

**AGNES AND THE LITTLE
KEY: OR, BEREAVED
PARENTS INSTRUCTED
AND COMFORTED**

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Agnes and the Little Key: Or, Bereaved Parents Instructed and Comforted by Nehemiah Adams

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NEHEMIAH ADAMS

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BY
NEHEMIAH ADAMS, D.D.,
BOSTON.

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PUBLISHERS' PREFACE TO THE TENTH EDITION.

WE are assured by the author of this book, that, in view of the sacredly private experiences which it contains, it would not have been published had he not supposed that special pains to conceal the authorship would be successful. On being published, the book was by common consent and without question ascribed to its true source. We have hitherto yielded to the author's wish in withholding his name from the title-page.

The book was soon, without any suggestion from this country, printed in London. The Rt. Rev. Archibald Campbell, Bishop of London, now Archbishop of Canterbury, had about that time excited the Christian sympathy of the British public by great domestic bereavements. The London publishers sought permission to dedicate the English edition of this book to him, which was done as follows:—

“To the Right Hon. and Right Rev. ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL, Lord Bishop of London, himself an earnest laborer in the field of Christian love, this volume, written by one who desires to impart to others the strength and consolation and hope vouchsafed to him in the house of mourning, is, by his Lordship's kind permission, most respectfully dedicated.”

The author of "Memorials of Captain Hedley Vicars" wrote a Preface to this English edition, from which the following is extracted:—

"A stranger to the author of this book, his name even unknown to me, I feel it to be almost a sacrilege to comply with the request to write a Preface for it; fearing lest any touch of mine should mar the delicacy, simplicity, and beauty of this memorial monument. . . . A single glance at these pages would have been introduction enough for the volume to mourners on this side of the Atlantic. It is the tone of simple truth, the reality, in this record of an earthly sorrow gradually glided and finally glorified by a Heavenly Hope and Faith, which renders it peculiarly suitable to mourners. . . . There is none of that dry, theological consolation, or hard, unsympathizing denunciation of all impassioned grief, too frequently assumed in books written for mourners. . . . He has spoken to his brothers and sisters throughout a mourning world. . . . It is a record of reaping in joy after sowing in tears."

"The Apostle Paul unto the Romanes writeth, Man shall reioice with hem that maketh joye, and wepen with swiche folke as wepen."

Chaucer.

CONTENTS.

CHAPTER I.

AGNES.—HER SICKNESS, DEATH, AND BURIAL.—

FINDING OF THE KEY 9

CHAPTER II.

WHAT SHALL I DO WITH THE KEY? 19

CHAPTER III.

PARENTAL SORROW AND SUBMISSION 29

CHAPTER IV.

CONSOLATIONS 35

CHAPTER V.

VISIT TO THE GRAVE WITH THE KEY. 45

CHAPTER VI.

INSTRUCTIONS AND COMFORT FROM THE KEY 63

CHAPTER VII.

ANNIVERSARIES OF BEREAVEMENTS	80
---	----

CHAPTER VIII.

BURIAL OF THE DROVER'S CHILD	103
--	-----

CHAPTER IX.

THE BEREAVED INFIDEL	127
--------------------------------	-----

CHAPTER X.

HELPING ONE'S SELF IN AFFLICTION	152
--	-----

CHAPTER XI.

LOSING AND LEAVING CHILDREN	169
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