

**THE TEA-TABLE MISCELLANY: A
COLLECTION OF CHOICE
SONGS SCOTS & ENGLISH; IN
TWO VOLUMES; VOLUME FIRST**

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The tea-table miscellany: a collection of choice songs Scots & English; In two Volumes; Volume First by Allan Ramsey

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ALLAN RAMSEY

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The Tea-Table Miscellany

VOLUME FIRST



The Tea-Table Miscellany

A COLLECTION

OF

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SCOTS & ENGLISH

BY ALLAN RAMSAY

Reprinted from the Fourteenth Edition.

IN TWO VOLUMES

VOLUME FIRST

Glasgow

JOHN CRUM, ST. VINCENT STREET

1871

1952

For Reading Room Only:

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DEDICATION.

*To ilka lovely BRITISH lass,
Frae Ladies Charlotte, Anne, and Jean,
Down to ilk bonny singing Bess,
Wha dances barefoot on the green.*

DEAR LASSES,

YOUR most humble slave,
Wha ne'er to serve you shall decline,
Kneeling, wad your acceptance crave,
When he presents this sma' propine.

Then take it kindly to your care,
Revive it with your tunefu' notes :
Its beauties will look fweet and fair,
Arising fastly through your throats.

The wanton wee thing will rejoice,
When tented by a sparkling eye,
The spinet tinkling with her voice,
It lying on her lovely knee.

Eng.

12
14

18
30

18
30

While kettles dringe on ingles dour,
Or clafhes ftay the lazy lafs ;
Thir fangs may ward you frae the four,
And gaily vacant minutes pafs.

E'en while the tea's fill'd reeking round,
Rather than plot a tender tongue,
Treat a' the circling lugs wi' found,
Syne fafely fip when ye have fung.

May happinefs had up your hearts,
And warm you lang with loving fires :
May pow'rs propitious play their parts,
In matching you to your defires.

A. RAMSAY.

EDINBURGH, Jan. 1,
1724.

P R E F A C E.



ALTHOUGH it be acknowledged that our SCOTS tunes have not lengthened variety of music, yet they have an agreeable gaiety and natural sweetness, that make them acceptable wherever they are known, not only among ourselves, but in other countries. They are, for the most part, so chearful, that, on hearing them well played, or sung, we find a difficulty to keep ourselves from dancing. What further adds to the esteem we have for them, is their antiquity, and their being universally known. Mankind's love for novelty would appear to contradict this reason; but will not, when we consider, that for one that can tolerably entertain with vocal or instrumental music, there are fifty that content themselves with the pleasure of hearing, and singing without the trouble of being taught. Now, such are not judges of the fine flourishes of new music

imported from *Italy* and elsewhere, yet will listen with pleasure to tunes that they know, and can join with in the chorus. Say that our way is only an harmonious speaking of merry, witty, or soft thoughts, after the poet has dressed them in four or five stanzas; yet undoubtedly these must relish best with people who have not bestowed much of their time in acquiring a taste for that downright perfect music, which requires none, or very little of the poet's assistance.

My being well assured how acceptable new words to known tunes would prove, engaged me to the making verses for above sixty of them, in this and the second volume: about thirty more were done by some ingenious young gentlemen, who were so well pleased with my undertaking, that they generously lent me their assistance; and to them the lovers of sense and music are obliged for some of the best songs in the collection. The rest are such old verses as have been done time out of mind, and only wanted to be cleared from

the drofs of blundering tranfcribers and printers ; fuch as, *The Gaberlunzieman*, *Muirland Willy*, &c., that claim their place in our collection for their merry images of the low character.

THIS fourteenth edition, in a few years, and the general demand for the book by perfons of all ranks, where-ever our language is understood, is a fure evidence of its being acceptable. My worthy friend Dr. *Bannerman* tells me from *America*,

*Nor only do your lays o'er Britain flow,
Round all the globe your happy fonnets go ;
Here thy foft verfe, made to a Scottish air,
Are often fung by our Virginian fair.
Camilla's warbling notes are heard no more,
But yield to Laft time I came o'er the moor ;
Hydafpes and Rinaldo both give way
To Mary Scott, Tweedfide, and Mary Gray.*

FROM this and the following volume, Mr. *Thomfon* (who is allowed by all to be a good teacher and fnger of *Scots fongs*) culled his *Orpheus Caledonius*, the mufic for both the voice and flute, and the words of the fongs finely engraven in a folio