

**THE LITTLE WHILE
& OTHER POEMS**

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The Little While & Other Poems by Jane Crewdson

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JANE CREWDSON

**THE LITTLE WHILE
& OTHER POEMS**

THE
LITTLE WHILE,
AND
OTHER POEMS.

BY
JANE CREWDSON.

AUTHOR OF
"AUNT JANE'S VERSES FOR CHILDREN," "THE BOWLER OF BIRNACH,"
"LAYS OF THE REFORMATION," &c.

FROM THE SECOND LONDON EDITION.

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WESTGOTT & THOMSON,
Stereotypers.

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Printers.

PREFACE.

THIS small Volume will be welcomed by many who knew and loved the Author. For such no Preface is needed. The Hymns it contains will be accepted, by them, as pictures of her own inner world—as a running commentary on her chastened, yet happy life; they will be recognized as the simple outflowings of her thoughts, in hours of much suffering, and many consolations.

But, beyond the circle of her immediate friends, there are many for whom her sympathies were always ready; tried ones—like herself—who, it is believed, will here find refreshment, encouragement, and hope.

The Author's mind was singularly varied; she was thus qualified to meet the needs of others, and to lead them to the Source and Centre whence she derived her brightness in shadowy places, her cheerfulness in pain, and her unfailling "joy and peace in

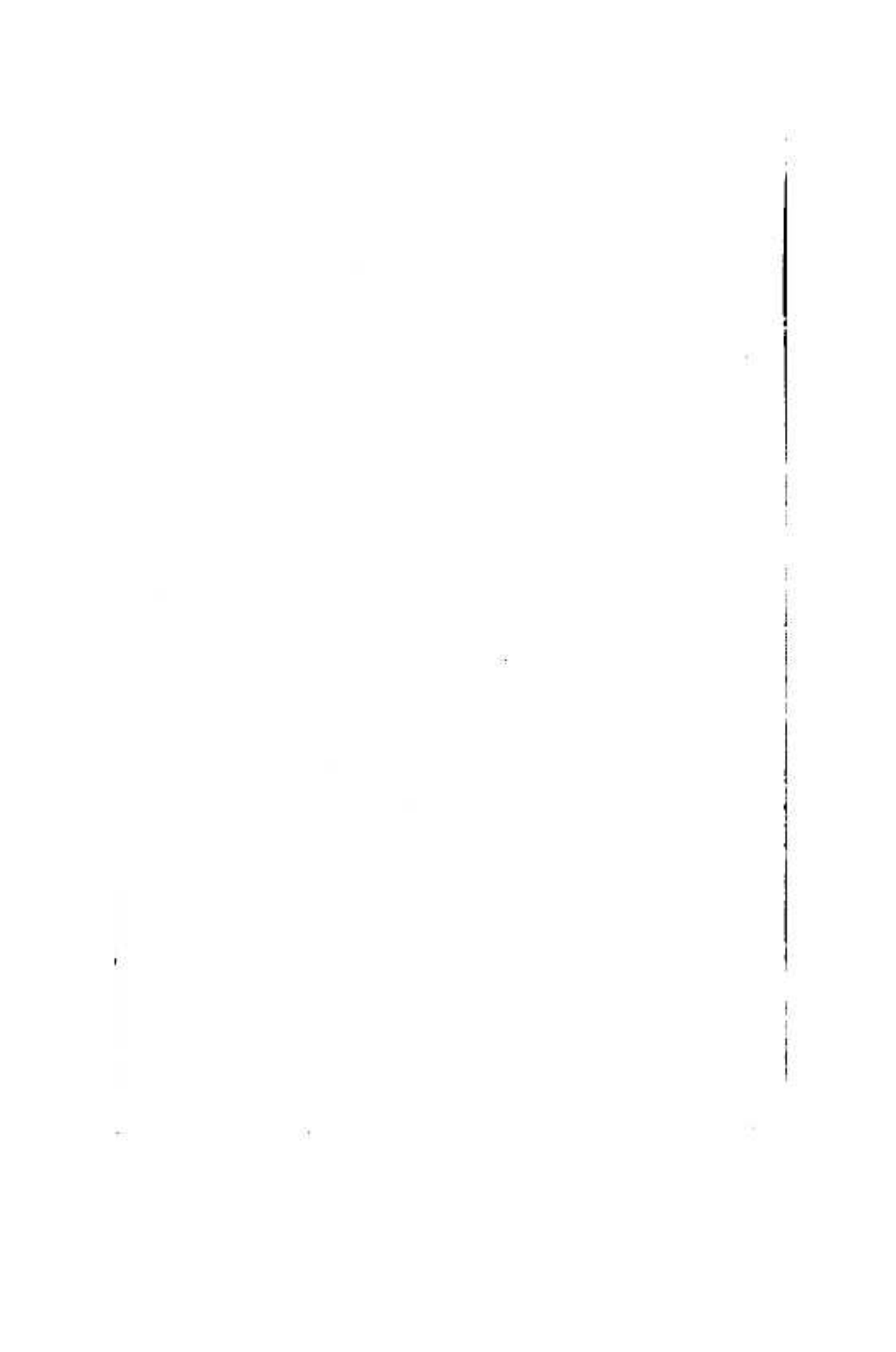
believing." It was her delight to minister to their spirit-wants out of her rich sympathies, *when here*. Perhaps she may still be admitted, through the medium of these pages, into fellowship with many a troubled heart; and may such, like her, find

REST IN JESUS.



P O E M S .





P O E M S .

THE LITTLE WHILE.

"What is this that He saith, A little while?"—John xvi. 18.

OH for the peace which floweth as a river,
Making life's desert places bloom and smile!
Oh for the faith to grasp heaven's bright "forever,"
Amid the shadows of earth's "little while!"

"A little while," for patient vigil-keeping,
To face the stern, to wrestle with the strong;
"A little while," to sow the seed with weeping,
Then bind the sheaves, and sing the harvest song.

"A little while," to wear the weeds of sadness,
To pace, with weary step, through miry ways;
Then—to pour forth the fragrant oil of gladness,
And clasp the girdle round the robe of praise.

"A little while," midst shadow and illusion,
To strive, by faith, love's mysteries to spell:
Then—read each dark enigma's bright solution;
Then—hail sight's verdict, "He doth all things
well."