

**IN THE KINGDOM
OF KERRY AND
OTHER STORIES**

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In the Kingdom of Kerry and Other Stories by B. M. Croker

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B. M. CROKER

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IN THE KINGDOM OF KERRY

ETC.

IN THE
KINGDOM OF KERRY

AND OTHER STORIES

BY

B. M. CROKER

AUTHOR OF

"DIANA BARRINGTON," "A FAMILY LIKENESS," "PRETTY MISS NEVILLE,"
"MR. JERVIS," ETC.



LONDON
CHATTO & WINDUS

1896

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IN THE KINGDOM OF
KERRY.

“Farewell, farewell, my old love ;
Your heart will never break,
Though sore your pride be mortified,
And I the blame must take.
But if I broke a thousand hearts,
If all the world cried shame,
My new love ! my true love !
I'd love you all the same.”

JOHN O'HAGAN.

IN THE KINGDOM OF KERRY.

PART I.

It was a warm afternoon in June, and never had the Kerry Mountains loomed of a richer, darker purple, the pastures of a more brilliant emerald green, or the tangled roadside hedges displayed such a gay (though ragged) mantle of wild roses, honeysuckle, and fuchsia.

These same hedges, however, afforded but scant protection from an almost tropical sun, and a tall, elderly country woman, in a linsey gown and heavy blue cloth cloak, was fain