ONE HUNDRED & SEVENTY POEMS

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One hundred & seventy poems by Arthur Waley

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ARTHUR WALEY

ONE HUNDRED & SEVENTY POEMS



ONE HUNDRED & SEVENTY CHINESE POEMS

Translated by ARTHUR WALEY

LONDON

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PRELIMINARY NOTE

I N making this book I have tried to avoid poems which have been translated before. A hundred and forty of those I have chosen have not been translated by any one else. The remaining thirty odd I have included in many cases because the previous versions were full of mistakes; in others, because the works in which they appeared are no longer procurable. Moreover, they are mostly in German, a language with which my readers may not all be acquainted.

With some hesitation I have included literal versions of six poems (three of the "Seventeen Old Poems," "Autumn Wind," "Li Fu jen," and "On the Death of his Father") already skilfully rhymed by Professor Giles in "Chinese Poetry in English Verse." They were too typical to omit; and a comparison of the two renderings may be of interest. Some of these translations have appeared in the "Bulletin of the School of Oriental Studies," in the "New Statesman," in the "Little Review" (Chicago), and in "Poetry" (Chicago).

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