

**STRATAGEMS: A
STORY FOR
YOUNG PEOPLE**

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Stratagems: A Story for Young People by Mrs. Newton Crosland

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MRS. NEWTON CROSLAND

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vide p. 133.

TINY'S DISCOVERY.

STRATAGEMS:

A

Story for Young People.

BY

MRS. NEWTON CROSLAND,

(LATE CAMILLA TOULMIN.)

" Truth is always consistent with itself, and needs nothing to help it out; it is always near at hand, and sits upon our lips, and is ready to drop out before we are aware; whereas a lie is troublesome, and sets a man's invention on the rack; and one trick needs a great many more to make it good."—
TILLOTSON.

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TO

HER YOUNG RELATIVES

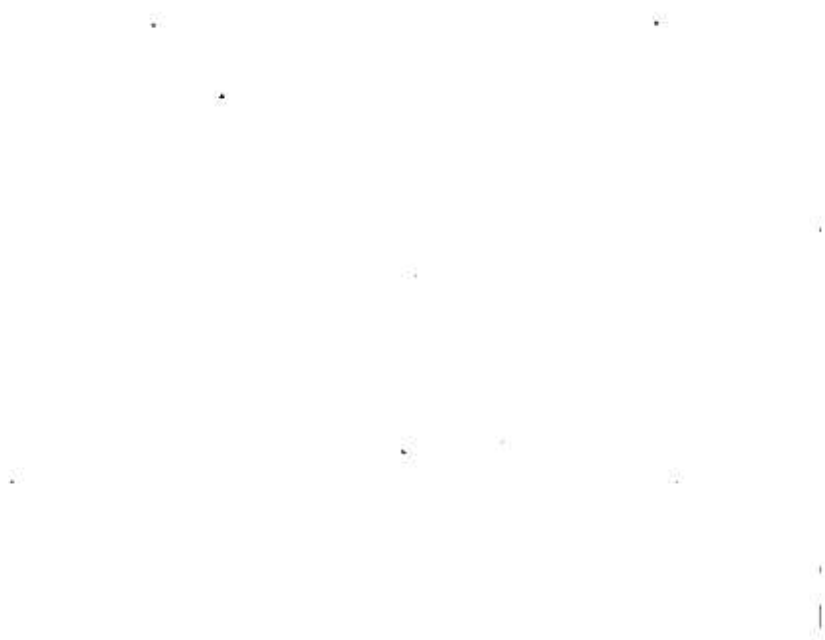
AT

Wauering atte Bower, Essex,

THIS LITTLE VOLUME

IS AFFECTIONATELY INSCRIBED,

BY THE AUTHOR.



STRATAGEMS.

CHAPTER I.

THE ARRIVAL.

"I KNOW, mamma, you cannot tell me positively, but say, do you *think* aunt Catherine will be here to-day?" asked Helen Beecham, stopping suddenly in the middle of rather a difficult passage she was practising.

"My dear Helen," replied Mrs. Beecham, "this is the third time you have turned from the piano within the last quarter of an hour to ask me the same question; and I can only answer

you, I do not know. The vessel from Bengal, by which we expect my sister, was telegraphed as in the Channel yesterday; and I hope by this time your papa has arrived safely at Portsmouth, in readiness to meet her. But your aunt, invalid as we know she is, may require rest after the fatigue of disembarking, and be unable to start immediately on a long journey."

"Railroad travelling is very little fatiguing," said Helen. "I think aunt Catherine will be here to-night."

"I hope so," returned Mrs. Beecham; 'meanwhile, as I foresee several holidays for you within the next few weeks, I recommend you to make the most of this morning, and practise for at least another hour with care and attention.