

**LITERARY AND  
HISTORICAL  
ESSAYS**

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Literary and historical essays by Thomas Davis & C. P. Meehan

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**THOMAS DAVIS & C. P. MEEHAN**

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ESSAYS**



LITERARY AND HISTORICAL  
ESSAYS.

BY THOMAS DAVIS.

NEW EDITION. — CAREFULLY REVISED.

BY  
C. P. MEEHAN, C.C.

“*Táinig anam a n-Eirinn.*”  
“A Soul came into Ireland.”

**Dublin:**

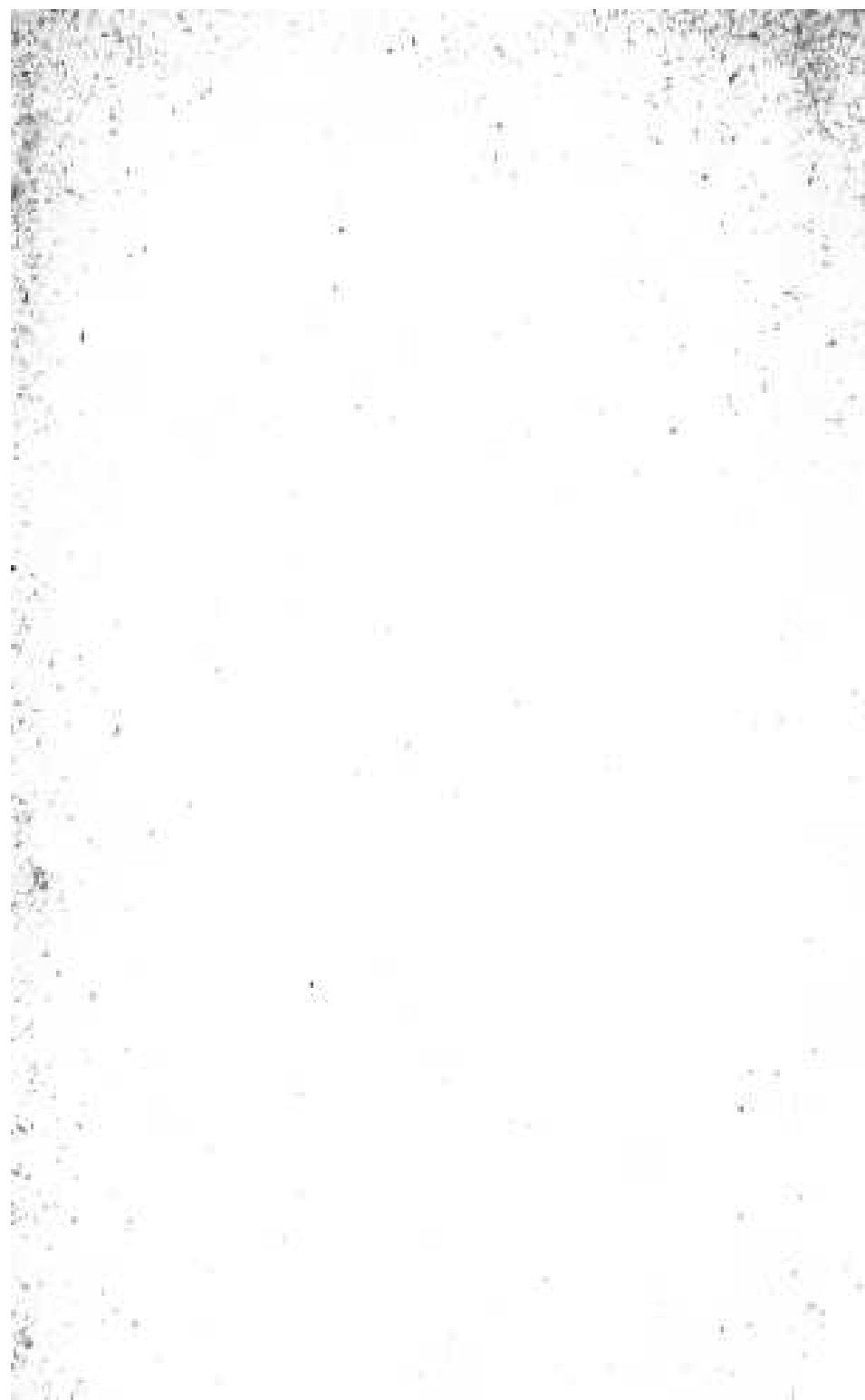
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I DEDICATE  
THIS VOLUME OF THE WORKS OF  
THOMAS DAVIS  
TO  
JOHN B. DILLON,  
HIS DEAR AND TRUSTED FRIEND  
AND  
MINE.

C. GAYAN DUFFY.

Rathmines, Dec., 1845.





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## PREFACE.

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IN this volume I have endeavoured to do for THOMAS DAVIS what I once hoped to see him do for himself—to gather together such of his historical and literary Miscellanies as were mainly devoted to the illustration of Ireland. I have done so with care and reverence, and I believe they will be found to make a rich and suggestive book, and one with a true soul in it.

In selecting them I kept in view—as I know he would have desired—not fame for the dead, but usefulness to the living.

I chose such as were most likely to awaken and instruct the People, and contribute to the purpose for which DAVIS lived. He has written nothing wanting vitality and power; but those who have still to become familiar with his writings, must not think they have materials for an estimate of him here. He has done greater and more striking things. This is but the reflection of one phasis of his mind.