

TYNESIDE CHARACTER SKETCHES

TYNE FOLK

MASKS, FACES AND SHADOWS

BY

JOSEPH PARKER

16mo

Cloth Decorated

75 cents

Every Tynesider is proud of the river on which he was born. Moses had his Nile, Naaman thought all the world of Abana and Pharpar, and beside the Chebar Ezekiel saw the heavens opened, and looked upon the visions of God. The Tyne is comparatively a little river, yet on its own scale it is as manifold as the Amazon or the Ganges; it is here and there a crystal stream, and lower down it is black with coal mines, and further on it is full of home-built ships ready for the open sea. The Tyne is quietly of opinion that some of its sons are among the mightiest, and not the less mighty that their modern record is other than military.

In this work Dr. Parker gives us, in the Idyll form popularized by the modern Scottish writers, a series of masterly pen-pictures of life among the inhabitants of a Tyneside village. The author is himself a Tynesider, and to write of the generally unlettered but always shrewd and intelligent people among whom he was brought up is to him a labor of love. The eleven sketches included in the volume, while independent stories, are much more closely connected with each other than is usual in works of this nature.

"Of all Dr. Parker's works, *Tyne Folk* is the favorite. It is both himself and the folk, but chiefly himself, of course. And he is himself the most interesting personality, both to himself and to us, that any of his books contains. Dr. Parker is not a dramatist. Like Byron's *Cain*, his Nathan Oxley and his John Morra, and even his Miss Black, are just himself. And the delight of it is that we have him when he does not know, and see him when he thinks we are looking at some other."—*Expository Times*.

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