

**THE NUTWOOD LIBRARY, NO. I.
THE LITTLE DON
QUIXOTE: A STORY FOR YOUTH.
TRANSLATED FROM THE GERMAN**

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The Nutwood Library, No. I. The Little Don Quixote: A Story for Youth. Translated from the German by Robert R. Raymond

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ROBERT R. RAYMOND

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A Story for Youth.

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BY

ROBERT R. RAYMOND.

SYRACUSE:

HALL AND HOPKINS.

A. S. BARNES & CO., NEW YORK.

1855.

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Dedicatory Preface

TO THE

BOYS AND GIRLS AT NUTWOOD.

MY DEAR CHILDREN :

Often, as you know, when I have chanced to read to you certain passages of story from books which had fallen in my way, written in other languages than your own, I have been besieged by your entreaties that I would add to your growing library by translating and publishing from these foreign treasures, and sometimes preparing original juvenile works. A few leisure months, under the chestnuts and oaks of our own dear home, have determined me to commence the preparation of such a course of

volumes, and I here present you with the first of a series, which, you see, I have christened with the name of the leafy spot where we have spent so many happy hours, and from whose delightful shades a new zest has been imparted to the pleasures of reading and conversation.

In introducing you to the "*Little* Don Quixote," it may not be unnecessary to tell the younger of you who the *great* Don Quixote was. Several hundred years ago, it was the custom for certain men of war, called knights, to spend their lives in travelling about the world for the purpose of righting the wrongs which everywhere abounded—protecting the weak against the strong, and avenging injured innocence. When this fashion began to pass away, the whole literature of the time was occupied with recounting the adventures, in love and battle, of these "knights errant," or wandering knights. To ridicule such foolish romances, Cervantes, a Spanish author, wrote the mock adventures of

“Don Quixote,” a poor crazy gentleman of La Mancha, whose head had been turned in reading the miserable novels to which I have alluded, and who went forth attended by “Sancho Panza,” a droll peasant, as a squire, to reform the abuses of the wicked world. These, of course, were not real characters, but creatures of the witty author’s brain.

You will probably need no more than this to enjoy the little story which I now present to you, hoping that you will be able to understand that it was written only against aimless and extravagant efforts to do good, and not to discourage true generosity and a self-sacrificing sympathy with the sorrows of others.

YOUR FATHER.

SYRACUSE, Nov. 29, 1854.

