

**THE ROCKY ISLAND, AND OTHER  
PARABLES. THE LITTLE  
WANDERERS. THE KING AND HIS  
SERVANTS. THE PROPHET'S  
GUARD**

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The Rocky Island, and Other Parables. The Little Wanderers. The King and His Servants. The Prophet's Guard by Samuel Wilberforce

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**SAMUEL WILBERFORCE**

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THE ROCKY ISLAND

THE ROCKY ISLAND,

AND

OTHER PARABLES.

By SAMUEL WILBERFORCE, M. A.

ARCHDEACON OF SURREY.

AUTHOR OF "AGATHOS" AND OTHER STORIES.

"Feed my lambs,"—S. JOHN XV. 15

NEW YORK :

PUBLISHED BY JOHN S. TAYLOR, BRICK CHURCH CHAPEL,

145 NASSAU STREET.

Opposite the Tract House.

1841.



## PREFACE.

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THE advertisement to a work of similar character to the present expresses the author's principle and wishes as to this little volume. It is constructed on the same plan; and, like the former, has had the test of the observations of his own children on its Parables before it was given to the public. The reception of "Agathos" has shewn that many parents have felt the want which these little volumes are intended to supply, and leads the author to hope that he has in some measure been able to meet it.



PREFACE.

It is a peculiar gratification to him to be able thus to enter many a Christian household, and fulfil, in some measure, his Master's charge, "Feed my lambs."

May it please God to give His blessing to this new attempt.

S. W.

*Winchester, Sep. 29, 1840.*

## THE ROCKY ISLAND.

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I SAW in my dream a rough rocky island rising straight out of the midst of a roaring sea. In the midst of the island rose a black steep mountain; dark clouds rested gloomily upon its top; and into the midst of the clouds it cast forth ever and anon red flames, which lit them up like the thick curling smoke at the top of a furnace-chimney. Peals of loud thunder sounded constantly from these thick clouds; and now and then angry lightning shot its forked tongue, white, and red, and blue, from the midst of them, and fell upon the rocks, or the few trees which just clung to their sides, splitting them violently down, and scattering

the broken and shivered pieces on all sides. It was a sad dreary-looking island at the first view, and I thought no one could dwell in it; but as I looked closer at its shores, I saw that they were covered with children at play. A soft white sand formed its beach, and there these children played. I saw no grown people among them; but the children were all busy—some picking up shells; some playing with the bright-coloured berries of a prickly dwarf-plant which grew upon those sands; some watching the waves as they ran up and then fell back again on that shore; some running after the sea-birds, which ran with quick light feet along the wet sand, and ever flew off, skimming just along the wave-top, and uttering a quick sharp note as the children came close upon them;—so some sported in one way, and some in another, but all were busily at play. Now I wondered in my dream to see these children thus busy whilst the burning mountain lay close be-