

**A BOOK FOR A CORNER;
OR, SELECTIONS IN
PROSE AND VERSE; VOL. I**

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A Book for a Corner; Or, Selections in Prose and Verse; Vol. I by Leigh Hunt

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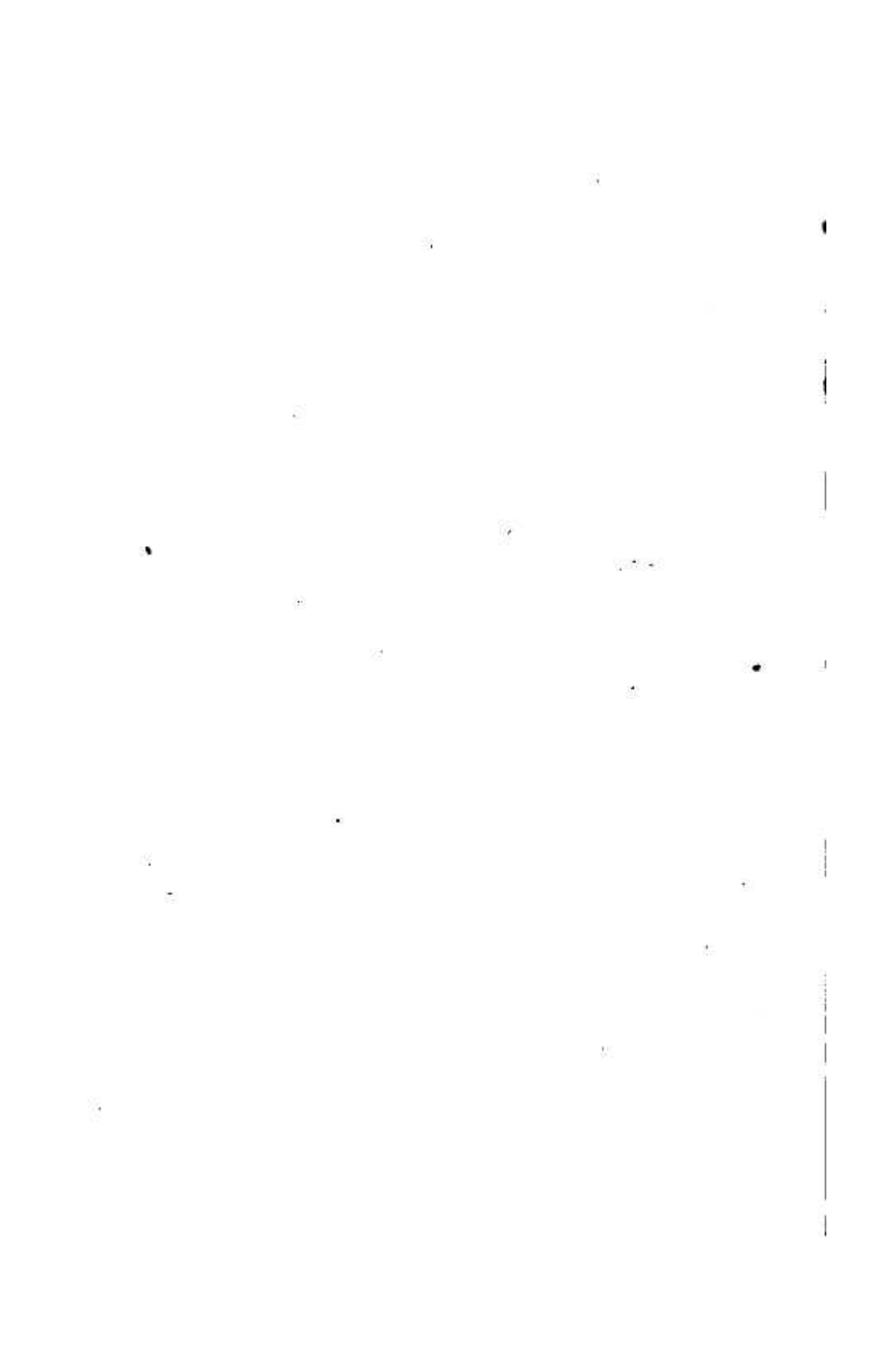
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LEIGH HUNT

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PROSE AND VERSE; VOL. I**

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A BOOK FOR A CORNER;

OR

Selections in Prose and Verse

FROM AUTHORS

THE BEST SUITED TO THAT MODE OF ENJOYMENT:

WITH COMMENTS ON EACH, AND A GENERAL INTRODUCTION,

BY LEIGH HUNT.

ILLUSTRATED WITH EIGHTY WOOD ENGRAVINGS, FROM DESIGNS BY
F. W. HULME AND J. FRANKLIN.

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PREFACE.

AN ample account of the nature of this work will be found in the *Introduction*; but to give a brief and more general idea of the entertainment which it is proposed to set before the purchaser, it may be as well to state in this place, that the book, for the most part, is a collection of passages from such authors as retain, if not the highest, yet the most friendly and as it were domestic hold upon us during life, and sympathize with us through all portions of it. Hence the first extract is a Letter addressed to an Infant, the last the Elegy in the Churchyard, and the intermediate ones have something of an analogous reference to the successive stages of existence. It is therefore intended to be read by intelligent persons of all times of life, the youthful associations in it being such as the oldest readers love to call to mind, and the oldest such as all would gladly meet with in their decline. It has no politics in it, no polemics, nothing to offend the delicatest mind. The innocentest boy and the most cautious

of his seniors might alike be glad to look over the other's shoulder, and find him in his corner perusing it.

This may be speaking in a boastful manner ; but an Editor has a right to boast of his originals, especially when they are such as have comforted and delighted him throughout his own life, and are for that reason recommended by him to others.

He would also claim for it a merit, great in the wise eyes of children, and becoming greater every day in those of the community at large ; namely, that of its being a Book of Pictures. If he had had the pleasure of having the artist at his elbow, he might have requested him to make a little change in two or three instances, such as omitting the bird-cage on the old lady's table, and making the approach to his Castle of Indolence a little more easy ; but he has enjoyed his landscapes and his domesticities, has walked with great satisfaction in his bowery places, and returns him special thanks for the abode of the Schoolmistress.

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