

**AN AULD LIGHT
MANSE, AND
OTHER SKETCHES**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649013579

An auld licht manse, and other sketches by J. M. Barrie

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J. M. BARRIE

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BY

J. M. BARRIE

AUTHOR OF

"THE LITTLE MINISTER," "AULD LIGHT IDYLLS," "A WINDOW IN
THRUMS," ETC., ETC.

BIOGRAPHICAL AND LITERARY ESTIMATE BY ELLIOTT HENDERSON

NEW YORK

R. F. FENNO & COMPANY

7-201 11 EAST 16TH STREET

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PUBLISHERS' NOTE.

THERE are three styles of writing in which Mr. Barrie has distinguished himself, and it is the plan of this book to furnish some of the best specimens of each as illustrations of the author's peculiar mind and method. The first of these is exhibited in the group of Auld Licht Vignettes akin to similar pictures of Scottish home life drawn in "A Window in Thrums," in which Mr. Barrie's most lavish endowment—sympathy—is most keenly alive to the humor and pathos of the tragic commonplace in life. In his admirable sketches and funny papers on all sorts of trifles—nothing comes amiss to him—we have some of the most characteristic effusions of his humorous offspring, and these compose the second kind of writing with which he has experimented. In the brief sketch, the essay in miniature, it has been truly said he has few rivals. It was one of these charming pieces of whimsicality that the late Laureate read with keen appreciation to

a garden party of friends on one occasion last summer. In serious literature Mr. Barrie has also proved himself a genial and entertaining critic, and his best work in this department lies buried—not hopelessly—in newspaper files. The purpose we have had in view in making a judicious selection from the work he has done along these three distinct lines will indicate the unity that underlies the variety of detached subjects which compose this volume.

Acknowledgment is due to the "British Weekly," and "The Bookman," from which a number of these articles have been selected. They are now published in their present form after careful revision for the first time, and are protected by copyright in this country.

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