Some Greek Poems of Love & Wine
By the same author

**SOME GREEK POEMS OF LOVE & BEAUTY**
SOME GREEK POEMS OF LOVE AND WINE

being a further selection from the Little Things of Greek Poetry made & translated into English

by

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TO
‘Q’
Preface

Readers of my former volume will not expect an Introduction to this. It may be as well, however, to note here that Greek drinking-songs often have other themes than drink—which is why so few of the little poems I have translated are what is generally meant by Bacchanalian. There is no doubt that most of them were sung, or written as if to be sung, over the wine. Now Alcaeus sings ‘Wine is a spy-hole unto man’, and Plato puts his great word-portrait of Socrates into the mouth of a friend who is tipsy. Perhaps then it is by no accident that these poems give the clear reflexion they do of the old Greek outlook, so childlike and yet somehow so very wise.

A few of these translations were first printed by Mr Peter Davies in Some Greek Love-Poems in 1929, one by Mr Heinemann in Lyra Graeca in 1927, and one by the Clarendon Press in the Oxford Book of Greek Verse in Translation this year.

I wish to thank all my critics for their kind words, and especially one who wrote that he now wished he had learnt Greek.

J. M. E.

10th March 1939
And wine that maketh glad the heart of man.

The Psalmist