

**THE RETROSPECT; OR,  
REVIEW OF PROVIDENTIAL  
MERCIES: WITH ANECDOTES  
OF VARIOUS CHARACTERS**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649380282

The retrospect; or, Review of providential mercies: with anecdotes of various characters by  
Richard Marks

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**RICHARD MARKS**

**THE RETROSPECT; OR,  
REVIEW OF PROVIDENTIAL  
MERCIES: WITH ANECDOTES  
OF VARIOUS CHARACTERS**



THE  
RETROSPECT;  
OR,  
REVIEW OF PROVIDENTIAL MERCIES:  
WITH ANECDOTES OF VARIOUS CHARACTERS.

BY ALQUIS, *formerly a Lieut.*  
FORMERLY A LIEUTENANT IN THE ROYAL NAVY, AND NOW A MINISTER  
IN THE ESTABLISHED CHURCH.

*Robert Carter*  
Here much I ruminate, as much I may,  
With other views of men and manners now  
Than once, and others of a life to come.—Coxper.

FROM THE SEVENTEENTH LONDON EDITION.

NEW YORK:  
ROBERT CARTER,  
58 CANAL STREET.

1841.



## P R E F A C E

T O

THE FIFTEENTH EDITION.

---

SINCE the first edition of this little work, the writer has often been rebuked for not extending his narratives of others, and has as often been requested to communicate more circumstances connected with himself. To these rebukes and solicitations he continued to turn a deaf ear, from what he now believes to be mistaken motives. While lately doubting these motives, he cast his eyes on the title page, and read, "*The Retrospect; or, Review of Providential Mercies, &c.*" and his mind was considerably affected. Yes, he said, these pages are a retrospective glance at a few events which marked a limited portion of my days. With gratitude and surprise I perceive that *fourteen* editions of these humble tales

have gone into the world, and with sorrow and confusion I have to confess, that nothing has been added to the original matter. His conscience smote him: a voice seemed to ask, "Have you, during all this period, recollected nothing more of the Lord's goodness and mercy, either before you embarked on the sea, or while you were there? And has nothing transpired during all the years that have fled since you wound up your Retrospect, worthy of being recorded to the praise of the riches of divine grace?" He paused, reflected, and felt himself condemned in that he had not made known some more circumstances connected with himself and with others, as well before he embarked, and while he was afloat, as since he had quitted a maritime life. Under these impressions he resumed his pen, and not only added various paragraphs to several of the original tales, but also drew up the nine additional Chapters, which in this edition are numbered as I, XII, XIV, XV, XVI, XVIII, XIX, XX, and XXI.

To such readers as were interested with the work in its former size and limited range, it is hoped and believed that this enlarged edition will



prove acceptable. If, in these additional chapters, the writer has detailed many little things concerning himself, it has been, he can most solemnly declare, with the view of glorifying God, and of encouraging his readers to attempt such-like duties whenever Providence may throw them within their reach. That such may be the result, he most sincerely prays; while at the same time he would praise and adore that condescending grace which has gone with the former editions so greatly beyond all his hopes and expectations.

What was stated in the former preface may here be repeated, namely, that the reader must not look for a regular and unbroken history, either of the state of the writer's mind, or of all the events which made up the years under review. For even in this *enlarged edition* the chapters convey but a partial, and often an unconnected account of both; and these, not unfrequently interspersed with other matters. System has never, in this work, been any part of his plan, and must not be looked for by the reader. His aim and desire have rather been so to construct each chapter, that of itself it might pro-

duce some facts and reflections, which, by the blessing of God, would exhibit proofs of the mercy and kind providences of heaven as continually attending on, and over-ruling the events of human life, and all the affairs of men; that so in this, as in all things, God might be glorified through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

R. M.

THE  
RETROSPECT.

---

CHAPTER I.

“FOOLISHNESS IS BOUND IN THE HEART OF A CHILD.”

PROV. xxii. 15.

YES, and such “*foolishness*” as constitutes *sin*; for, be it remembered, that the terms “*fool*” and “*foolishness*” are employed in holy writ to convey a meaning far more solemn and emphatic than is now generally attached to them. The “*fool*” is, in fact, one who wilfully disobeys or denies the authority of God; and “*foolishness*” means that innate self-will, and propensity to, and delight in disobedience to the divine commands, which we find in the heart of every unrenewed child of Adam. Hence, it is one of the great and gracious works of the Holy Spirit, in regenerating mankind, to supplant this “*foolishness*,” and to make them wise unto salvation, by a heart-purifying faith in Jesus Christ, a faith which works by love, and constrains to a willing and unreserved obedience. Thus does the rod of divine correction and mercy drive it out; and no sooner is this work accomplished, than the subject of so necessary and mo-