

# **THE NEW PASTORAL**

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The New Pastoral by Thomas Buchanan Read

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**THOMAS BUCHANAN READ**

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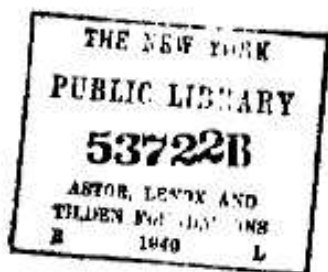
BY  
THOMAS BUCHANAN READ.

NEW EDITION—REVISED BY THE AUTHOR.

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1856.

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PHILADELPHIA:  
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TO  
A GROUP OF GENEROUS FRIENDS  
IN PHILADELPHIA,  
WITHOUT WHOSE ENCOURAGEMENT  
THESE PAGES MIGHT NEVER HAVE BEEN WRITTEN,  
THIS VOLUME, WITH GRATEFUL FEELINGS,  
IS DEDICATED  
BY  
THE AUTHOR.

*Florence, August 5th, 1854.*

WOR 19 FEB 30

1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions and activities. It emphasizes that proper record-keeping is essential for transparency and accountability, particularly in the context of public administration and financial management. The text highlights that records should be maintained in a clear, organized, and accessible manner, ensuring that all relevant information is captured and preserved for future reference.

2. The second part of the document addresses the challenges associated with record-keeping, such as the volume of data, the complexity of information, and the risk of data loss or corruption. It suggests that implementing robust data management systems and protocols can help mitigate these risks and ensure the integrity and security of the records. Additionally, the text stresses the importance of regular audits and reviews to verify the accuracy and completeness of the data.

3. The third part of the document focuses on the role of technology in enhancing record-keeping processes. It discusses the benefits of digital record-keeping systems, such as improved efficiency, reduced costs, and enhanced accessibility. The text also mentions the importance of ensuring that digital records are secure and protected from unauthorized access or tampering. Furthermore, it highlights the need for ongoing training and support for staff to effectively utilize these technologies.

4. The fourth part of the document discusses the legal and regulatory requirements for record-keeping. It notes that various laws and regulations govern the retention and disposal of records, and that organizations must ensure compliance with these requirements. The text emphasizes that proper record-keeping is not only a matter of good practice but also a legal obligation that can have significant consequences if not met.

5. The fifth part of the document concludes by summarizing the key points discussed and reiterating the importance of maintaining accurate and reliable records. It encourages organizations to adopt a proactive approach to record-keeping, ensuring that all necessary information is captured and preserved for the long term. The text also suggests that regular communication and collaboration between different departments and stakeholders can help ensure the effectiveness of the record-keeping process.



## INTRODUCTION.

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It from this oaten pipe—  
Plucked from the shadow of primeval woods,  
And waked to changeful numbers by strange airs,  
Born by my native stream, in leafy depths  
Of unfrequented glades—somewhat of song  
Pour through its simple stops, and wake again  
In other hearts what I have felt in mine,  
Then not in vain I hold it to my lips,  
And breathe the fulness of my soul away.

My theme, the country—worthier theme is not  
In all the tones which star the centuries,  
From blind Mæonides to Milton blind!  
Oh! would that I, with all my living sight,  
Might see the least of what their blank orbs saw;  
And seeing, wake but once their kindling note,  
And, unappalled, attempt their solemn bass;  
Then would the song behind the argument  
Halt at less distance. As it is, I sing.

Conscious of the disparity, and tremble,—  
As who might not? But what mine eyes have seen,  
Ears heard, heart felt, my muse shall teach in numbers;  
Not with a bondmaid's hand, but housewife's care,  
Who holds chaste plenty better than rich waste.  
And not of wars terrestrial or of heaven,  
Or of a hero, whose great name, ablaze  
With glory, lights the annals of an era,  
My pipe proclaims; but of that pastoral phase,  
Where man is native to his sphere, which shows  
The simple light of nature, fresh from God!—  
That middle life, between the hut and palace,  
'Twixt squalid ignorance and splendid vice;—  
Above, by many roods of moral moves,  
The Indian's want, and happily below—  
If the superior may be called below—  
The purple and fine linen;—the broad plain,  
Where rests the base of our protecting walls,  
Where many labour, though but few take note,  
And prop the world, as pillars prop a dome.  
Of trial and of triumph is my song,  
Of maidens fair and matronhood sublime,  
Of iron men who build the golden future,—  
Heroic wills, by which the flugest oak  
Is broken like a sapling; and to which  
The wilderness, the rank and noxious swamps,  
Inhospitable hills, renouncing all  
The incumbrances of ages, bow and bear  
The burthen of the harvest.—This my song.  
Scorn not the muse, because mid scenes like these  
She loves to wander; and, with calm delight,  
Prefers to dwell among the rustic homes,  
Where sweet Content, beside the well-swept hearth,  
Sits like an angel, and will not depart.

To this the plush and curtains of the proud,  
The stucco and thin gilding of the town—  
In halls where Luxury, excited, sees  
A thousand repetitions of herself  
Caught into shadowy corridors, afar,  
Of glass in glass interminably lost—  
Were cold and naked as the winter-shed,  
Through which the snow falls filtered to the floor,  
Piling the cheerless drift. Let me but look  
On Nature through the tranquil change of day—  
The common shade and sunshine—and on life  
Which, unambitious, seeks no other hues  
To show her fair, or hide deformities.  
Ye who would seek for aught, beside such light  
And beauty as are found in summer fields,—  
For theories new, where splendid errors shine,  
And charm like syrens, while they drown the soul,—  
For aught of song which, covertly, dispreads  
The seeds which shall breed poison in the dews,  
And round the foot of our great sheltering Tree,  
Give root to vines, with odours breathing bane,—  
For any mystery deeper than which lies  
Between the bounds of human woe and bliss,—  
May close these harmless pages and pass on:  
The truths I seek lie round us in the sun.  
There are whom neither sun nor shade delights—  
One warming not, the other is not grateful;  
Who rest so deeply dungeoned in themselves,  
No sound can waken, and no light attract;  
Who lay approving hands on Nature's head,  
Too wise to sit, recipient, at her feet:  
The applause of such lies not within the pale  
Of my ambition. Though my song may be  
The transient music of a spring-time rannel,