

**BY-GONES: A
BOOK OF VERSE**

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By-Gones: A Book of Verse by M. St. C. Wright

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M. ST. C. WRIGHT

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A BOOK OF VERSE

—BY—

Merle St. Croix
M. ST. C. WRIGHT.



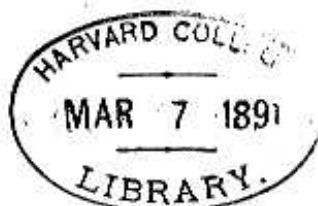
"A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in baskets of silver."—PROVERBS 25, 11.



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1890.

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The Author.

PRESS OF,
LIVINGSTON MIDDLEDITCH & Co.
26 CORTLANDT ST., N. Y.

TO MY FIRST AUDIENCE,
MY FATHER AND MOTHER,
THEN
TO THAT LARGER, NOT LESS KINDLY, AUDIENCE
WHICH, WITH THE FAMILY, CONSTITUTES
MY CHURCH,
I DEDICATE THIS BOOK.

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INTROIT.

Shall I sow my song by the wayside,
A prey to the birds of air?
If even a dove should peck my pride,
Think you I would not care?

Shall I sow my song in a barren heart,
To wither and fade forlorn?
If I thought such fate would be its part,
I would rather it were not born.

Shall I sow my song in a fertile nook,
To open and root and grow?
Shall I garner in one grateful look?
God speed it, let it go.

1879.

To friend.

With the respects of

1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions and activities. It emphasizes that proper record-keeping is essential for transparency and accountability, particularly in the context of public administration and government operations. This section also highlights the need for regular audits and reviews to ensure that all data is up-to-date and reliable.

2. The second part of the document outlines the various methods and tools used for data collection and analysis. It describes how modern technologies, such as data mining and artificial intelligence, can be employed to identify trends and patterns in large datasets. This part also discusses the challenges associated with data privacy and security, and provides recommendations for how to address these concerns effectively.

3. The third part of the document focuses on the application of data analysis in decision-making processes. It explains how data-driven insights can be used to inform policy-making and strategic planning, leading to more informed and effective outcomes. This section also discusses the importance of communication and collaboration in sharing data and insights across different departments and stakeholders.

4. The fourth part of the document discusses the future of data analysis and its potential impact on society. It explores emerging trends and technologies, such as big data and cloud computing, and discusses how these advancements will continue to shape the way we collect, analyze, and use data. This part also addresses the ethical implications of data analysis and the need for responsible and transparent practices.

5. The final part of the document provides a summary of the key findings and conclusions. It reiterates the importance of data analysis in various fields and emphasizes the need for continued research and innovation in this area. The document also includes a list of references and a glossary of key terms for further reading and understanding.

PREFACE.

I always read prefaces now that I am "become a man," as I read sign-posts on a new road. But, like all directions, they should serve a purpose, be brief and to the point, not negative themselves by indirectness. The title of this book, the "devil" insisted, was "By Jones." But a better spirit prevailed. "BYGONES" it is; and bygones which I cannot let be bygones on this occasion, for these verses are my sole memorials of happy days and sad, the bridge to many a past experience which I would have live on in me, if not in others.

There is also a practical as well as sentimental purpose to this prelude. I call attention to the fact that these poems are mostly the vintage of two years—1882 and 1883, when I decanted my spirit most freely, being driven in upon myself, by solitary teaching, to what may thus appear a fairly fundamental tendency of my nature toward (must I say it?) poetasting. I desire further to explain a sonnet form of my invention, of which I once was proud. The octave of the sonnet is thrown into the centre in the new arrangement, the sestet divided into two triads of one rhyme each, of which one precedes the octave to introduce the subject, the other follows to sum up, or point a moral. I must apologize also for certain topics—I think not for the treatment of them—which to-day I might not choose to introduce. They are "studies" from life, as free as might be from objectionable features, consistently with the keeping of reality. My effort has ever been to be true and pure, strike either life's objective fact, as in descriptive narration, or hit the truth of its interior experience.

The songs have come spontaneously, often composed during walks, and have been written quickly, "on occasion," as Goethe recommends. To fix the fresh impression, secure the first touch, has been my aim. Dialect has thrust itself upon me through reading in those lines; and I have been possessed to "speak with tongues,"—I trust intelligibly, needing no interpreter. Many