

MULTITOPICS

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Multitopics by Constantine M. F. Dressel

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CONSTANTINE M. F. DRESSEL

MULTITOPICS

MULTITOPICS.

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DEDICATED TO
GROVER CLEVELAND.

MULTITOPICS

BY

Constantine M. F. Dressel,

AND

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Author's Edition.
New York.



C. M. F. Dressel
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OF THE FIRST PART OF MULTITOPICS.

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PREAMBLE.

NOTA BENE.

They are like essays,
Or miscellanies,
Yet multitopics.



PREFACE is either the author's *essoin* * for the existence of his book, or his enlightening preliminary discourse, if not both, and ought to introduce, what is worthy of perusal. In this respect deficiency would be a fault, and though the recognition of an error is naught to shame for, the consciousness of its non-committance is paramount in self-satisfaction, and of benefit, not only to ourselves, but also to our fellow-beings.

With these ends in view, I declare the copulation of multi † and topics, ‡ as the book itself, to be a creation of my own. It is manifest to all versed in literature, so much is already written, that it is nearly impossible, to scribe without stumbling in the ruts § of other writers, with regard to the themes; but that the literary merit lies in the different workings of the subjects. The paths of learning are not new; and only who deserves genius, is capable of originality, and possessed of the requisite honor, industry, tenacity and boldness, to pass adversity and attain immortal fame.

Books contribute much to influence our actions, and therefor should be elevating in morals, and aid us, like a true friend, in present aims, or to find fresh hopes for those forsaken. Variety ever lends greater interest to work, and thus in multitopics or manytalks, as the name implies, my

* excuse. † many. ‡ talks. § tracks.

P R E F A C E

inclination is towards promiscuity. Volume ought to be less important than quality, for too many works, like most orations, are not better for being lengthly. The thoughts should reflect urbanity; and the phraseology is improved by being comprehensible. To write is to be ambitious; and though a wish implies not its fulfilment, it has been my desire, to scribe a volume, destined to breathe* to posterity. I hold † the ostentatious conviction, that my lofty aim is herewith accomplished, and own ‡ to have had inspirations thereto. All it, I lived to deserve; yet it might be too venturesome, to entertain the wheedling belief, that MULTITOPICS would find universal appreciation, for tastes differ, and some despise what others delight||; and it can hardly be otherwise, in this peculiar world, where we suffer different rearings, or are thrown upon various rocks, and retain heterogeneous impressions. However Multitopics is more diverse than homogeneous, and who find therein nothing to satiate their individual fancies, have themselves to blame for possessing a character so remote from that of myself, the author.

* live. † have. ‡ admit. || relish.

Respect your own honor,
Then it will move you to,
Revere that of others.



J. V. V. V.



Forest Life.

BENEATH clear sky in the mountains,
 Mountains high and mountains low,
 There many natural fountains,
 Feed the lakes whence rivers flow.

There in the lakes the fishes thrive,
 And the trout, falls overbound;
 There the bees in hollow trees hive,
 While bears and deer gambol round.

On the mountains and the lakesides,
 There the whortleberries grow;
 And the blackcapse* at the rocksides,
 With the breeze wave to and fro.

There among trees the pine is found,
 The oak, the beech and walnut;
 And ferns and fungi brighten ground,
 Between birch, ash and chestnut.

There fivefingers, trail in the shade,
 Of linden, spruce and maple;
 And gayly flower'd is each glade,
 With daisies and the thistle.

* black raspberries