EXTRACTS FROM VARIOUS AUTHORS AND FRAGMENTS OF TABLE-TALK

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Extracts from Various Authors and Fragments of Table-Talk by E. L. Hussey

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E. L. HUSSEY

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EXTRACTS, &c.

EXTRACTS

FROM VARIOUS AUTHORS;

AND

Fragments of Table-Talk;-

AFTERNOONS AT L

"A Common-place Book contains many notions in garrison, whence the Owner may draw out an Army into the field on competent warning."

FULLER, Selections by B. Montagu, p. 315.

Second Edition.

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273 F 2/18 8

W***** T***** Esq.

My dear Sir,-

The little book you gave me when I saw you lately,—the result of your reading in hours of leisure,—is the precedent; and it serves as the inducement to me to offer you in this form some of the "Fragments" which I have gathered in the short intervals granted to me of Study or Professional work.

That you may long live in health to enjoy the rest you have earned by steady work in a laborious Profession, — the duties of which you never neglected, — is the hearty wish of, —

among your many Friends, -

Your affectionate Cousin,

E. L. H.

Oxford, 1873.

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UTTERLY disapprove of the common practice of adopting references after verifying them, without naming the source whence they are taken; and, tedious as the double reference is, I never allow myself to dispense with it. When I cite a passage simply, I have found it out myself. He who does otherwise assumes the appearance of more extensive reading than belongs to him. Others may be less strict: nor should I blame them for it, if I can imagine that, it is really altogether indifferent to them whether they are believed to have engaged in more profound researches than they have done; or if, like some persons, they supposed it taken for granted that references are mostly borrowed.—NIEBUHR, Selected Letters, by the Rev. T. Chamberlain.

I. THE SUBJECT STATED.

N the lowest chamber there is a romance, if we knew all hearts.—RAHEL VARNHAGEN, Quarterly Review, vol. lxxiii, p. 156.

Cursus est certus ætatis, et una via naturæ, eaque simplex; suaque cuique parti ætatis tempestivitas est data; ut et infirmitas puerorum, et ferocitas juvenum, ut gravitas jam constantis ætatis, et senectutis maturitas, naturale quiddam habeat, quod suo tempore percipi debeat. — CICERO, De Senect. x.

The Education and Studies of early years are considered, before the Plan of Life is laid down.

In Childhood the delay of hope is only the prolongation of enjoyment; and through life indeed, hope, if it be of the right kind, is the best food of happiness. 'The house of Hope,' says Hafiz, 'is built upon a weak foundation.' If it be so, I say, the fault is in the builder: build it upon a rock, and it will stand. — Southey, The Doctor, Interchap 20.