

**REVERBERATIONS,
REVISED WITH A
CHAPTER FROM
MY AUTOBIOGRAPHY**

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Reverberations, Revised with a Chapter from My Autobiography by W. M. W. Call

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W. M. W. CALL

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GOLDEN HISTORIES.

"The volume concludes with a set of translated pieces; Homeric Hymn to Demeter, and some lyrics from Catullus. . . . He might also have added his translation of the Hymn to Apollo and parts of the Aphrodite, which were all included by him in a small and very pleasant volume of versions from the Greek, written in his Cambridge days nearly thirty years ago, and called *Lyra Hellenica*. . . . We believe that Mr Call might produce a translation of all Catullus's works, which, in point of even and durable spirit, would more than deserve a place beside either the brilliant one of Mr Martin or the learned one of Mr Ellis."—*Saturday Review*, February 17, 1872.

"Mr Call's poetry is intimately associated with his philosophy. . . . We have not picked out any of those happy descriptions of Nature of which his pages are full—pictures of the fields and woods and streams: we have not dwelt upon his perfect expression of language, his love of beauty, his intense delight in the presence of the sea and mountains and sky, because we wish especially to call attention to that still higher love for humanity, that firm belief in Science, and that unshaken hope in Progress, which so shines forth in his poems."—*Westminster Review*, January 1872.

REVERBERATIONS.

REVISED

WITH

A Chapter from my Autobiography.

BY

W. M. W. CALL, M.A., CAMBRIDGE,
AUTHOR OF "LYRA HELLENICA" AND "GOLDEN HISTORIES."

"The world is like a valley, and our actions are like shouts,
And the echo of the shout reverberates even to ourselves."

—*Persian Proverb.*

"We chant our own times and social circumstances."—*Emerson.*

"What is rightly understood and rightly expressed in the present
suits also for past and future."—*Robt Varnhagen.*



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PREFACE.

WHEN the metrical portion of this little volume was first published more than a quarter of a century ago, it attracted in some quarters unexpected attention. In particular, it had the honour of being included in the private *Index Expurgatorius* of Lord Arundel and Surrey, who, in his place in the House of Commons, while good-naturedly recognising its poetical merit, emphatically denounced its theological audacity. Its partial success is among the motives that encourage me to offer it in a revised form to a new generation of readers.*

Amid great secondary differences, the general aspect of the present age resembles that of twenty-five years since. The problem of capital and labour still clamours for solution: the associative principle has attained only an

* The expansion of Luther's paradox, *Pecca fortiter*, was a special subject of Lord Arundel's reprobation.

“ What help for hourly errors shall I find ?
How tread the dangerous path that must be trod ?
Guileless and simple be, in heart and mind,
Sin bravely, man, and leave the rest to God.”

incomplete development: Balder, the beautiful, lies dead: the powers of frost and snow are melting for final dissolution: Thor the peasant-god still unfurls the standard of revolt: the journey to California, the pursuit of unconsecrated wealth, is daily repeated: the true Golden Country lies veiled in the distance: the dreaded anarchy of the 10th April has appeared as a direful reality, not in our own sober capital, but in the brilliant metropolis of a sister-land. On the other hand, some of the sanguine expectations of earlier days have been realised, however incompletely. Science has become more comprehensive in survey, and more fruitful in result; theology more instructed and more tolerant. If in the formidable revival of the military spirit a temporary retrogression is traceable, armed despotisms have grown milder, wiser, juster. The Austrian tyrant has released his Italian provinces, and given constitutional freedom to Hungary; Germany has escaped from the yoke of its petty princes, and attained to national unity; America has abolished negro-slavery; and England has enfranchised a part of her working population, disestablished the Church of a privileged minority, and legislated for the benefit of the occupiers of land in Ireland.

The more direct Positivist tendency traceable in the new edition of "REVERBERATIONS" has been anticipated in my "Golden Histories;" from which I have reprinted three little poems that illustrate "A CHAPTER FROM MY AUTOBIOGRAPHY."

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