

**NEW PLAYS FROM OLD
TALES, ARRANGED FOR
BOYS AND GIRLS**

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New plays from old tales, arranged for boys and girls by Harriet Sabra Wright

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HARRIET SABRA WRIGHT

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NICOLETTE

NEW PLAYS FROM OLD TALES

ARRANGED FOR

BOYS AND GIRLS

BY

HARRIET SABRA WRIGHT

ILLUSTRATED BY

LEON D'EMO

New York
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1921

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INTRODUCTION

THIS book follows in the footsteps of the early minstrels whose welcome depended on their ability to refresh and entertain their hearers when they told of love and adventure. To that end they adorned their tales with music and gesture and were the forerunners of the strolling players who pleased the mediæval multitude.

Our stock of plays has grown by degrees from stories enjoyed by boys and girls in the Reading Clubs of the New York Public Library. Because they found favor with parents and friends of club members we venture to share them with a larger audience. The purpose of story telling and club work in the library is to arouse deeper and more varied interests in reading. This has influenced the choice of stories dramatized. We have tried to keep the style and charm of the master story tellers whose work we have adapted, and trust that the plays will be given with due regard for literary atmosphere and appropriate settings. The stage may be small and arrangements simple but imagination and fancy need not be limited.

When we find that young people of the twentieth century go gladly back to the thirteenth with a wandering minstrel as their guide, we feel justified in restringing the minstrel's old harp to give Romance its cue. Story Telling and Play Acting are called upon to do their part nowadays in making good citizens. That

they may also give boys and girls the freedom of the Divine City of Romance is our pious wish.

H. S. W.

New York City,
1921.