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

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

(interior says 1834)
p3. The Pride of Beaulieu Air Catherine Ogie You lovers all both

Vol. I Dublin, 1834 (BPL Bigger 1259 (?1846), NLI LO531)
Sheil's Love Songs being a collection of the much admired songs of
that Popular Poet, Volume I. Dublin, Printed for the Author, 1846

Love Songs Volumes (Dublin, 64pp.)

NOTE: Since the contents and order of the Drogheda 36-page volume I are two thirds (up to The lovely sweet Queensboro' lass) the same as the Dublin 64page voi. J, it may be that the missing Dublin volume II was similar in the same ways to the Drogheda volume II. This somewhat cements the surmise that the Dublin imprinted volumes were Drogheda printed – and, as averred by the Drogheda Conservative Journal – Drogheda published and by the Argus.

sweet summer's morning, bright Phoebus adorning p. 36 (at foot) FINIS

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

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

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

p.22 Charming Sally of Townley Hall Air Shining Daisy Draw near each young lover whilst I discover p.24 Sally of Athboy Air Lough Erin Shore You lovers great and small

p.20 The Comet of Dromore Air Walsh of Faganstown Attend you brilliant muses that ne'er the bard refuses

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

p40. Faithless Handsome Johnny Air The Minstrel Boy You simple maids who were betrayed was young Dolly Duggan of sweet Kinnegad Air The Unfortunate

p38. The Maid of Mullaheather Air The lass among the Heather One morning fair as Sol appeared

waters Each true hearted lover with me sympathise pass among the Heather One

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

the month of September the month of September Barrow 590 Charming Mancy of the flow'ry Boyne Air The Sweet Barrow

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

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

pray draw near process Air The lass among the heather You maid-

Assist me you muses and pollish (sic) my mind plS. James of Tullamore Air, The Belfast Maid You maidens fair I

been Draw near & give ear to my theme pt2. Sweet Bessy the Pride of Tanderagee Air The Clonmel Tragedy

then join with me p9. Young Johnny the flower of the green Air, 50 metry as we have

tender lover pb. Matchless Lovely Mich. Air The Curet of Clonmore In sympathy

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

Vol. IV Dublin, 1835 (NLI LOS31S)

ing, bright Sol the fields adorning p.60 Rosey the dazzling bright orb of Rathcole (sic) Air [none] Attend you young lovers unto my relation rove the plains

tate you that's married p35 James of Tyrlespass (sic) Air The angler You rural swains that

swain that's enraptured p.3.1 l'm going mad for a man Air The swaggering jig Bewail my

choir my mind inspire p.27 The clear Liffey side Air The Shamrock Shore I am a young

draw near p.24 Kate of Summerhill Air Burns Lovely Jane [Jean] You sacred

slaves of cupid (sic) p.17 Oh! To my grief she was a Mammy's Pet Air The jade did disorder me You lads that's unmarried give ear to my ditty p.21 Anne McBride Air The Cambridge tender You lovers fair to me p.21 Anne McBride Air The Cambridge tender You lovers fair to me

the house Attend me all you that's free p.13 James of Julianstown Air The rushes green You suffering

both light young and airy p.10 The married man's misery Air There's nae good luck about

p.3 Blue-eyed Jane Air Black-eyed Susan in summer when the fields are green
p.7 Until I get tied to a wife Air The Blessington Maid Once I was

the author 1835 (NLI LOS31)

Vol. VII Sheils Love Songs, being a collection of the most admired songs of that popular poet, Dublin: Printed for

Attend to my tale you young lovers
D60. The beautiful nymph of Baltray Air Robin Hood and the Tanner In the month of May when flowers do bloom

part in the state that's in sad lamentation and purple of Dunleer p57. Young lemmy the youth I admire Air The Maid of Dunleer

lovers give ear to my story b54. Young William the lad that I love Air The Bonny Brown Girl I b54. Young William the

p50. Fanny the Rose of Tyrone Air The Duke of York's Retreat You

Dundalk Drogheda printed in the present year 8

The pink of Duleek to which is added The beautiful Balbriggan maid Drogheda printed in this present year 9

The Queensboro' Lass together with Molly Asthore. Drog-

(Also in Lauriston Castle Collection 2902:5 [Lyle No.78]) Skerries shore together with Ally of Ardee Drogheda printed in the present year 11

heda printed in the present year 10

National Library of Ireland—PJ McCall collection—copied in ITMA—items attributed to "Shiels"

Ally of Ardee voume 3, 114; Banks of the Boyne 1,118; Bellewstown Races 5,96; Delph ware Lad 1,100; Flower of Beaghmore 1,52; Hero of Dunmore 1,78; Lovely sweet Queensboro lass 2,85; Lucy Lynch of Lurgan Green 3,38; Maid of Dunleer 1,140; Maid of Mornington 1,58; Shiels (sic) advice to tipplers 3,12; Shiels (sic) St Patrick's Day 3,60; Star of Slane 3,2& 11,45; Palmerstown Fleas by R Sheil vol 7

Irish Traditional Music Archive (ITMA) - Leslie Sheppard Bequest The Irish blackbird songster: containing the best collection of the newest songs of the day—32 p.: cover ill.; 11 cm. (pbk.) Dublin: John F. Nugent & Co, [n.d.]

Contents:

*Sheil's ramble to Lucan air: Rambling Kitty One sweet pleasant day in the month of September

*The matchless maid of Erin air: The poor but honest soldier You muses nine your aid incline

Biddy Magee air: Rattlin' rovin' blade I was born in the town of Tip,

eniloni em ot

muses nine to my sid incline p.18 Mayy of Ringsend Air The Curate of Clonmore You sacred nine

You rural swains that rove the plains P.16 Lovely Betty of Sweet Baldoyle Air The Sweet Barrow You

to my tale each true lover by The Caledonian Laddy, O p.14 The Blooming Flower of Navan Air The Caledonian Laddy, O

young lover that feels Cupid's arrow p.11 Rachel the Ruby of Rush Air Lord Farnham's Demesne Attend

p.7 The Gem of Gormansfown Air Maguire's Grey Mare You tuneful nine with me combine
p.9 The Flower of Drogheda Air Bold Traynor, O Draw near each

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

draw near to me give ear

[No cover] p.1 Title Page p.2 Contents p.3 Bessy Brown of Ballybay Air Burn's (sic) Farewell You swains

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

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

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"

Attend to these lines all true lovers p.34 My own sweet Mary Air Nannie's to the Green Wood Gone In

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 p.31 The lovely sweet

nəhw yeM gnimoold nl [ənon] riA nwotgninroM to bism ədT ZZ.q

Other life references

O'Donaghue, Poets of Ireland, 1970, p. 423 Sheil, Richard [Born Drogheda, said to have been a printer or weaver, who died approx. 1860 aged 60. Sheils Love songs. Sheil's Love Songs 12 volumes 1834-1846 Dublin cited by Zimmermann 1967: 326 as being in NLI and attributed to Richard Sheil (I have recently had this corrected at NLI.)

Sheil songs reported from tradition (

Information also from CD 'The Usher Family'):

Erin's lovely plain Rights of Man Nice little factory girl Hero of bonny Carlow My darling ould stick Wedding of Baltray Star of Slane Greenmount smiling Anne Hannah Healy the pride of Howth Flower of Beaghmore James of Julianstown Collon's sweet plantation Jacky the rake Pride of Townly Hall

Sheil's use of his own name in titles

Sheil's Maid of Skreen Sheil's address to his countrymen Sheil's departure from Erin Little Sheil Sheil's Nocturnal Vision (Rights of Man) Sheil's ramble to Lucan Sheil's advice to tipplers Sheil's Creed Sheil's Catholic Rent Sheil's Political time of day Sheil's Reform Sheil's advice to his countrymen Sheil's defeated Sheil's Boyne Water Sheil's political storm Sheil's St Patrick's Day Sheil's description of an Orange Procession Sheil's conversation with the ruens (sic) of an old monastery (Maurice Lenihan Collection, NLI manuscripts)

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

According to his obituary (Droaheda Araus, 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 Mullaheather 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

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!

2002 Summer season

p.22 The maid of Dunleer Air [none stated] One morning in the near and to me lend an ear

p.19 Ally of Ardee Air The bonny highland boy You lovers all draw and wits that are sublime

p.1 / Skerries Shore Air Lough Erin Shore You sacred muses nine Moe All you that felt Cupid's sharp arrow

p.14 The beautiful Ballbriggan Maid Air Colleen Dhas Cruthin a who ne'er retuses

p.12 The Star of Slane Air Youghal Harbour You brilliant muses tale each young lover

p.10 The beauty of Screen Air The Duke's retreat Attend to my ιολει ιονει

p.8 Lucy Lynch of Lurgangreen] Air Easter Snow Draw near each maidens fair pray lend an ear and pity my sad state p.6 The hero of Donore Air The bold undaunted grenadier You Ogie You lovers all both great and small

p.3. The Pride of Bealieu (sic) [Contents 'Beaulieu] Air Catherine Cover p.1. Ittle page p.2. Contents

that popular poet Vol. 1 DROGHEDA Printed at the Argus Office Sheil's Love Songs being a collection of the much admired songs of

with surrogates.}

may also be different but this would need comparison; not easy uniform with TCD OLSB-1-62 - two impressions?? - the imposition Cover Title in BB7836 is "Shiel's Love Songs", the rest seems Vol. 1 Drogheda, 1834 (TCD OLSB-1-62) (also NLI BB7836 - NB

Love Songs Volumes: [Drogheda, 36pp; spine 15.5cm]

details of other known or suspected products appended. **2USIL'S LOVE SONGS:** Known vols, titles and contents –

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 linnet I am a poor Mild summer when Flora's rich treasure

> p.3? The Collon matchless fair maid Air Calleen das cruthanamo pleasure I did stray

p.29 Julie Headon Air Judy Hardman It was blooming May for Cupid that are all stupid

p.22 May Mooney of Arklowgreen Air Shining daisy You slaves to

p.16 Pat of Edenderry Air Roy's Wife Attend each maid inclined to

p.12 William Small Air Burns tarewell 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

p.3 Jane of Killelea Air the curate of Clonmore You muses nine to

Vol. IX Dublin, Printed for the Author, 1836 (NLI LOS31)

51uə1uon +9d choir I you require

p.58 The dazzling comet of Callan town Air [none] Most matchless Draw near you young lovers attend to my tale

p53 Fanny the diamond of Palmerstown Air The sprig of shilleleagh - qo,f] you funny young blades who make courting your trade p48 The girl that's tree of her smiles Air The maid that can dot [sic I own on the hill of Kathmullan

p.45 Nora Cullen Air The Maid of the North country Near Drogheda summer time when flowers fine [refers to Sheil's Maid of Skreen] p.41 Greenmount smiling Ann Air The maid of Mornington In sweeps cleanest I am a young maid that's sunk in despair p38 Young Henry the bravest in Erin machree Air A new broom p.54 The pearl of Lucan town Air [none] As I roved out one morn-Shillelagh All you that have ever felt Cupid's sharp dart p.49 Sweet Kitty Cooney the pride of Killcock (sic) Air The Sprig of Whilst I am inditing

p.45 Kifty of Kingstown Air The green linnet You muses assist me tuneful worthy nine to my aid I pray incline

p.41 The ornament of Erin's lovely nation Air The cottage maid You day as I rambled for pleasure

p.37 The lovely sweet Prosperous lass Air Patt (sic) M'Avealy One men and maidens all, attend to my melting call

p.34 Margaret of sweet Rostrevor Air The pearl of the Bann Young ιολειλ ιλιαλ ι cnanced το stray

p.32 Bess the Chapelizod maid Air The ranting highlandman In young swain whilst I do explain

p.28 Sweet Fanny of Naas Air Young Nancy's to blame Attend each

p.25 The maid of Fore Air Sweet Cootehill You muses all on your aid

p.22 The Skerries lass Air Betsy Baker You young men of sweet

p.18 The Queen of Edenderry Air The Ardaghy doctor in sweet July I my tale each young lover

p.15 Mary the flower of Mayo Air The Shamrock Shore Attend to гмеет гестеалоп

p.11 The Tulip of Trim Air The maid of Dunleer One day then for Mear Selbridge (sic) one day in September

p.8 The blooming sweet lass of Kildare Air The blues of Hall's mill

p.6 Lovely Fanny of Leixlip Town Air Mary Booth Inspiring nine to nine to my aid incline

p.3 Hannah Healy the pride of Howth Air Ligelaw You matchless Vol. III Dublin, Printed for the author, 1834 (NLI LOS31)

7-64 Index P.63 (at foot) Finis

You saucy sons of Bacchus who to drinking are inclined p.60 Shell's Advice to t1pplers Air Carolan's Receipt for Drinking funny and droll (About a Drogheda pub; very engaging)

p.53 The Wren's Nest Air [none] Each frolicksome soul that is ation and silent meditation

p.49 Phenix (sic) of Fingal Air Bessy of Dromore One day for recreware lass?] You lovers pray lend an ear

p.46 The delf-ware I(Index-Delf Ware) ad Air none [but ?Delf snumer season dame nature seemed pleasing

p.43 The Banks of the Boyne Air The Banks of the Dee The sweet young men that have felt Cupid's dart (LOS31 lacks pp. 43-6) p.41 The Hower of Beamore Air The Rose of Ardee Attend all Maid Attend to these lines all true lovers

p.38 The Lovely Sweet Queensborough lass Air The Blessington You sporting sons of Erin, that's always fond of merriment p.33 Bellewstown hill Air The Grand Conversation under the Rose flowers gay bedeck the fragrant plain

p.30 The Maid of Morningtown Air [none] In blooming May when uoseas Jammus

p26. The Maid of Dunleer Air [none stated] One morning in the near and to me lend an ear

p.23 Ally of Ardee Air The Bonny Highland boy You lovers all draw and wits that are sublime

p.20 Skerries Shore Air Lougherin Shore You sacred muses nine All you that felt Cupid's sharp arrow

p.17 The beautiful Ballbriggan Maid Air Caleen Dhas Cruthin a moe who ne'er retuses.

p.14 The Star of Slane Air Youghal Harbour You brilliant muses Affend to my tale each young lover

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.

[p.2] Mary the star of Cullfire Air The Shamrock Shore You sweet tuneful muse now assist me

p.4 The nice little neat little factory maid Air The unfortunate rake All you that loves sporting and maids to be

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 colleen 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 p.14 The flower of Beaghmore Air The Rose of Ardee Attend all young men that have felt Cupid's dart p.15 Bellewstown hill Air none You sporting sons of Erin

that's always fond of merriment

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).S

went out to wander

present year 4

p.49 Lovely red cheeked Will Air Black-eyed Susan In summer time

p.53 The Tuscan bonnet Air The women shall not wear the breeches [Wearing of the breeches fits] Old Cupid's fools that's worse

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 I6551 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

The maid of Dunleer together with The maid of Mornington Drogheda printed in the present year 5

Mary Melvin of Malahide together with The pride of Beaulieu Drogheda printed in the present year 6

Mary of Ringsend to which is added The flower of Drogheda Drogheda printed in this present year 7 The matchless maid of Erin together with The star of sweet

Drogheda, where his grave is unmarked.



Songmaker and Weaver

EPITAPH - by himself

Judicious reader, stand and read awhile:

One moment pause and I might make you feel:

Here interred beneath this mortal soil

No King nor Prince, but humble Little Sheil

Sweet Erin dear in rustic, homely verse,

He mourned her wrongs and shouted forth her praise

Extolled her sons, her creed, her lovely crest, Impressed that maxim all his mortal days.

Lord, grant his soul perpetual peace and rest!

Erected 2018 by local historical societies.

Sheil's own epitaph, now at Cord Cemetery,

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