

THE PLEASURES OF A BOOK-WORM

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The pleasures of a book-worm by J. Rogers Rees

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J. ROGERS REES

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BY
J. ROGERS REES.

SECOND EDITION.

"For him delicious flavors dwell
In books as in old Muscatel,"
SHERMAN.

NEW YORK:
GEORGE J. COOMBES, 275, FIFTH AVENUE,
1886.



TO
THOMAS BAILEY ALDRICH
(Poet and Novelist)

I dedicate these pages



PREFACE

TO THE SECOND EDITION.



A FIRST Edition of one thousand copies of this little book having been exhausted in two months, the Book-worm avails himself of the opportunity afforded by this Second Issue to assure his readers that despite two scraps of information which have been tendered him gratis—(1) that *he has a taste that none of his tribe ever had before for modern books*, and (2) that *no book-worm would dare to feast upon any book produced within this cen-*

tury under penalty of death by poison, he is still in the land of the living and in capital health; and, moreover, his love of books remains catholic enough to admit both old and new, and his prayer is certainly as inclusive as that of the "well-disposed, harmless creature" mentioned in Paul's *Past and Present of Aberdeenshire*, "who made great pretensions to learning, and boasted of his collection of books, which he expressed great veneration for, and prayed for as follows, before going to bed:— 'Bless my books: all my Bible books, all my *hocus pocus*, and all my *leger-de-main* books, and all my other books, whether particularly mentioned at this time or not.'"

The author may be permitted to add that the book-worm proper does not object to the flavour of modern productions, as is generally supposed. Not many months ago three or four of these little wretches were found busy at work in a bundle of sheets in the quire-room of a London publisher, and the paper which they appeared to enjoy so much was barely twenty years old.

J. R. R.

OLD BANK HOUSE, CARDIFF.

April, 1886.





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