL LOVER.

SAMUEL LOVER

A Biographical Sketch

WITH

SELECTIONS FROM HIS WRITINGS AND
CORRESPONDENCE

BY

ANDREW JAMES SYMINGTON, F.R.S.N.A.

NEW YORK

HARPER & BROTHERS, FRANKLIN SQUARE

1880

143124

PR.
4838
38

TO
ROBERT ANGUS SMITH, F.R.S., Ph.D., &c. &c. &c.,
AN OLD AND FAITHFUL FRIEND,
NO LESS DISTINGUISHED
FOR GOODNESS OF HEART AND ORIGINALITY OF THOUGHT
IN
MANY WALKS OF GENERAL HUMAN INTEREST, THAN FOR EMINENCE
IN HIS OWN SPECIAL DEPARTMENT OF
CHEMICAL SCIENCE,
THIS VOLUME IS AFFECTIONATELY INSCRIBED
BY
ONE WHO HAS INTIMATELY KNOWN HIM FROM
EARLY SCHOOL DAYS.

A. J. S.

Langside, Glasgow

PREFACE.

Painter, Etcher, Lyric Poet, Musical-composer, Executant, Novelist, and Dramatist! Such an enumeration of amateur accomplishments, to say nothing of a formidable array of well-earned and acknowledged professional designations, seldom falls to the lot of one man. Yet these were, each and all, fairly won by the late SAMUEL LOVER, a brilliant, modest, self-reliant Irishman, who—dowered with versatile genius and a capacity for work—was every whit as good, genial, and lovable, as he was largely and rarely gifted.

In any one of these walks, apart from the others, he occupied a position which would have been sufficient for ordinary fame. Although not now generally known to the public, his highest art achievements were his Miniature Portraits; for various reasons, however, it is chiefly through his charming and inimitable Irish peasant songs,—with their unique blend of love, pathos, and humour,—that his name will live.

Materiel for this volume, relating to one whose cordial friendly intercourse with us was only severed by death, has been slowly accumulating in our hands, from time to time, during the last ten years.

While preserving inviolate what is due to privacy, information has been gleaned, or extracts given, from over sixty of Mr. Lover's letters addressed to the writer; other MS. correspondence, kindly placed at his disposal for this purpose, has also been carefully gone over. By permission of Mrs. Lover, ten poems, taken from a MS. volume left by Mr. Lover, are here presented for the first time.

Several posthumous Poems, prose Stories, and other extracts, are also, by her permission, taken from Mr. Bailey

Eng. 8

1930

1932

Allen

Bernard's *Life of Samuel Lover*, issued by Messrs. Henry S. King & Co.—a carefully written, but somewhat bulky work, which has left room for a shorter Life containing fresh matter.

We gratefully acknowledge obligations to Mrs. Lover for much valuable assistance of various kinds, access to her late husband's correspondence and MSS., together with such information and explanations as she alone could furnish.

We quote several poems, contributed by Lover to *The Lyrics of Ireland*, published by Houlston and Wright, which volume was edited by him; and some prose extracts are made from the First and Second Series of his *Legends and Stories of Ireland*, published by Baldwin and Cradock.

In addition to these, we are indebted to Messrs. George Routledge and Sons, the publishers of the latest edition of *Lover's Poetical Works*, for permission to give, at full length, half a dozen of his Songs, and an extract from *Handy Andy*.

This little book—written about a dear friend, whose whole life was as pure as his gifts were great—we diffidently send forth, sincerely desiring that Lover's exemplary perseverance, courage, reverence, conscientious patient goodness, and hopeful buoyant brightness, may, in some degree, influence and cheer despondent toilers, young or old, who, it may be, are now in these hard times wearily fighting the battle of life.

A. J. S.

LANGSIDE, GLASGOW.

CONTENTS.

CHAPTER I.

	Page
CHILDHOOD—EARLY DAYS—ART LONGINGS: 1797-1817, ...	9
Characteristics—Birth—Early Training and Musical Taste—School Days—Delicate as a Child—Year in the Country—Mother's Death—Health Restored—Education—Uncongenial Office Work—Father's Injudicious Repression—Abandons Home to Study Painting—Dublin Society—Paris and Dublin—Early Attachment—Marine Subjects and Miniature Painting.	

CHAPTER II

PROFESSIONAL LIFE—LITERARY EFFORTS—MARRIAGE: 1818-1829, ...	17
Marine and Miniature Painter—Sings at Moore's Banquet—Introduced to the Moores—Earliest Literary Efforts—"The Gridiron"—Lover in Society—Burschenschaft and Glee Clubs—His Marriage—First Drama—Chosen Secretary of R. H. A.	

CHAPTER III

STORIES: 1830-1832, ...	29
Irish Horn Book—First Series of Legends and Stories of Ireland—Fakky the Piper.	

CHAPTER IV.

MINIATURE PAINTING—REMOVAL TO LONDON—IN SOCIETY: 1832-1837, ...	39
Paganini Miniature—Duke of Wellington—Royal Hibernian Academy Exhibitions—Russell Moore—Removal to London—In London Society—Allan Cunningham—Evening Receptions—Malibran	

	Page
— Sydney Smith—Lover's Humour—Hard Work—His Position as a Painter—Brigham—The Indian Moulvie—Thalberg—Fancy Subjects	

CHAPTER V.

LITERATURE — SONG — DRAMA — PERSONAL APPEARANCE — STORY: 1834-1837,	45
Second Series of Tales and Legends—Dublin University Magazine—Bentley's Miscellany—Songs and Dramas for Madame Vestris—The Angel's Whisper—Rory O'More, a Novel; Dramatized—Song from The White Horse of Peppers—Other Dramas—Frazer and Blackwood—Personal Appearance—Story of Barry O'Reardon.	

CHAPTER VI.

LOVER'S SONGS: 1836-1841,	90
Song-writing—Open Vowels—Musical Rhythm—Burns and Moore—Lover's English and Irish Songs—Rory O'More introduces a New Era—Its Popularity—Followed by others of similar Character—Purity and Refinement—Melodies and Accompaniments—His Own Voice—Various Songs Particularized—The Road of Life.	

CHAPTER VII.

NOVELS — FALLING EYESIGHT — IRISH ENTERTAINMENT — STORIES: 1842-1846,	112
Handy Andy—Dr. R. Shelton Mackenzie's Account of It—Treasure Trove—Falling Eyesight—Irish Entertainment in London—In the Provinces—Bulls and Blunders—St. Patrick and the Serpent—It's Mighty Improvtn'—The Irish Post-boy.	

CHAPTER VIII.

AMERICAN VISIT: 1846-1848,	129
Purpose—Sets Sail—Introductions—Climate and Sketching—New York—Boston—American Humour—Indian Summer—Death of his Wife—At Washington—Sleighing—The South—Savannah—Stage Coach—New Orleans—Mississippi and Ohio—Niagara—Islands—Rapids—War Ship of Peace—Final Excursion to the Lakes—Old Inducement to Settle in America—The Backwoodsman—Laurel Hill.	