

SHORT WORDS FOR LONG EVENINGS

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Short Words for Long Evenings by E. Wordsworth

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E. WORDSWORTH

**SHORT WORDS FOR
LONG EVENINGS**

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BY
E. WORDSWORTH,
Author of "Thoughts for the Chimney Corner."

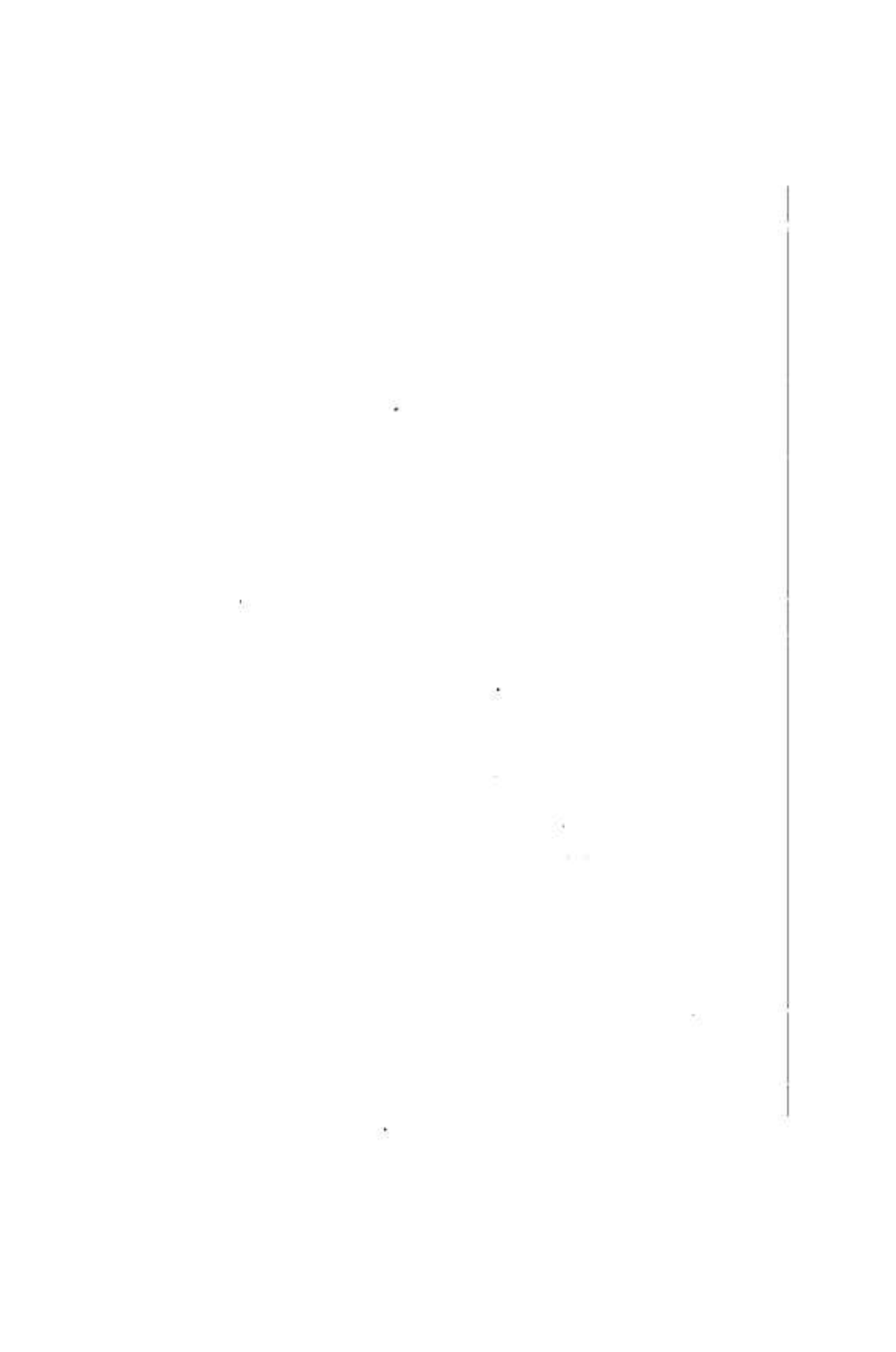
Or, if the air will not permit,
Some still, removed place will fit,
Where glowing embers through the rooves
Teach light to counterfeit a gloom;
Far from all resort of mirth,
Save the cricket on the hearth,
Or the bellman's drowsy charm
To bless the doors from nightly harm.



MILTON.

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1875.

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P R E F A C E.

SOME of the readers of the "Chimney Corner" having kindly expressed a wish for a few more papers in the same style, the present little volume has been written, the object being, as before, to furnish those who have few opportunities for quiet thought apart from their daily life, with something that may remind them *in* and *by* the very life they live, the tools they habitually use, and the circumstances that commonly surround them, of the unseen, the permanent, and the divine. One or two of the present series will, perhaps, be found too difficult for the very poor in our agricultural parishes. The writer has had no opportunity of trying the experiment. Perhaps the class just above the poorest would not find them so. Speculative difficulties will occur to persons of a certain cast of mind, whether they have had the benefits of what is called "education" or not; it seems to be in the nature of things, for thinkers, as well as poets, are born—not made.

As on a previous occasion, selections of Hymns, and texts of Scripture, have been added. Perhaps

any one in the habit of holding mothers' meetings, or other gatherings of a similar kind, would be able, by a little preparation beforehand, to present the thoughts thus grouped together in a more intelligible form than could be done by a mere hasty reading of portions of Scripture.

A few words of comment from the reader or speaker, (whose familiarity with the listeners' faces will soon discover when they have grasped an idea and when they have not,) will often be able to supply some little link, some trifling explanation of a 'hard word,' some missing clue for the elucidation of a difficulty which could not have been anticipated by the author. To the kind offices of such, and with sincere wishes and prayers for the success of all their good endeavours, the following pages are now commended,

St. Matthew's Day,

1874.

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It will be seen that Nos. 1 and 4 have no Scripture references assigned to them, as the transition seemed too abrupt, owing to the less serious character of the papers.

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	Deut. viii; Isa. xxxix; Dan. iv. Hymn 341, (Ancient and Modern,) "Jesus, Lord of life and glory."
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	Ps. cxxxi; and perhaps Isa. lxxv, 17 to end, and lxxvi, 5—14; Mark x, 13—32. Hymn 140, "O thou, from whom all goodness flows;" 142, "Brief life is here our portion."
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	Ps. li; 2 Kings v; John xiii, 1—18; Rom. vi; 1 Cor. x, 1—14; or, with a few words of explanation, Ezek. xlvi, 1—13, compared with Rev. xxii, 1, 2; or John, iv, 1—27, and xix, 34, compared with 1 John v. Hymn 150, "Rock of Ages;" 327, "When wounded sore;" 317, "I heard the voice of Jesus say;" 155, "A living stream," &c.

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