



A WANDERING HARP
SELECTED POEMS
By **JAMES H. COUSINS**

THE FIRST REPRESENTATIVE SELECTION
FROM THE LIFE WORK OF ONE WHO HAS BEEN PLACED
"AMONG THE MAJOR POETS OF OUR TIME."

Three Hundred Pages

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ABOUT THE POET

James H. Cousins was born in Belfast, Ireland, in 1873, and at twenty-one published a book of verse that, for all its youthfulness, marked him as a poet of distinctive promise.

At twenty-four he removed to Dublin, and found his place as one of the makers of the Irish Literary Revival. His poetry was ultimately classed by *The Nation* (London) as "second only to that of the two leaders of his movement"—W. B. Yeats and AE.

In 1931 Mr. Cousins removed to England, and after two years proceeded to India as a journalist and educator. Then began fifteen years of interaction between the Celtic imagination and the environment and life of the Orient that resulted in poetry full of new beauty and extended significance. He spent a year's interval in 1919—1920 in Japan as university professor of poetry, and was adopted by a group of young poets as their initiator into renascent efforts in their own language. The University and the Ministry of Education of Japan made him their first foreign Doctor of Literature.

Dr. Cousins came from India to America in 1929, and after two lecture-tours among universities and cultural organizations, became guest-lecturer on poetry for the year 1931—1932 in The College of the City of New York and course-lecturer on poetry in the extension department of the New York University.

The delight of audiences from coast to coast in his recitals of his poetry, with its aesthetical charm and mental stimulation and elevation, has created a demand for a representative selection from the twenty volumes of this world-traveled Irish poet.

This volume, *A WANDERING HARP*, meets the demand.



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AND HIS POETRY

EXTRACTS FROM REVIEWS OF HIS TWENTY VOLUMES

His extraordinary imaginative powers, his skill in painting word-pictures, and the glamor which he throws over all, are marvelous.
Irish Independent (Dublin).

Rarely is it the fortune of the reviewer to meet with verse of such distinction.
New Ireland Review (Dublin).

His verse, exquisitely fashioned, delights with its individual note.
Northern Whig (Belfast).

The piece leaves an impression of intense pleasure.
Weekly Irish Times, (Dublin).

It is a poem worthy of the name, passionate, musical and wise.
The Times Literary Supplement (London).

Rare and distinguished work which will be treasured by all who love beauty.
The Observer (London).

Many an English poet would willingly sacrifice a page or two of his consummate verse if he could only catch the charm of a lullaby like this.
The Times (London).

It has remained for Mr. Cousins, more sensitive and complex than his compatriots, to hear the call of his age more consciously than they; and it is left to him in grace and courage to declare it.
Studies in Contemporary Poets (Mary C. Sturgeon).

Although *The Sphere* has ceased to publish poetry, I cannot resist these lines by James H. Cousins . . . which cannot be praised too highly.
Clement K. Shorter.

Mr. Cousins' verse is lighted up with a vision which current poetry rarely possesses outside the few venerable names.
The Indian Educator (Madras).

These poems bear the impress of a master mind and master hand.
Current Opinion (India).

Several times since 1908 I have lectured on *The Sonnet*, and always I have saved Dr. Cousins' sonnet "Love's Advent" from "The Awakening" published in 1907 as the final gem and climax, and I have said that Shakespeare himself would have been proud to claim those sonnets.

Edgar White Burrill (at the Literary Vespers dinner in New York, November 1931).

In this volume, selected by the poet himself, the lover of poetry will follow the "wandering harp" of the Irish bard from its native land to England, India, Japan and America, as he sings of the beauty and alluring mystery of nature and life. His poems of love are among the noblest in world literature. Through all his song blows the breath of an idealism that caused *The Pall Mall Gazette* (London) to say: "It is the spiritual rather than the material that inspires him he is the poet of faith and hope and love, never of despair . . . the thinker, the poet, the man of courage, who draws sustenance, not poison out of the mystery of the universe."

Nothing is more urgently necessary in our time than poetry of such a kind, and we invite your cooperation in spreading it by subscribing for the volume, and by obtaining copies of this folder for distribution or sending us addresses to which to mail it.

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