

**POEMS OF HENRY  
TIMROD; WITH MEMOIR  
AND PORTRAIT**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649390960

Poems of Henry Timrod; with memoir and portrait by Henry Timrod

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)

**HENRY TIMROD**

**POEMS OF HENRY  
TIMROD; WITH MEMOIR  
AND PORTRAIT**



Memorial Edition

---

POEMS OF  
HENRY TIMROD

WITH  
MEMOIR AND PORTRAIT



RICHMOND, VA.  
B. F. JOHNSON PUBLISHING COMPANY

1901

PS  
3070  
A2  
1899

## CONTENTS

	PAGE
INTRODUCTION . . . . .	vii
THE LATE JUDGE GEORGE S. BRYAN . . . . .	xxxix
SPRING . . . . .	3
THE COTTON BOLL . . . . .	6
PRÆCEPTOR AMAT . . . . .	12
THE PROBLEM . . . . .	16
A YEAR'S COURTSHIP . . . . .	20
SERENADE . . . . .	23
YOUTH AND MANHOOD . . . . .	24
HARK TO THE SHOUTING WIND . . . . .	26
TOO LONG, O SPIRIT OF STORM . . . . .	27
THE LILY CONFIDANTE . . . . .	28
THE STREAM IS FLOWING FROM THE WEST . . . . .	30
VOX ET PRÆTEREA NIHIL . . . . .	31
MADLINE . . . . .	32
A DEDICATION . . . . .	36
KATIE . . . . .	38
WHY SILENT? . . . . .	45
TWO PORTRAITS . . . . .	46
LA BELLE JUIVE . . . . .	57
AN EXOTIC . . . . .	59
THE ROSEBUDS . . . . .	61
A MOTHER'S WAIL . . . . .	62
OUR WILLIE . . . . .	64
ADDRESS DELIVERED AT THE OPENING OF THE NEW THEATRE AT RICHMOND . . . . .	69
A VISION OF POESY . . . . .	74
THE PAST . . . . .	100
DREAMS . . . . .	101
THE ARCTIC VOYAGER . . . . .	103
DRAMATIC FRAGMENT . . . . .	105
THE SUMMER BOWER . . . . .	106

A RHAPSODY OF A SOUTHERN WINTER NIGHT . . . . .	109
FLOWER-LIFE . . . . .	113
A SUMMER SHOWER . . . . .	115
BABY'S AGE . . . . .	117
THE MESSENGER ROSE . . . . .	118
ON PRESSING SOME FLOWERS . . . . .	119
1866 — ADDRESSED TO THE OLD YEAR . . . . .	120
STANZAS: A MOTHER GAZES UPON HER DAUGHTER . . . . .	122
HYMN SUNG AT AN ANNIVERSARY OF THE ASYLUM OF ORPHANS AT CHARLESTON . . . . .	124
TO A CAPTIVE OWL . . . . .	125
LOVE'S LOGIC . . . . .	127
SECOND LOVE . . . . .	128
HYMN SUNG AT THE CONSECRATION OF MAGNOLIA CEM- ETERY . . . . .	129
HYMN SUNG AT A SACRED CONCERT . . . . .	130
LINES TO R. L. . . . .	131
TO WHOM? . . . . .	132
TO THEE . . . . .	133
STORM AND CALM . . . . .	134
RETIREMENT . . . . .	136
A COMMON THOUGHT . . . . .	137

## POEMS WRITTEN IN WAR TIMES

CAROLINA . . . . .	141
A CRY TO ARMS . . . . .	144
CHARLESTON . . . . .	146
RIPLEY . . . . .	148
ETHNOGENESIS . . . . .	150
CARMEN TRIUMPHALE . . . . .	154
THE UNKNOWN DEAD . . . . .	157
THE TWO ARMIES . . . . .	158
CHRISTMAS . . . . .	160
ODE SUNG ON THE OCCASION OF DECORATING THE GRAVES OF THE CONFEDERATE DEAD AT MAGNOLIA CEMETERY . . . . .	164

## SONNETS

"POET! IF ON A LASTING FAME BE BENT" . . . . .	169
"MOST MEN KNOW LOVE BUT AS A PART OF LIFE" . . . . .	170

## CONTENTS

v

"LIFE EVER SEEMS AS FROM ITS PRESENT SITE" . . .	171
"THEY DUB THEE IDLER, SMILING SNEERINGLY" . . .	172
"SOME TRUTHS THERE BE ARE BETTER LEFT UNSAID" . . .	173
"I SCARCELY GRIEVE, O NATURE! AT THE LOT" . . .	174
"GRIEF DIES LIKE JOY; THE TEARS UPON MY CHEEK" . . .	175
"AT LAST, BELOVED NATURE! I HAVE MET" . . .	176
"I KNOW NOT WHY, BUT ALL THIS WEARY DAY" . . .	177
"WERE I THE POET-LAUREATE OF THE FAIRIES" . . .	178
"WHICH ARE THE CLOUDS, AND WHICH THE MOUNTAINS? SEE" . . .	179
"WHAT GOSSAMER LURES THEE NOW? WHAT HOPE, WHAT NAME" . . .	180
"I THANK YOU, KIND AND BEST BELOVED FRIEND" . . .	181
"ARE THESE WILD THOUGHTS, THUS FETTERED IN MY RHYMES" . . .	182
IN MEMORIAM—HARRIS SIMONS . . .	183

### POEMS NOW FIRST COLLECTED

SONG COMPOSED FOR WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY . . .	187
A BOUQUET . . .	188
LINES: "I STOOPED FROM STAR-BRIGHT REGIONS" . . .	189
A TRIFLE . . .	190
LINES: "I SAW, OR DREAMED I SAW, HER SITTING LONE" . . .	191
SONNET: "IF I HAVE GRACED NO SINGLE SONG OF MINE" . . .	192
TO ROSA —: ACROSTIC . . .	192
DEDICATION . . .	193

NOTE. The frontispiece portrait of Henry Timrod was engraved from the portrait in the possession of Hon. William A. Courtenay, for the Century Company, who have kindly presented it for use in this volume.





## INTRODUCTION

"A TRUE poet is one of the most precious gifts that can be bestowed on a generation." He speaks for it and he speaks to it. Reflecting and interpreting his age and its thoughts, feelings, and purposes, he speaks for it; and with a love of truth, with a keener moral insight into the universal heart of man, and with the intuition of inspiration, he speaks to it, and through it to the world. It is thus

"The poet to the whole wide world belongs,  
Even as the Teacher is the child's."

"Nor is it to the great masters alone that our homage and thankfulness are due. Wherever a true child of song strikes his harp, we love to listen. All that we ask is that the music be native, born of impassioned impulse that will not be denied, heartfelt, like the lark when she soars up to greet the morning and pours out her song by the same quivering ecstasy that impels her flight." For though the voices be many, the oracle is one, for "God gave the poet his song."

Such was Henry Timrod, the Southern poet. A child of nature, his song is the voice of the South-

land. Born in Charleston, S. C., December 8th, 1829, his life cast in the seething torrent of civil war, his voice was also the voice of Carolina, and through her of the South, in all the rich glad life poured out in patriotic pride into that fatal struggle, in all the valor and endurance of that dark conflict, in all the gloom of its disaster, and in all the sacred tenderness that clings about its memories. He was the poet of the Lost Cause, the finest interpreter of the feelings and traditions of the splendid heroism of a brave people. Moreover, by his catholic spirit, his wide range, and world-wide sympathies, he is a true American poet.

The purpose of the TIMROD MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION of his native city and State, in undertaking this new edition of his poems, is to erect a suitable public memorial to the poet, and also to let his own words renew and keep his own memory in his land's literature.

The earliest edition of Timrod's poems was a small volume by Ticknor & Fields, of Boston, in 1860, just before the Civil War. This contained only the poems of the first eight or nine years previous, and was warmly welcomed North and South. The "New York Tribune" then greeted this small first volume in these words: "These poems are worthy of a wide audience, and they form a welcome offering to the common literature of our country."