YOUTH'S KEEP-SAKE: A NEW-YEAR, CHRISTMAS, AND BIRTH-DAY PRESENT, FOR BOTH SEXES

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Youth's Keep-Sake: A New-Year, Christmas, and Birth-Day Present, for Both Sexes by John C. Riker

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JOHN C. RIKER

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INTRODUCTION.

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At the present enlightened period, when every department of literature has a thousand votaries, who devote unsparingly, their wealth, energy, industry, and talent, at the intellectual shrine; it were, perhaps, a presumption to profess to have discovered an especial excellence, peculiarly calculated to promote any branch of mental cultivation. But though the multitude of competitors in the literary arena, preclude a possibility of an author or publisher claiming transcendant merit for any offering submitted to the reading world, it may still be very possible to devise a work, so precisely adapted to a given object, that all its pretensions may not only be sustained, but that it may be made honorable mention of among its competers.

Books for the perusal of the youthful abound in all the land; some good, some indifferent, some so foolish, that the human intellect is degraded both in the authorship and reading. And in writing, or compiling a work de-

THE STREET

INTRODUCTION.

signed to have an influence, and leave its impress, on the character yet unformed, and the mind yet uninstructed, there are many errors to be avoided, many essentials to be attained.

'The original articles in this work, having been written expressly for it, by several gentlemen who have long been before the public in capacity of writers, it is boped, will meet the same degree of approbation that has been *0 often awarded to other emanations from the same sources.

This little volume is now commended to the patronage of an intelligent and generous community, without further comment or apology, hoping that its faults will be excused by all, and its suitableness to the end proposed be quite apparent.

iv

CONTENTS.

G4

												3 g a.
INTRODUCTION	£	ä	÷	•	¥.			-				- 3
The Mask. B	y Mrs.	. Sar	rent	H 3		3. 1 .2	3 H	÷				7
A Puzzie		-	÷	¥.,	÷		-	1	¥.	43		20
Jeasy of Kibe'	e Farm	. B	Min	* M.	R. 1	Mitfo	rd		•	•	1963	25
Emily -	1	25	÷	21	-	-			-	22	-	36
Motto for the	Bible.	By J	. Mo	digos	the state	. Eng	2 ¹⁰²		•			37
Tale of the Chi								the F	lowe	r sho	**	
and "the				100	4	24.	4			2010-0010 #25	14.3	39
On Visiting th	e Sylv	an Co	ttage	, inh	abice	d by	Mint	Han	nah]	fore a	and	
her Sister											100	50
The Morning								1.00	-	-		52
Anecdotes of \$							omas	Prin	gle, E	ing.		54
Imitation of C											•00	59
A Little Boy's											25	62
Children at P								-		-		71
The Lost Gir						S., 1	64		. A.,	÷.		73
The Anemoni						dwar	d W	shih,	M. D	1996	•	82
The Blow Fo			4	2	2	-	12.	-	24			66
The Nut Cras		By M	ins J.	ewaba	ury,		8.00	3.00	3 -			91
The Descried						Boy	. B	Mis	Bo	fand	-	94
Frank and hi							° 8'		+	- 1900 - 1910	+	107
Home -	-	. '			2	÷.						112
Stanzae				1	20		- 23			-	2	123
The Nutting	Party.	By	Miss	Hof	basi				÷			124
The Recall.									S.		1	138
Lines written					rian	1 + A	bum.	By	Mis	Mit	ford	139

\$

CONTENTS.

									Page.
The Two Soliloquies ; or, The	Idle	Boy,	aik	the	Idle	Boy	become	а.	2 (See 1
Man. By Miss Jewebury			•						141
The Quarries under Paris			÷.	4	-				144
Hobe. By Frederick Muller	2 2	(-)	÷	1	-	÷	1.00	-	150
Children of the Lake -	2	\$9		÷.		2	-		152
The Stream's not deep Llerena			•	-			40		164
The Birds and the Beggar of Be	gdal	. By	Mi	n Je	wsbu	TY	4		165
The wind in a Frolic. By Wil						-	-		173
Story of the Two Pigeons ; or,	To	oblige	qui	ckly.	in te	o obli	ge twic	e.	
By Miss Jewsbury -	-			-	-	- E		-	176
Pass of the Green Mountains		(e. 1)				$\pi \leq$		-	183
Epitaph Extraordinary .	38			-		13		-	198
The Bereaved Parent -		•3		\sim	\approx	-	- e - i		199
Childhood	÷.,	£.,	4	2	-	- Q2	<u>.</u>	-	204
The Broken Pitcher. By Riche	ard H	lowitt			\sim	÷	1.00	-	203
Domestic Chit-Chat; or, A W	ord t	o the	Inju	red	By	Mrs.	Hoffas	hd	205
Lines. By Miss J. E. Roscoe		-		-			2 M () () () () () () () () () (215

LIST OF ENGRAVINGS.

VIGNETTE Tit	e Pa	ge	(*)		24		æ	83			22	
Emily and her	Kitte	m	- 25	1		12	33			-	-	36
. The Lost Girl	1.	°ж	85			- 22		-	-		4	78
Home			-		1.40	-	171	7.5	107.03	0.05.20		121
Children of the	Lak	0							Jui	+1 in	4	156
Lierena Crossi	ng th	o Bre	ok	•10				•				164
The Weeping I	Moth	. 36	2.	3 - 3	-	-	2	9			-	193
Childhood	÷.		• 1		2.5			7 2	· .		2.0	201
									100	•		11416-6

610

vi	

۰,

THE MASE.

By Mrs. Sargant.

"What a coward you are, Jamie," cried George Gordon to his cousin, as with his younger brother and sister they were proceeding in Farmer Wilson's light cart on a visit to the Abbey Farm; "I really think you have not spirit enough to face a mouse. Do you know," continued he, turning to the good man who himself drove them, "my cousin Jamie is the greatest coward alive. If you were only to say in a whisper to him, 'Hark! Jamie, what's that—don't you see something move yonder? he would turn as white as a sheet, and tremble from head to foot; and if he was not too much frightened, would run away as fast as his legs could carry him."

"Oh George," interrupted the little fellow who seemed about ten years of age, and whose delicate appearance was strongly contrasted by his cousin's robust and healthy aspect, and superior height, though only a year older, "I am not so

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