# SONGS OF THE IRISH LAND WAR

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Songs of the Irish Land War by Thomas S. Cleary

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## THOMAS S. CLEARY

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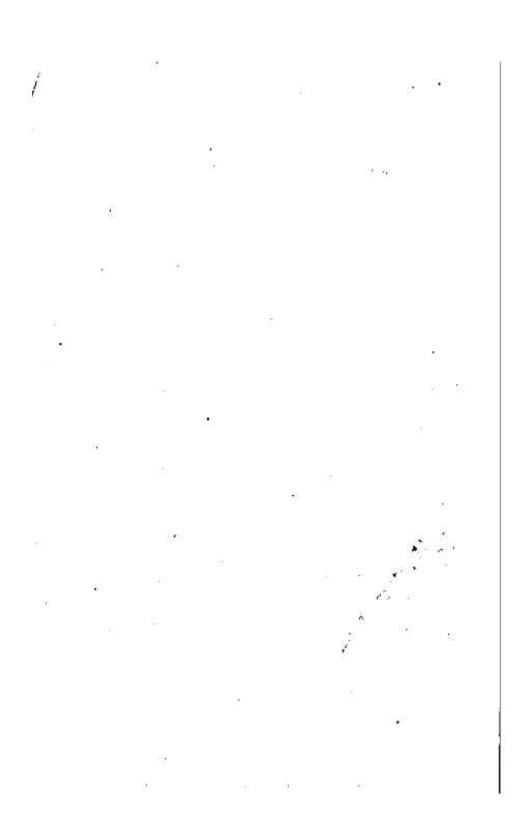
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W. P. SWAN, PRINTER AND PUBLISHER,
WILLIAM-STREET AND DRURY-STREET.
1888.

### PREFACE.

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Any interest attaching to the following Songs will be probably found in the events of which they aspire to be the rythmic chronicles. They were written for the People, in the People's paper, *United Ireland*, and are issued in their present form in compliance with a general and oft-repeated desire.

The days of dedications, I am aware, are happily of the past. I have, however, taken the liberty of departing from modern custom in the present instance, being the only way left in my humble power to testify my respect to the chivalrous Irishman to whom I am under many obligations, whose generous recognition has so often stood me in good stead in the hard struggle of Press life, and with whose kindly acquiescence I present this little book to the public.





#### THE CAMPAIGN SONG.\*

(Air-"Father O'Flynn.")

Or programmes and schemes we've had every variety, Inside and outside of legal propriety,
But what can equal, for sense and sobriety,
Our "Plan of Campaign," that's the wisest of all.
Bands and processions we've tried them before,
Speeches as able as any of yore,

But if we ever Mcant serious endeavour, The "Plan of Campaign" is the flower of them all.

Where is the coolan whose weak-kneed rascality,
Under pretence of a sense of legality,
At such a moment would keep a neutrality,
Weakening our cause for his personal gain?
Where is the wretch who for terror or pelf
Kisses the rod when it lashes himself?
Tho' such be ready there,
Frith hall been steady there.

Faith, he'll keep steady there, Saved from himself by our "Plan of Campaign."

Are we to fly from the land where God planted us?

Fly from the face of the foe who ne'er daunted us?

Are we content with the crumbs they have granted us,

Heart-blood and treasure exhausted in vain?

Were we not long enough down on our knees?

Didn't we, meek enough, cry "If you please?"

l'aying what we owe them,
By Heavens! we'll show them
They'll balance their books on the "Plan of Campaign."

On Oct. 23, 1886, the Plan of Campaign—perhaps the most practical and effective scheme for the defeat of a firmly established Fendalism ever formulated in any social revolution—was published in United Ireland. This song appeared on the 27th of following month.

Often we tried to discover the hearts of them,
Looking in vain for the tenderest parts of them;
Now, by the Pow'rs! we perceive by the starts of them,
They in their pockets their vitals contain.
Every landocrat badger we'll draw,
Raising no finger and breaking no law,

Agents won't mulet us, Nor sthrappers insult us,

When rents are safe "pooled" on the "Plan of Campaign."

Taught by themselves this device bureaucratical, Mild in its method, in mode mathematical, Bloodless we fight, but their standard piratical Over our homes must no longer remain. Prelate and priest are both staunch on our side, Brothers, step steady, whatever betide,

Rouse the afflicted ones!

House the evicted ones!

March on the lines of the "Plan of Campaign!"

### THE RISING OF THE SERFS.\*

(Air-" John Brown's Body.")

HURRAH, hurrah! the fight is up—the whole Clanricarde

Have marshalled strong together to deny the rights of Man; They've sworn to terrorise us, let them do it if they can, While we go marching on.

CHORUS:
Glory, glory to old Ireland!
Glory, glory to our sireland!
Glory to the memory of those who fight and fall,
Their souls keep marching on!

On November the 25th the big issue of the "Plan" came to scratch. It was the rent day of the Clanricarde estate, and the comparatively small number of the tenants that appeared at the rent office showed that the Plan had got its grip already.

Bodies may be buried, boys, and limbs may be enchained, Sad and sore their sorrows are 'ere Liberty is gained, But we know, though oft repulsed, our cause by God sustained

Will still keep marching on.

CHORUS.

Many were the patriots sent murdered to the grave, Many are the living souls their brutal laws enslave, Yet, whate'er the troubles that befal the glorious brave, Their souls keep marching on!

CHORUS.

Many are our martyrs of whom history can tell, Tone's weary spirit fled within a felon's cell, Emmet's headless body on a gory scaffold fell, Their souls kept marching on!

CHORUS.

John Brown's body long has turned to heedless clay, Every noble spirit, boys, they seek to break to-day, Yet slav'ry white, like slav'ry black, is bound to pass away, For Freedom marches on!

CHORUS.

Then let them plan, and let them ban, they'll find it all in vain.

What if a leader falls in front, sure others yet remain, And side by side, and rank by rank, throughout this great Campaign

We'll still keep marching on!

CHORUS.

#### WE'RE ALL GOING TO BE OF "GOOD BEHAVIOUR."\*

(Air-" Marching thro' Georgia,")

Fold up each flag and banner, boys, and hush each rattling drum,

Be muffled every chapel-bell, each orator be dumb, Our saintly judges have proclaimed the time of grace is come.

We're all going to be of "good behaviour."
CHORUS.

Hurrah, hurrah! proclaim the jubilee!
Hurrah, hurrah! our conduct now they'll see,
For Ireland's sake a vow we make that every man
will be
Bound to his very best "behaviour."

Our sinful fathers sat and starved in silence through the years,

Our guilty mothers patient saw their sons on bloody biers; Each godless generation passed away in helpless tears, But we're going to be of "good behaviour."

CHORUS.

We never contemplated, boys, the state that we were in.
That people, priests, and bishops too, were wallowing in sin.
And that O'Brien and Dillon, boys, were steeped up to the .
chin

In viciousness and very "bad behaviour."
Chorus.

But now as we've been shown, my boys, the error of our ways,

Before the Castle Moloch let us sound a hymn of praise, And unto vile Clanricarde, boys, a holy temple raise, And henceforth be of "good behaviour."

Chonus.

On the 7th January, '87, Messrs. O'Brien, Dillon, Crilly, Sheehy, Harris, and Redmond, M.P's., were sent for trial on a charge of conspiracy to prevent tenants paying their rents. Mr. Dillon was called upon to be "of good behaviour."