

**BALLADS OF
AMERICA AND
OTHER POEMS**

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Ballads of America and Other Poems by Henry O'Meara

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HENRY O'MEARA

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BALLADS OF AMERICA

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BY

HENRY O'MEARA

"Forsan et hæc olim meminisse juvabit"

Virgil — Æneid, Lib. 1

SECOND EDITION

BOSTON

DAMRELL AND UPHAM

The Old Corner Bookstore

1892

To
OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES

IN WHOSE UNIQUE INDIVIDUALITY

THE GRACES OF

Science, Wit, and Poesy

UNITE WITH

RIVALLING YET MUTUALLY ENHANCING
CHARMS

*Still
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...*

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PRELUSIVE.

IF prelusive prose annexed to proemial verse be not a vestibule too bold for this modestly proportioned volume, a line of acknowledgment here may be admissible. The hymns and songs cannot now be claimed as of first presentation, the former, with the musical compositions, having been produced from the press of Roeder, at Leipsic, and, with the latter, issued in the sheet-music form by an American house. It is grateful also to add an acknowledgment of the flattering comments and substantial guarantees received from gentlemen whose places in literature and public life would alone be sufficient to warrant this publication, and particularly of the kindly

words and good wishes, as well as acceptance of a Dedication, from one whose name is in itself an adornment in this connection, — Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes.

In regard to the groups of poems, it is perhaps timely to state that the two which may appear elliptical in theme are designed as nuclei of more systematic collections, — that under the title "Revolutionary Period" being projected for a series on events in chronological sequence which may be designated as the "Siege of Boston"; and that under "Shakespearian Pearls," for the portrayal of conceptions of the master dramatist which are not found suitable for stage delineation, or of such elements in the acted characters as are deemed too subtle for histrionic embodiment.





PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION.

THE first edition of the "Ballads of America" having been completely disposed of, and having been complimented with flattering words from something more than a hundred periodicals and recognized critics, including the world-prized poets John G. Whittier and Oliver Wendell Holmes, the author has felt warranted in sending forth a second. The plates of all the pages have been gone over with care for verbal and typographical improvements; and at the end of the Miscellaneous there have been added the fifteen new poems—from "A Life's Love Song" to the "Naval Ode" written for the City of Boston.