

Contents

	<i>Acknowledgements</i>	5
I	Limericks in General	9
II	How Pleasant to Know Mr. Lear!	18
III	Why 'Limerick'?	32
IV	Pioneers and Precursors	42
V	What Precisely is a Limerick?	63
VI	Popularity Post-Lear	76
VII	The Limerick's Range	99
VIII	Some Masters of the Art	118
IX	The Risqué, the Ribald and the Rancid	138
X	Variants	155
XI	Sequences	163
XII	Lines in Lesser Tongues	177
XIII	Ingenious Typographics	188
XIV	The 'Prose' Limerick	200
XV	The Latter-Day Revival	205
XVI	An Unholy Hierarchy	223
XVII	An Amorous Alphabet	228
XVIII	A Collegiate Collation	235
XIX	A Tribute of 'Learics'	244
	<i>References</i>	247
	<i>Bibliography</i>	257
	<i>Index to Limericks</i>	265
	<i>General Index</i>	271