

The poetry of
Mary Mark-Lemon

## Kings and Queens

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\begin{gathered}
\text { Ciro Pinsuti } \\
(1829-1888)
\end{gathered}
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Novello, Ewer, and Company
(1869-1885)

Ciro Ercole Pinsuti, il cavaliere, (1829-1888) was born in Sinalunga, Siena, Italy, and grounded in music and piano studies by his father. His public debut was at age ten and at eleven he was made honorary member of the Accademia Filharmonica. He then studied piano, composition and violin in England for five years. Returning to Italy, he entered the Conservatorio at Bologna and was a private pupil of Rossini. He moved back to England in 1848 and became a teacher of singing. In 1856 he was appointed a professor at the Academy of Music in London. He became well known as a composer with three operas, but was especially recognized for composing over 230 songs, 35 duets, 14 trios and 45 part-songs which were great favorites with the singing societies of England. In 1878, King Humbert created him a knight of the Italian crown. He died in Florence.

The Sky is the King of Sheds, and he holds his court on high, With the stars for his vassals, the clouds for his slaves, And the winds at his bidding to fly.

The Night is the Queen of Shades, she too holds court above, With the moon for her mirror, the dew for her tears, And the night flowers to claim her love!

The Sun is the King of Torches, he holds his courts alone; But he woos the earth for his lady fair, To share his own regal throne.

The Earth is the sweetest Queen, she holds her court the best, With the sun for her suitor, the sky for her friend, And the night for her children's rest.

Mary Mark-Lemon
née, Mary Kate Lemon Blaker (1853-1884)

Mary Kate Lemon Blaker (1853-1884) was born in St. Pancras, London, England. She authored several well-known song texts under the pseudonym Mary Mark-Lemon. Tragically, her husband Douglas Blaker died when she was only 26 and their son, born prematurely two weeks later, died within a few hours. She lived only a few years after those events and died in Wandsworth, London.

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