

IONICA

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649269952

Ionica by William Cory & Arthur C. Benson

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WILLIAM CORY & ARTHUR C. BENSON

IONICA

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BY

WILLIAM CORY

WITH BIOGRAPHICAL INTRODUCTION

AND NOTES BY

ARTHUR C. BENSON

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THIRD EDITION

LONDON: GEORGE ALLEN

156, CHARING CROSS ROAD

1905

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NOTE

WILLIAM JOHNSON published in 1858 a slender volume bound in green cloth, (Smith, Elder & Co.) which was entitled "Ionica," and which comprised forty-eight poems.

In 1877 he printed privately a little paper-covered book (Cambridge University Press), entitled "Ionica II," containing twenty-five poems. This book is a rare bibliographical curiosity. It has neither title-page nor index; it bears no author's name; and it is printed without punctuation, on a theory of the author's, spaces being left, instead of stops, to indicate pauses.

In 1891 he published a book, "Ionica" (George Allen), which contained most of the contents of the two previous volumes, together with some pieces not previously published—eighty-five poems in all.

The present volume is a reprint of the 1891 volume; but it has been thought well to include, in an appendix, certain of the poems which appeared

in one or other of the first two issues, but were omitted from the 1891 issue, together with a little Greek lyric, with its English equivalent, from the "Letters and Journals."

The poems from page 1 to page 104, *Desiderato* to *All that was possible*, appeared in the 1858 volume, together with those on pages 211 to 216, *To the Infallible*, *The Swimmer's Wish*, and *An Apology*. The poems from page 105 to page 162, *Scheveningen Avenue* to *L'Oiseau Bleu*, appeared in the 1877 volume, together with those on pages 217 and 218, *Notre Dame* and *In Honour of Matthew Prior*. The remainder of the poems, from page 163 to page 210, appeared in the 1891 volume for the first time. The dates subjoined to the poems are those which he himself added, and indicate the date of composition.

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