

REHEARSALS, A BOOK OF VERSES

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Rehearsals, a book of verses by John Leicester Warren

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JOHN LEICESTER WARREN

**REHEARSALS, A
BOOK OF VERSES**

REHEARSALS

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REHEARSALS

A Book of Verses

[By JOHN LEICESTER WARREN]

AUTHOR OF 'PHILOCTETES'

Baron John Byrne Leicester or Warren De Table.
1st edition.



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JOAN OF ARC.

If I prevail shall any might be mine?
Lord of all conflict, is not glory thine?
I'll get me very humbly and kneel down,
And doff my myrtle chaplet at thy shrine.

I am but fit to graze a few poor sheep :
My office oncc, ere Mary on my sleep
Grew in a vision reaching out a crown ;
And fed my soul with dream-delight so deep,

That not full morning with her solemn breeze
Could that sweet voice unsweeten, or make cease.
God's love it seemed to melt the mountains round,
And wings of angels rustled in the trees.

O voice eternal, glory of my dream,
Blended with every wave of languid stream,
Mingling with bleat of mother-ewes thy sound,
Or whispered far as sunset's radiant seam.

Voice, in the pine boughs beaten of great hail,
Voice, in the wrestle of the wind-mill sail,
In the jay's bicker from his mountain ground,
Or in the sun-gilt insect's feeble wail,—

I knew thee loud or gentle, far or near,
On thee I brooded day and month and year;
Till the poor herd-girl became glorified
Like an old saint with God's voice at his ear.

'What can have crazed you, girl?' my sire would say.
'What gives your eyes that bright and earnest ray?'
For I indeed was strangely beautified,
Seeing I spake with Mary every day.