

**CHILDREN IN LITERATURE:  
SELECTIONS FROM THE WORKS  
OF VICTOR HUGO, CHARLES  
DICKENS, AND GEORGE ELIOT**

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Children in Literature: Selections from the Works of Victor Hugo, Charles Dickens, and George Eliot by Mary H. Husted

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**MARY H. HUSTED**

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# Children in Literature

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VICTOR HUGO, CHARLES DICKENS,  
AND GEORGE ELIOT*

BY  
MARY H. HUSTED

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## PREFACE

THE most valuable equipment which a school can give to its boys and girls is a love of good literature. It is a builder of character; it gives a command of good language that can be gained in no other way; it gives a knowledge of human nature, and supplies not only standards in language but right ideals; and as Anthony Trollope says, "Book love, my friends, is your pass to the greatest, the purest, and the most perfect pleasures that God has prepared for his creatures."

The best books are not for scholars only, for great books that deal with elemental truths and characters may be given to the young and be better appreciated than many written especially for them. John Ruskin says: "The greatest books contain food for all ages."

There has been for the past few years a most commendable movement in the public schools to bring before the children the great literature of the world. This little book is sent forth in the hope that it may aid this movement and have its influence in the right direction, leading some young people to desire a fuller ac

quaintance with the authors of the selections herein adapted.

Children will not read because they are told it is good for them; the key-note to a love for good reading is *interest*. When that has been awakened, they will do the rest with a little wise guidance. Knowing the interest children take in stories about children has led the writer to look for these in good literature, and the result is herein set forth.

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**THE STORY OF COSETTE**

*(From "Les Misérables")*

**VICTOR HUGO**

