

**SCENES AND  
THOUGHTS IN  
EUROPE: FIRST SERIES**

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Scenes and Thoughts in Europe: First Series by George Henry Calvert

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**GEORGE HENRY CALVERT**

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THOUGHTS IN  
EUROPE: FIRST SERIES**



SCENES AND THOUGHTS  
IN EUROPE.

BY  
GEORGE H. CALVERT,  
AUTHOR OF "THE GENTLEMAN."

FIRST SERIES.

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## PREFACE

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CERTAIN classes of books are such favorites, that the responsibility of publishing them should be borne by the public. The eagerness with which they are read is a premium on their production. The traveller in foreign lands finds the privacy of his letters and journal encroached upon, while writing them, by the thought that they may be turned into "copy" for the printer. To so many others has this happened, that the possibility of its happening to himself cannot be kept out of his mind, spotting, it may be, the candor of his statements. Afterwards, when he has been at home long enough for the incidents of his journey to grow by distance of time into reminiscences, what he wrote on the spot comes upon him with unexpected freshness and distinctness. Himself gets information and entertainment from the perusal of his notes, letters, and diary. In this state

of semi-self-complacency, the public urgently invites him to its broad tables, — invites him through the kindness wherewith it has loaded so many of his book-blazoned fellow-travellers. He begins to criticise his manuscript; to shape it by excisions, by additions; to calculate quantity; to confer with a popular publisher, — who is of course in close league with the public, — until at last he finds that his manuscript has been made away with, and in its stead he has proof-sheets. His private doings, and seeings, and thinkings, and feelings, are about to cease to be private and to become public, and himself is to be thrust in every page personally before the world by the printers. He is in the case to claim the favor that is shown at a feast to a guest especially summoned for the entertainment of the company. The host is the public, whose part it is to bear with his waywardness, to be indulgent towards his shortcomings, to overlook his deficiencies. The author of the following little volume scarcely need add, that this claim of the author-guest is strong in proportion as he possesses the virtue, the rare virtue, of brevity.

*March, 1846.*



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## SCENES AND THOUGHTS IN EUROPE.

FIRST SERIES.



### I.

WORDSWORTH.

**T**HREE weeks since, I was in America: I am now, Wednesday morning, July 29th, 1840, writing from Ambleside, in Westmoreland county, an English village, distant but a mile from the dwelling of Wordsworth. Between noon and evening we have come to-day ninety miles; first by railroad from Liverpool to Lancaster, where we took outside seats on a coach to Kendall, and thence by post-chaise fourteen miles to Ambleside. An American, just landed in England, wants more than his two eyes to look at the beautiful, green "old country." For several miles the road lay along the bank of Lake Windermere, sleeping in the evening shadows, at the feet of its mountains, whose peaks were shrouded in mist, except that of Nabscar, on whose southern side near its base stands the poet's house.

So soon as we were established in the clean