

**RONALD AND I OR
STUDIES FROM LIFE**

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Ronald and I Or Studies from Life by Alfred Pretor

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ALFRED PRETOR

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ALFRED PRETOR

CAMBRIDGE

DEIGHTON BELL & CO.

LONDON GEORGE BELL & SONS

1899

PREFACE

Several of the following sketches have appeared already in the *Cambridge Review* and the *Cantab.* Perhaps the friends who welcomed them then may welcome them now, on their reappearance in another and more permanent form.

The story of "Our Rector" has been received in episcopal quarters with polite incredulity. It may be that episcopal supervision was less far-reaching in those days than now. At any rate, the things I have narrated, and things stranger still, *did* occur in our village, and in all essential details, including the postprandial cigar, the story of "Our Rector" is a literal "study from life."

I would forget, if I could, that the "Cruel, Crawling Foam" is also a record of fact.

A. P.

CAMBRIDGE,
May, 1899.

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*To Mrs. Thomas Hardy
who suggested and
encouraged the writing
of these tales*



CONTENTS

	PAGE
RONALD AND I :	
Broadwater : a Shadow from the Past.	1
On the Race Course at Bayview	25
On the Sands	31
Our Rector	41
Echoes from an Organ Loft.	55
Fighting the Cholera	67
Ronald's Courtship	79
Judy, or Retrieved	99
The Professor	117
The Cruel, Crawling Foam	133
Our Queen	143
BINDO : a Sketch	155
'DECLINED WITH THANKS' : a Postscript.	181