Title: The Duties of Man and Other Essays

Author: Mazzini Giuseppe

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Of the seven essays contained in this volume the first has been translated specially for this edition by Miss Ella Noyes, the last appeared originally in the Fortnightly Review, June 1879, from the pen of Miss L. Martineau, the remaining five are reprinted from "Essays by Joseph Mazzini, most of them translated for the first time by Thomas Okey. Edited with an Introduction by Bolton King," London, 1894.
INTRODUCTION

I

Joseph Mazzini died on March 10, 1872. Two days later the Times recorded the event in these words: "We have to announce to-day the death of a man who in his time has played a most singular part upon the theatre of European politics; one whose name has for years been regarded as a symbol of Revolution, or rather Republicanism; one in whose personal character there were many fine and noble qualities; but still a man who was feared even more widely than he was loved, and one whose departure from the scene of action, to say the least, will be no unwelcome news to several crowned and discrowned members of the family of European sovereigns. He was the man who ever 'troubled Israel' by his ceaseless efforts in the cause of Republicanism, and now at length he is at rest. He died on Sunday at Pisa." A selection from the writings of this terror of principalities and powers is reprinted in this little book. The most timid and law-abiding citizen need not fear to turn over its pages. Two years ago the Italian people celebrated the centenary of Mazzini's birth. The King and his Ministers went in state to hear him eulogised; commemorations were held in the government schools by order of the Minister of Instruction; and the flags of Italy and England were wrapped around his monument.

Mazzini's name is not now as familiar to English ears as it was in the mid-Victorian period. Other days, other heroes. A Scottish university professor used sometimes to take a census of the students who had read Sartor as a rough test of Carlyle's place in the reading of young