

**THREE HOURS; OR,  
THE VIGIL OF LOVE:  
AND OTHER POEMS**

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Three Hours; Or, The Vigil of Love: and Other Poems by Mrs. Sarah Josepha Hale

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**MRS. SARAH JOSEPHA HALE**

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BY

LC

MRS. SARAH JOSEPHA HALE, ✓

AUTHOR OF "NORTHWOOD," "TRAITS OF AMERICAN LIFE,"  
ETC., ETC.

~~~~~  
"Love? I will tell thee what it is to love:—  
It is to build with human thoughts a shrine,  
Where Hope sits brooding, like a beautiful dove;—  
Where Time seems young, and Life a thing divine."  
~~~~~

PHILADELPHIA:

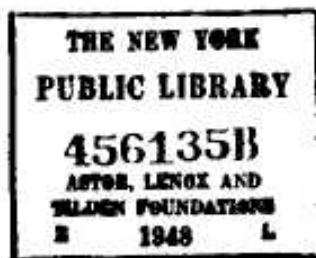
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1848.

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TO  
THE READERS  
OF  
THE LADY'S BOOK,

OF WHICH, FOR TEN YEARS, I HAVE BEEN EDITOR,

AS TO MY VERY DEAR FRIENDS,

THESE POEMS

Are Affectionately Inscribed

BY

THE AUTHOR.





## PREFACE.

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It is often said that poetry is not of much account in this practical age. Yet the young always love poetry; and America is the land of youth and hope. The truth is, that besides having easy access to all the literature of past ages, so many poetical works attract and divide the attention, that no one writer, either ancient or modern, receives the homage of old offered to the Bards. Still, there are many, many readers of poetry, and warm admirers of the "art divine," and the writer of these Legends feels assured her friends—the whole world of the Lady's Book—will give this little work a cordial reception. Some of the shorter poems will be familiar to them; but the volume will be mostly new to the public.

(vii)

As an attempt to impart poetical interest to the ordinary events of woman's life, and show glimpses of domestic character connected with early American history, the author believes the larger poems, particularly the first, will be found to possess originality of design. This first poem was never before printed, the last never published, though a small edition was issued for a charitable purpose. In preparing these Legends, the author has scrupulously sought to devote whatever talents she may possess to the grandest purpose of the true Bard :—

—————"For amid all life's quests,  
There seems but worthy one—'t is to do good."

NOVEMBER, 1847.

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