

**OUTLETS
FROM THE HILLS**

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Outlets from the Hills by James Hoggarth

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JAMES HOGGARTH

**OUTLETS
FROM THE HILLS**

Outlets from the Hills.

BY

JAMES HOGGARTH,

OF KENDAL,

(A NATIVE OF AMBLESIDE),

*Author of "Echoes from Years Gone By," "Evening Strains
and Parlour Pastimes," &c.*



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1896.

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AUTHOR'S PREFACE.

LITTLE remains to be said about a preface. Few people care about a preface, and few people read it. It is only as a porch which may, or may not, invite to what there is to be seen in the interior. Many authors find it more difficult to write a suitable preface to their works than to write the book itself. The present volume contains no special flashes or ornate contributions as from a man of genius; therefore the author will be as brief as possible with his introductory remarks.

The welcome given to his "Echoes" induced him once more to venture into print, and the present volume—"Outlets from the Hills"—contains thoughts that have inspired him as he has wandered over the hills and through the dales of Westmorland and the Lake District. None of the pieces were written or produced in a library, because the author is unable to boast of such a possession. But the Book of Nature

itself is a whole library to the poetic mind, ever affording subject for meditation and theme for song. Most of the compositions came to light as the author was walking in the fields, the woods, the lanes, the streets; as he meditated on the sea shore or by the river side; as he climbed the hills, or as he walked leisurely over the plains; in fact, almost anywhere when out of doors he heard the whisperings of his Muse. He has written of things as he himself observed them; and many of his verses are the expression of his experiences when in contact with Nature as she is influenced by the ever varying moods of the revolving Seasons. It has afforded him enjoyment and pleasure as well as given him employment for his leisure hours. There are no embellishments of polished culture, but the verses are the natural breathings of one who loves to meditate on the works of God. As becomes one who is of the line of the great "Moralist in Oils," glory is only given where it is due.

JAMES HOGGARTH.

123, STRICKLANDGATE, KENDAL,
October, 1896.

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