

p.25 The maid of Morningtown Air [none] In blooming May when flowers gay, bedecks the fragrant plain

p.27 Bellewstown hill Air *The grand conversation under the rose*

You sporting sons of Erin that's always fond of merriment

p.31 The lovely sweet Queensboro' Lass Air The Blessington Maid

Attend to these lines all true lovers

p.34 My own sweet Mary Air *Nannie's to the Green Wood Gone* In smiling spring, when warblers sing

p.36 [Statement at foot] "Gentle reader view this simple tale://" Was lately wrote by poor old LITTLE SHEIL" (NB rhyme "SHALE"

Vol. II Drogheda, 1834 (TCD OLSB-1-62)

Sheil's Love Songs being a collection of the much admired songs of that popular poet Vol. II. DROGHEDA printed at the Argus Office

[No cover] p.1 Title Page p.2 Contents

p.3 Bessy Brown of Ballybay Air *Burn's* (sic) *Farwell* You swains draw near to me give ear

p.5 Mary Melvin of Malahide Air The Young Man's Dream Give ear with patience to my relation

p.7 The Gem of Gormanstown Air Maguire's Grey Mare You tuneful nine with me combine

p.9 The Flower of Drogheda Air *Bold Traynor, O* Draw near each young lover that feels Cupid's arrow

p.11 Rachel the Ruby of Rush Air *Lord Farnham's Demesne* Attend to my tale each true lover

p.14 The Blooming Flower of Navan Air *The Caledonian Laddy, O*

You rural swains that rove the plains

p.16 lovely Betty of Sweet Baidoye Air The Sweet Barrow You muses nine to my aid incline

p.18 Mary of Kingsend Air The Curate of Clonmore You sacred nine to me incline

p50. Fanny the Rose of Tyrone Air The Duke of York's Retreat You lovers give ear to my story

p54. Young William the lad that I love Air The Bonny Brown Girl I am a young maid that's in sad lamentation

p57. Young Jemmy the youth I admire Air The Maid of Dunleer Attend to my tale you young lovers

p60. The beautiful nymph of Baltray Air Robin Hood and the Tan-ner In the month of May when flowers do bloom

p66. The beautiful nymph of Baltray Air Robin Hood and the Tan-der lover

p3. The young maiden's adieu Air Tom the Tailor Adieu, adieu my tender lover

Vol. IV Dublin, 1835 (NLI L05315)

p.60 Rosey the dazzling bright orb of Rathcole (sic) Air [none]

The mermaid [air: none] One Friday morn as we set sail

Girl of my heart [air: none] In the world's crooked path where I've been

The true lover's wish [air: none] Oh, fair and flow'ry be thy way

p.60 Rosey the dazzling bright orb of Rathcole (sic) Air [none] Assist me you muses and polish (sic) my mind

p15. James of Tuillamore Air, The Befrast Maid You maidens fair I pray draw near

p.7 Until I get tied to a wife Air The Blessington Maid Once I was both light young and airy

p.10 The married man's misery Air There's nee good luck about the house Attend me all you that's free

p.13 James of Julianstown Air The rushes green You suffering slaves of cupid (sic)

p.17 The Gem of Gormanstown Air Maguire's Grey Mare You tuneful nine with me combine

p.9 The Flower of Drogheda Air *Bold Traynor, O* Draw near each young lover that feels Cupid's arrow

p.11 Rachel the Ruby of Rush Air *Lord Farnham's Demesne* Attend draw near

p.24 Kate of Summerhill Air Burns Lovely Jane [lean] You sacred choir my mind inspire

p.27 The clear liffey side Air The Shamrock Shore I am a young swain that's enraptured

p.17 'm going mad for a man Air The swagginger jig Bewail my fate you that's married

p35 James of Tyrlepass (sic) Air The angler You rural swains that rove the plains

Vol. VII Sheil's Love Songs, being a collection of the most admired songs of that popular poet, Dublin: Printed for the author 1835 (NLI L0531)

p.60 Rosey the dazzling bright orb of Rathcole (sic) Air [none] Assist me you muses and polish (sic) my mind

p15. James of Tuillamore Air, The Befrast Maid You maidens fair I pray draw near

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p.17 'm going mad for a man Air The swagginger jig Bewail my fate you that's married

p35 James of Tyrlepass (sic) Air The angler You rural swains that rove the plains

p46. Young Mickey's the lad I shall ever admire Air Think nae lans Rake Attend to my tale each true pure loyal lover

p43. Young Dolly Duggan of sweet Kinnegad Air The Unfortunate maids who were betrayed

p40. Faithless Handsome Johnny Air The Minstrel Boy You simple morning fair as Sol appeared

p38. The Maid of Mullahether Air The lass among the Heather One waters Each true hearted lover with me sympathise

p35. Mary M'Cleary of sweet Dunnabate Air The meeting of the Give ear with patience to my relation

p30 Charming Nancy of the flow'ry Boyne Air The Sweet Barrow the month of September

p26. Sheil's ramble to Lucan Air Rambling Kitty One pleasant day in of this nation of every description

p.21. Neddy O'Rafferty's Christening Air Paddy O'Rafferty You lads ens fair to me give ear

p.18. Dick of Ballymoney Air The lass among the heather You maid-ens fair to me give ear

p.18. Dick of Ballymoney Air The lass among the heather You maid-ens fair to me give ear

p.15. James of Tuillamore Air, The Befrast Maid You maidens fair I pray draw near

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p35 James of Tyrlepass (sic) Air The angler You rural swains that rove the plains

p46. Young Mickey's the lad I shall ever admire lassie gin I gang awa Young Mickey's the lad I shall ever admire

Vol. I Dublin, 1834 (BPL Bigger J259 (71846), NLI L0531)

Sheil's Love Songs being a collection of the much admired songs of that Popular Poet, Volume I. Dublin, Printed for the Author, 1846 (Interior says 1834)

p.3. The Pride of Beaulieu Air Catherine Ogile You lovers all both great and small

p.6. The hero of Donore Air The bold undaunted Grenadier You maidens fair pray lend an ear and pity My sad state

p.9. Lucy Lynch of Lurgan Green Air Easter Snow Draw near each loyal lover

p.11 The Beauty of Screen (Index—Skreen) Air The Duke's retreat

Love Songs Volumes (Dublin, 6pp.)

Drogheda Conservative Journal – Drogheda published and by the *Argus*. Dublin imprinted volumes were Drogheda printed – and, as averred by the page vol. I, it may be that the missing Dublin volume it was similar in the same third's (up to The lovely sweet Queensboro' lass) the same as the Dublin 64-NOTE: since the contents and order of the Drogheda 36-page volume I are two

p.36 (at foot) FINIS

p.34 Fanny the Pink of Duleek Air *The Flower of Dunblain* (sic) On a pleasant summer time

p.29 Baltray Wedding, O Air *The Berkin* (sic) *Tree* It was in the every station, O

p.26 Marriage is a Trouble, O Air *Johnny's Wedding* Young men of your pity now I call

p.24 Sally of Athboy Air Lough Erin Shore You lovers great and small each young lover whilst I discover

p.22 Charming Sally of Townley Hall Air Shining Daisy Draw near brilliant muses that ne'er the bard refuses

p.20 The Comet of Dromore Air Welsh of Faganstown Attend you

JOHN SHEIL (1784-1872) (Shale the poet.)

According to his obituary (*Drogheda Argus*, 6th July 1872) he was born in the North of Ireland, in 1784 (calculated from the age given in that obituary). He was said to have, with his father, witnessed events at Killala (Mayo) in 1798 and to have actually taken part in the '98 rising. (aged 14 yrs.). John McGrath, Moneygran told Len Graham that his father has told him Sheil was born in Portadown. This is confirmed by a song “The Orangeman” (*Sheil’s Shamrock* Vol. 8, p. 31). He died on 5th July 1872 in Drogheda and is buried in the Cord burying ground. It appears he had lived in Drogheda from early age (after 1798) and was a weaver. According to Seán Corcoran, he made songs for local ballad singers, many to order, and is associated with the local printer, Patrick Kelly, who, it is said, ‘was his flying stationer and ripped him off (founding the *Argus* on the consequent profit). Many of his songs are in small song books, on ballad sheets and in his collected works (see below). There are many songs of his in tradition, especially in and around Drogheda. He also included his own name in a number of titles. Again, according to Seán Corcoran, he figured frequently in local papers and memoirs, being spokesman for weavers in the handloom strike of 1834. An important ‘cross over’ poet – among those who used English in Irish metric, which meant words used in unusual ways. Arguably the biggest impact of any popular song maker of the early 19th century. ^(Information from Seán Corcoran’s and Gerry Cullen’s notes to their CDs “Louth mouths from Drogheda” and “The Blue Cuckoo.”)

so gay

Paddy O'Flynn's honeymoon :written as an encore to Biddy Magee air: Rattlin' rovin' blade My boys, this night you've heard from me

*The hero of bonny Carlow air: The green linnet I'm a poor simple made (sic) that's in sad lamentation

*A dialogue between Daniel O'Connell and Granuaile air: Dobbin's flowery vale It was in the north as I walked forth

*The flowers of Drogheda air: Bold Traynor o Draw near each young lover that feels Cupid's arrow

*My darling ould stick My name is bold Morgan McCarthy from Trim

*Young Jemmy the youth I admire air: The maid of Dunleer Attend to my tale you young lovers

*The gem of Gormanstown air: Maguire's grey mare You tuneful nine with me combine

*The maid of Mullahether air: The lass among the heather One morning fair as Sol appeared

*Fanny the rose of Tyrone air: The Duke of York's retreat You lovers give ear to my story

The mermaid [air: none] One Friday morn as we set sail

Girl of my heart [air: none] In the world's crooked path where I've been

The true lover's wish [air: none] Oh, fair and flow'ry be thy way

^{*}By or probably by John Sheil

This booklet, and its fellow imitate the Dublin Series in size and in the use of assorted type sizes and faces but have many fewer pages. It is certain that they hold errors; no apology is offered!

^[1] According to his obituary (Drogheda Argus, 6th July 1872) he was born in the North of Ireland, in 1784 (calculated from the age given in that obituary)

^[2] John McGrath, Moneygran told Len Graham that his father has told him Sheil was born in Portadown

Attend to my late each young lover
p.14 The Star of Slane Air *Youghal Harbour* You brilliant muses who ne'er refuses.
p.17 The beautiful Ballbriggan Maid Air Caleen Dhas Cruthin a moe All you that felt Cupid's sharp arrow
p.20 Skerries Shore Air Lougherin Shore You sacred muses nine and wits that are sublime
p.23 Ally of Ardee Air The Bonny Highland boy You lovers all draw near and to me lend an ear
p26. The Maid of Dunleer Air [none stated] One morning in the summer season
p.30 The Maid of Morningtown Air [none] In blooming May when flowers gay bedeck the fragrant plain
p.33 Bellewstown hill Air The Grand Conversation under the Rose You sporting sons of Erin, that's always fond of merriment
p.38 The Lovely Sweet Queensborough lass Air The Blessington Maid Attend to these lines all true lovers
p.41 The Flower of Beamore Air The Rose of Ardee Attend all young men that have felt Cupid's dart (LO531 lacks pp. 43-6)
p.43 The Banks of the Boyne Air The Banks of the Dee The sweet summer season dame nature seemed pleasing
p.46 The delf-ware [(Indef Ware) ad Air none [but ?Delf ware lass?]] You lovers pray lend an ear
p.49 Phenix (sic) of Fingal Air Bassy of Dromore One day for recreation and silent meditation
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p.60 Shell's Advice to T'Ppliers Air Carolan's Receipt for Drinking You saucy sons of Bacchus who to drinking are inclined
p.63 (at foot) Finis
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The Life and Works of that Most Popular Poet John Sheil, Drogheda, c. 1784—5th July 1872

In Two Parts

Part One

His Life and the *Love Songs*

Done by John Moulden, Carndonagh ©2022

Broadside Extra, Technological University Dublin, 15th October 2022

Vol. III Dublin, Printed for the author, 1834 (NLI L0531)
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p.5 Lovely Fanny of Leixlip Town Air Mary Booth inspiring nine to my aid incline
p.8 The blooming sweet lass of Kildare Air The blues of Hall's mill Near Selbridge (sic) one day in September
p.11 The Tulip of Trim Air The maid of Dunleer One day then for sweet recreation
p.15 Mary the flower of Mayo Air The Shamrock Shore Attend to my tale each young lover
p.18 The Queen of Edenderry Air The Ardagh doctor In sweet July I roved hard by
p.22 The Skerries lass Air Betsy Baker You young men of sweet Fingal
p.25 The maid of Fore Air Sweet Cotehill You muses all on your aid I call
p.28 Sweet Fanny of Naas Air Young Nancy's to blame Attend each young swain whilst I do explain
p.32 Bess the Chapelized maid Air The ranting highlandman In lovely May I chanced to stray
p.34 Margaret of sweet Rostrevor Air The pearl of the Bann Young men and maidens all, attend to my meeting call
p.37 The lovely sweet Prosperous lass Air Patt (sic) M'Veally One day as I rambl'd that for pleasure
p.41 The ornament of Erin's lovely nation Air The cottage maid You tuneful worthy nine to my aid I pray incline
p.45 Kitty of Kingstown Air The green Innlet You muses assist me whilst I am indithing
p.49 Sweet Kitty Conney the pride of Killcock (sic) Air The Sprig of Shillelagh All you that have ever felt Cupid's sharp dart
p.54 The pearl of Lucan town Air [none] As I roved out one morn-

p38 Young Henry the bravest in Erin machree Air A new broom sweeps cleanses I am a young maid that's sunk in despair
p.41 Greenmount smiling Ann Air The maid of Mornington In summer time when flowers fine [refers to Sheil's Maid of Skreen]
p.45 Nora Gulien Air The Maid of the North country Near Drogheda Town on the hill of Rathmilian
p.48 The girl that's free of her smiles Air The maid that can dot [sic - do't] You funny young blades who make courthing your trade
p.53 Fanny the diamond of Palmerstown Air The sprig of shillelagh Draw near you young lovers attend to my tale
p.58 The dazzling comet of Callian town Air [none] Most matchless my tale each young lover
p.18 The Queen of Edenderry Air The Ardagh doctor In sweet July I roved hard by
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p.54 The pearl of Lucan town Air [none] As I roved out one evening I
p.44 The maid of Athy Air The Blessington maid One evening I simple maid that's in sad tormentation
p.39 The hero of Bonny Carlow Air The green Innlet I am a poor Middle summer when Flor's rich treasure
p.37 The Collon matchless fair maid Air Calleen das cruthanam pleasure I did stray
p.29 Julie Headon Air Judy Hardman It was blooming May for Cupid that are all stupid
p.22 May Moonoey of Arklowgreen Air Shining daisy You slaves to pity
p.16 Pat of Edenderry Air Roy's Wife Attend each maid inclined to ear
p.12 William Small Air Burns farewell To me draw near and lend an maidens give ear to my sad lamentation
p.6 Edward McBride of the River Lee Air The Banks of the Dee You me incline
p.6 The hero of Donore Air The bold undaunted grenadier You maidens fair pray lend an ear and pity my sad state
p.8 Lucy Lynch of Lurgangreen] Air *Easter Snow* Draw near each loyal lover
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Vol. IX Dublin, Printed for the Author, 1836 (NLI L0531)

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Sheil's Love Songs: Known vols., titles and contents – details of other known or suspected products appended.

Song Book (16pp. 8vo) “Sheil’s Love Songs”

owned by Gerry Cullen, copy in ITMA – probably the copy found by Tom Coffey – see *Argus* 1950-04-15 p. 2 “The Local Poet”.

Contents:

[TP] Sketch of the life of the author (Derives from *Argus* obit of 6th July 1872.

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p.6 Garristown Jack Air Paddy O’Carroll You maids that are bonny right pleasant and funny
[p.8] The brilliant bright torch of Ardee Air The fair col-len dhue It was in the month of September
[p.10] The posey of Stabbanon Air The coronation The poets they will rhyme what I say
[p.12] Young Henry of sweet Ravensdale Air The bonny sweet banks of Finn You lovers attend to my story
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The Cuckoo’s nest

as the Irish Cuckoo’s Nest printed by Green (Birmingham), Haly (Cork) as Cuckoo’s nest, Dublin (unknown) as New Cuckoo’s Nest: English prints in Madden 21 and Bodleian (Firth b.34(143).5

went out to wander

p.49 Lovely red cheeked Will Air Black-eyed Susan In summer time when flowers gay
p.53 The Tuscan bonnet Air The women shall not wear the breech-es [Wearing of the breeches fits] Old Cupid’s fools that’s worse than mules
p.58 Francis of Fermoy Air Lough Erin shore You lovers brisk and gay, give ear without delay

Printings of love songs by, or probably by, Sheil in small song books or on ballad sheets.

National Library of Ireland—Volume 16551 Drogheda

The banks of the Boyne to which is added The flower of Navan Drogheda printed in the present year 1
The flower of Drogheda to which is added Bessy Brown of Ballybay Drogheda printed in this present year 2
The gem of Gormanstown to which is added Rachel the ruby of Rush - Drogheda printed in this present year 3
Lucy Lynch of Lurgangreen to which are added Easter Snow and The gentle shepherd Drogheda printed in this present year 4
The maid of Dunleer together with The maid of Morning-ton Drogheda printed in the present year 5
Mary Melvin of Malahide together with The pride of Beau-lieu Drogheda printed in the present year 6
Mary of Ringsend to which is added The flower of Droghe-da Drogheda printed in this present year 7
The matchless maid of Erin together with The star of sweet