

# **SONGS OF BÉRANGER**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649157730

Songs of Béranger by William Toynbee

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](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**WILLIAM TOYNBEE**

**SONGS OF  
BÉRANGER**



**S**ONGS OF BÉRANGER.  
TRANSLATED INTO  
ENGLISH VERSE BY WILLIAM  
TOYNBEE.

950167

LONDON:  
WALTER SCOTT, LIMITED,  
24 WARWICK LANE.  
NEW YORK: 3 EAST FOURTEENTH STREET.

## CONTENTS.

	PAGES
My Coat . . . . .	15
The Broken Fiddle . . . . .	16
To my Friends become Ministers? . . . . .	19
Horrid Spring! . . . . .	22
The Garret . . . . .	24
The Vagabond . . . . .	27
The Old Colours . . . . .	30
Off to the Country . . . . .	35
My Little Corner . . . . .	36
The Boxers; or, Anglo-Mania . . . . .	38
The Village Epicurean . . . . .	40
Poland! . . . . .	43
Epigram . . . . .	46
My Curé . . . . .	47
The Swallows . . . . .	51
Good-Night! . . . . .	53
An Epicurean's Prayer . . . . .	55
The Grandmother's Tale . . . . .	56

	PAGE
Rosette	60
My Tomb	62
The Beggar-Woman	64
The Little Man in Grey	67
“When I am Gone”	70
The King of Yvetot	72
The Marquis of Carabas	75
Mary Stuart’s Farewell	79
The Marionettes	82
Spring and Autumn	84
All in All	86
Epigram	88
Poniatowski	89
The Outcast	92
A Birthday Letter	95
The Court Suit	98
Harlequin	101
Fifty!	105
My Choice	107
The Old Corporal	110
The Court Censors	114
Epigram	116
The God of Good Folk	117
Old Age	120
To my Godchild	122
My Fine	124

*CONTENTS.*

	7
	PAGE
The Whipper-snappers	127
The Crown	129
The Nightingale	132
The Cossack's Song	134
A Metamorphosis	138
My Calling	142
The Wiscacre	144
The Refusal	146
My Republic	149
The Old Singer	151
My Independence	154
A Forecast	157
The People's Orphans	160
My Shallop	163
Bouquet	166
The Old Fiddler	169
Fifty Crowns!	173
A Thanksgiving	176
My Farewell	177
NOTES	181





## PREFACE.

---

PIERRE JEAN DE BÉRANGER was born on the 19th August 1780, and died on the 16th July 1857. His life extended over the most momentous period of his country's history; he witnessed the storming of the Bastille, and he refused a pension from the Second Empire.

If in the highest sense of the word something less than a Poet, Béranger was indisputably the prince of Singers. Teeming with the keenest of satire, the tenderest of pathos, the archest of gaiety, it was from Humankind that he invariably drew his inspiration. Tears and Laughter, Love and Friendship, Glory and Heroism, above

all, Liberty, were the themes on which he rang the changes with inexhaustible fire and sweetness. Sprung from the People,—a fact in which he never ceased to exult—it was of and to the People that he loved best to sing. His every note found an echo in their hearts. He soothed their sorrows, he sympathised with their joys, he kindled their patriotism. To France he was infinitely more than even Burns was to Scotland, or Moore to Ireland; the spell of his song was unparalleled, and, perhaps, Posterity could award him no fitter title than that of the last and greatest of National Minstrels.

To those who are able to read Béranger in his own exquisite language these translations are not addressed, but any who lack that advantage may, it is hoped, derive from them some impression, however faint, if not of the Singer, at least of the Man. Several of these renderings appeared in a smaller selection published a few