

# **MEMORIES AND PORTRAITS**

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Memories and Portraits by Robert Louis Stevenson

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**ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON**

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AND PORTRAITS**



## NOTE

THIS volume of papers, unconnected as they are, it will be better to read through from the beginning, rather than dip into at random. A certain thread of meaning binds them. Memories of childhood and youth, portraits of those who have gone before us in the battle—taken together, they build up a face that "I have loved long since and lost awhile," the face of what was once myself. This has come by accident; I had no design at first to be autobiographical; I was but led away by the charm of beloved memories and by regret for the irrevocable dead; and when my own young face (which is a face of the dead also) began to appear in the well as by a kind of magic, I was the first to be surprised at the occurrence.

My grandfather the pious child, my father the idle eager sentimental youth, I have thus unconsciously exposed. Of their descendant, the person of to-day, I wish to keep the secret: not because I love him better, but because, with him, I am still in a business partnership, and cannot divide interests.

Of the papers which make up the volume, some have appeared already in *The Cornhill*, *Longman's*, *Scribner's*, *The English Illustrated*, *The Magazine of Art*, *The Contemporary Review*; three are here in print for the first time; and two others have enjoyed only what may be regarded as a private circulation.

R. L. S.



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ROBERT LOUIS  
STEVENSON

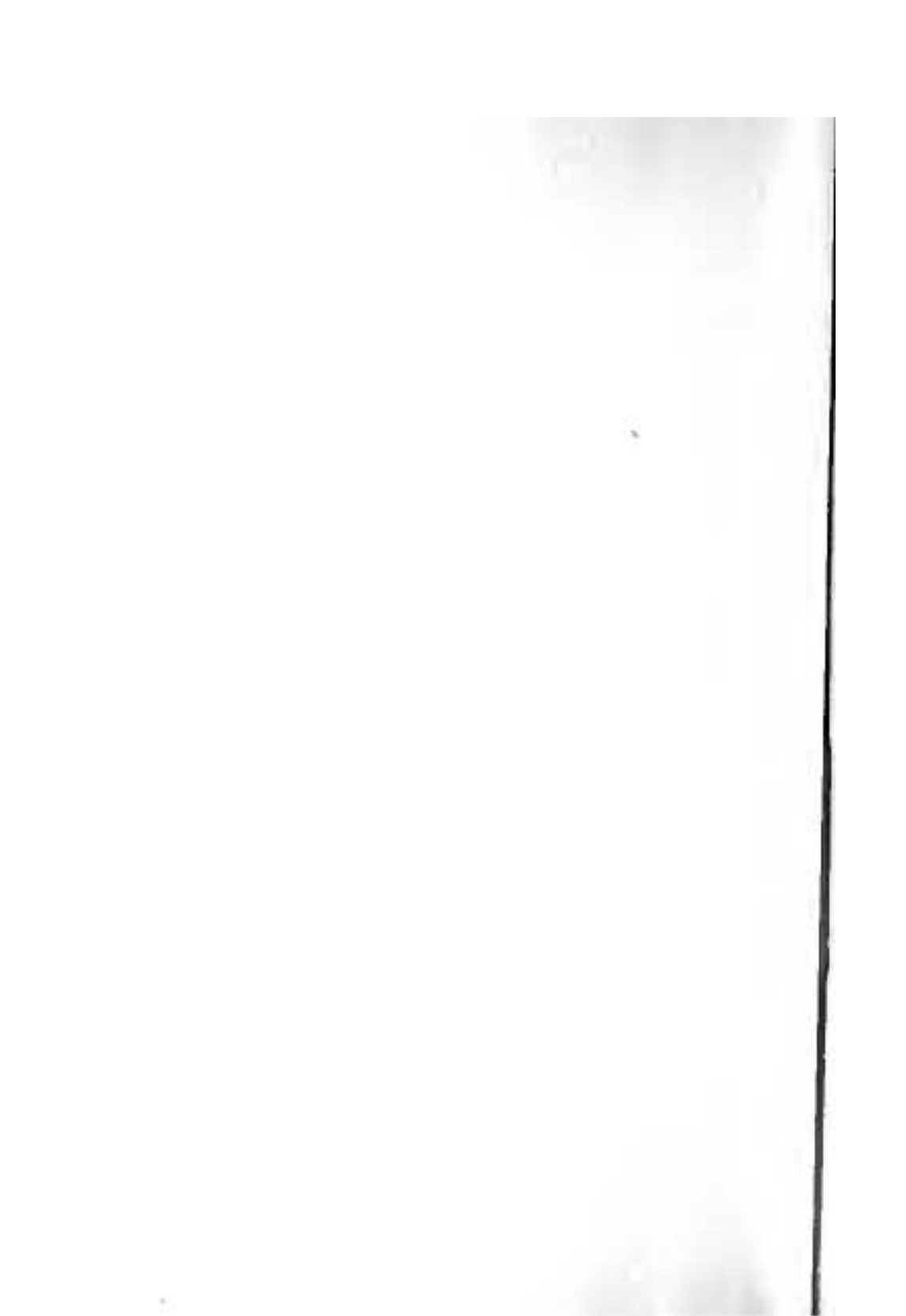
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TO  
MY MOTHER  
IN THE  
NAME OF PAST JOY AND PRESENT SORROW  
I DEDICATE  
THESE MEMORIES AND PORTRAITS

*S.S. "Ludgate Hill"*  
*within sight of Cape Race.*





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