

**ESSAYS AND
NATURE STUDIES:
WITH LECTURES**

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Essays and Nature Studies: With Lectures by W. J. C. Miller

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W. J. C. MILLER

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NATURE STUDIES:
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W. J. C. MILLER, B.A.Lond.

*Benjamin Baker from the
Loving Mother Mary O.*

ESSAYS AND
NATURE STUDIES

WITH LECTURES

BY

W. J. C. MILLER, B.A.LOND.

Late Registrar General Medical Council, and Mathematical Editor of "The Educational Times"; formerly Vice-Principal of Huddersfield College

EDITED, WITH INTRODUCTION, BY H. KIRKE SWANN

"Nature never did betray
The heart that loved her; 'tis her privilege,
Through all the years of this our life, to lead
From joy to joy."

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PREFACE.

THE essays and articles here presented to the reader represent for the most part the outcome of the thoughts and studies and observations of a busy man, made in the intervals of his severer labours. Their author was, in his active days, a mathematician of repute, a profound scholar, a man of long experience in educational work, both by pen and voice, and a painstaking editor and registrar. The contents of the volume comprehend two classes or descriptions of literature, yet the dividing line is withal so fine that the two blend happily. There are in the first part of the volume some papers on the observation of Nature and kindred subjects, some of them reprinted from the pages of *Nature Notes*, and other journals, which are not inaptly termed "Nature Studies." They have no pretence to be *scientific* articles, and are collected and printed here because it is believed that they present enough of observation of Nature and her ways, coupled with enough of good English and happily conveyed directions for the profitable employment of leisure time, to warrant their preservation.

The literary and critical essays printed in the latter part of the volume need little comment beyond the remarks that they were originally written as lectures, and in that form have been delivered on various occasions by their author to highly appreciative audiences.

One of the main objects of this volume, however, is to present to the many friends of Mr. Miller an enduring memorial of his more active days, now unfortunately spent, and to preserve in tasteful form such of his articles as may have met with appreciation. It is to be regretted that, on account of no good recent photograph being obtainable, a better portrait could not be given than the one which is presented, which, indeed, was only reproduced with considerable difficulty.

H. K. S.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
INTRODUCTION :—Biography of W. J. C. Miller	ix
I.—The Pleasures of Rambles—by Lane, Field and Moorland	1
II.—Nature Pleasures in a Riverside Garden	13
III.—A Bird-loved Suburb of London	18
IV.—Bird-life in London	33
V.—The Habits of the Domestic Swan	39
VI.—The Arthurian Headland	43
VII.—A Devonian Headland	59
VIII.—A Bird-haunted Pine-grove	66
IX.—The Home of the Jackdaws	70
X.—The Summer Homes of the Sea-birds	77
XI.—Nature Poetry	82
XII.—The Literary Charm of Scenic Associations	93
XIII.—Henrik Ibsen : A Dramatic Pioneer	108
XIV.—The Rise, Development and Progress of the English Drama	138
XV.—Ingoldsby	163
XVI.—James Thomson : The Bard of Richmond	176
XVII.—The Poetry of Byron	205

