

**BRIEFS BY A
BARRISTER:
OCCASIONAL VERSES**

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Briefs by a Barrister: Occasional Verses by Edward R. Johnes

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EDWARD R. JOHNES

**BRIEFS BY A
BARRISTER:
OCCASIONAL VERSES**

To.

Cyrus W. Field Esq.
with the compliments of
his friend and admirer
the author

E. R. Holmes
University Club

March 20th 1878

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BRIEFS BY A BARRISTER

OCCASIONAL VERSES

BY

EDWARD R. JOHNES

NEW YORK
G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS
182 FIFTH AVENUE
1879.

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TO

HENRY WADSWORTH LONGFELLOW

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PREFACE.

The poems contained in this volume have been written at different times as fancy suggested a subject and time permitted its elaboration. A desire that the fruits of my labor should not be scattered and lost, together with a certain literary ambition have led to the publication of this volume.

My title is intended more to assert the often denied right of the Bar to express itself otherwise than in prose, than to mark the character of my verses, which were composed largely as relaxation from professional duties.

Previous to the dedication of this book I wrote to Mr. LONGFELLOW the following letter :

MY DEAR MR. LONGFELLOW :

The pleasure and advantage that I have derived from your works and the delight that I have experienced in your society, make me desirous of dedicating my first literary venture to you. I enclose the corrected proof that I may with better grace request your permission to inscribe it to you. I know the dedication can add no lustre to your name, and simply ask that I may add honor to my own.

Yours, sincerely, &c.,

In response to this I have had the honor of receiving a most kind letter from Mr. LONGFELLOW, expressing his willingness to accept the compliment, as he is good enough to call it, of my dedication; so that I am at least not chargeable with a forced dedication.

I now commit my little book, with mingled feelings of hope and fear, to the critics and the public.

THE AUTHOR.

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