THE SECRET BOOK

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The secret book by Edmund Lester Pearson

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EDMUND LESTER PEARSON

THE SECRET BOOK





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The SECRET BOOK Lt



BY

EDMUND LESTER PEARSON

AUTHOR OF "THE VOYAGE OF THE HOPPERGRASS";
"THE OLD LIBRARIAN'S ALMANACK"; ETC.



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1914

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JOHN COTTON DANA, ESQ.

Sir:-

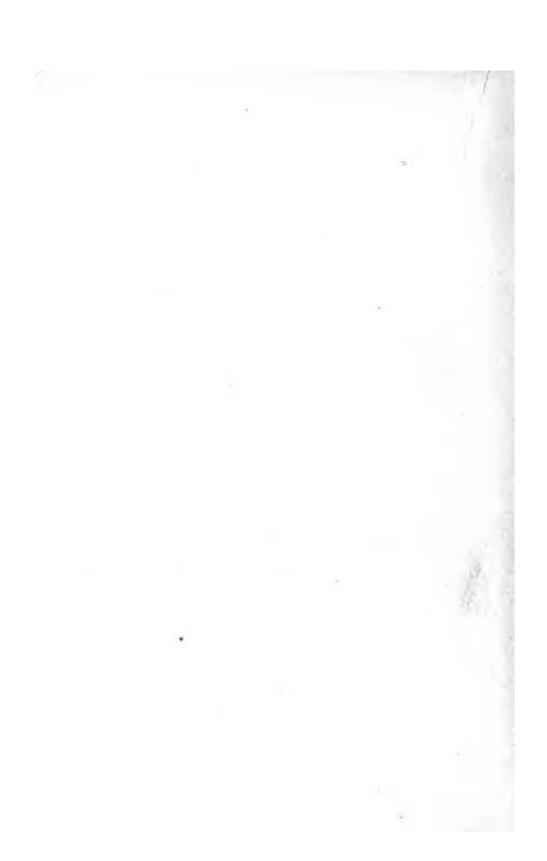
To you, a lover of books, not only for their contents, but for their dress and appearance, I would like to bring one written, printed, and even bound by my own hands. I had best stick, however, to the only one of those arts which I know.

Here is the book, then,—I will not say "such as it is," nor "an ill-favoured thing, but mine own," nor use any of those phrases of mock-modesty. It gave me pleasure to write, and, I hope, will give you pleasure to read.

Moreover, it is to remind you not only of gratitude felt for a word of encouragement spoken at the right moment, but also of those lucky days when I chanced upon The Old Librarian's Almanack, that secret book of Jared Bean, which you and your Brothers so ingeniously set forth in type. How some, of severe and acid turn of mind, preached unto us upon the state of our morals! And how many others, of generous temper, rejoiced and made merry with us! Will you ever forget?

I am, Sir,
Your Good Friend, and
Oblig'd, Humble Servant
EDMUND LESTER PEARSON

NEWBURYPORT February 11, 1914.



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NOTE

A large part of this book has been contributed, in different form, to the Boston Evening Transcript. Some of it is printed now for the first time.

E. L. P.