

**STARS OF EARTH;
OR, WILD FLOWERS
OF THE MONTHS**

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Stars of Earth; Or, Wild Flowers of the Months by Leigh Page

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LEIGH PAGE

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STARS OF EARTH.

Frontispiece.

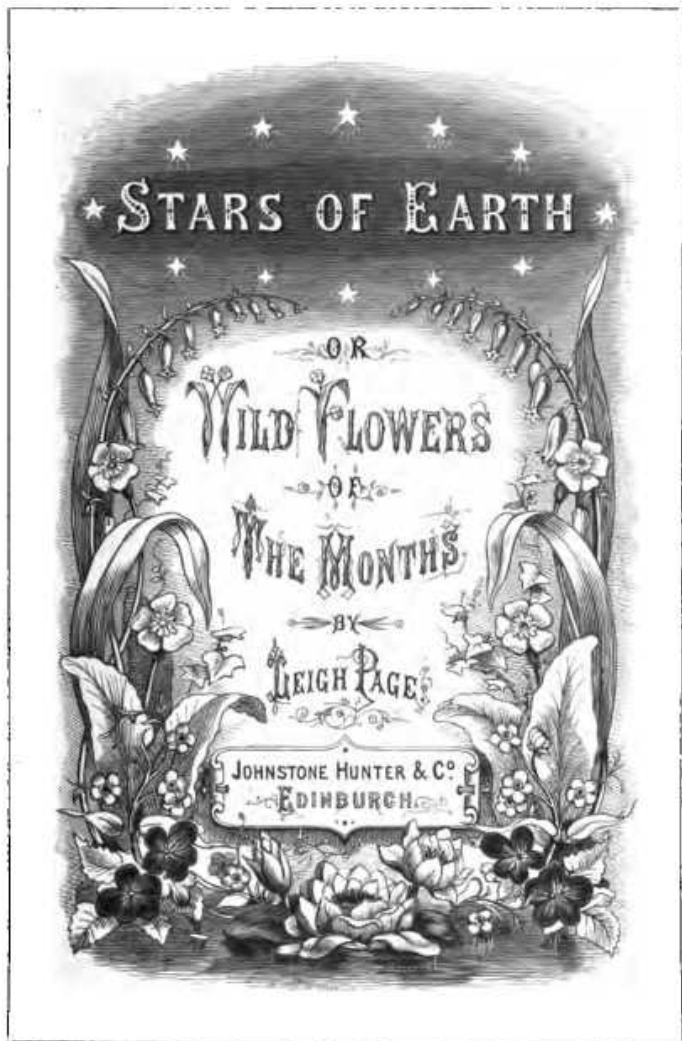
★ STARS OF EARTH ★

OR
WILD FLOWERS

OR
THE MONTHS

BY
LEIGH PAGE

JOHNSTONE HUNTER & CO.
EDINBURGH



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MDCCCLXVIII.

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MURRAY AND GIBB, EDINBURGH,
PRINTERS TO HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

'Spake full well, in language quaint and olden,
One who dwelleth by the castled Rhine,
When he called the flowers, so blue and golden,
Stars, that in earth's firmament do shine ;—

Stars they are, wherein we read our history,
As astrologers and seers of old ;
Yet not wrapped about with awful mystery,
Like the burning stars, which they beheld.

Wondrous truths, and manifold as wondrous,
God hath written in those stars above ;
But not less in the bright flow'rets under us,
Stands the revelation of His love.

Bright and glorious is that revelation,
Written all over this great world of ours ;
Making evident our own creation,
In these Stars of Earth,—these golden flowers.'

LONGFELLOW.

INTRODUCTION.

'Flowers! flowers! bright, merry-faced flowers!
I bless ye in joyous, or saddened hours:
 I love ye dearly,
 Ye look so cheerly.
In summer, autumn, winter, or spring,
A flower is to me the loveliest thing
 That hath its birth
 On this chequered earth:
Oh! who will not chorus the lay I sing?'



WHO does not love flowers—fair, luxuriant wild-flowers—with which our earth is so beautiful? What pure, healthful thoughts they bring to the mind! with what warm, bright, happy feelings they stir the heart! They are 'a joy for ever.'

'Flowers are the brightest things which earth
On her broad bosom loves to cherish;
Gay they appear, as children's mirth,
Like fading dreams of hope they perish.