THE HAWTHORNE CENTENARY CELEBRATION AT THE WAYSIDE, CONCORD, MASSACHUSETTS, JULY 4-7, 1904

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The Hawthorne centenary celebration at the Wayside, Concord, Massachusetts, July 4-7, 1904 by Various

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THE WAYSIDE, Concord, Massachusetts, was the only home ever owned by Nathaniel Hawthorne, who gave it that name when he purchased it, in 1852, from Amos Bronson Alcott. It passed, in 1883, from the possession of George Parsons Lathrop and Rose Hawthorne Lathrop, his wife, into the ownership of Daniel Lothrop, the publisher, whose family residence it became.

It seemed, therefore, to be of logical fitness with the spirit observed by the present owners through all these later years of residence, in which the estate has been safeguarded and perpetuated by Mr. Lothrop, and afterward by his widow, as Hawthorne left it, that an observance of the one hundredth anniversary of his birth should here be celebrated.

The Centenary exercises, as planned and arranged by Mrs. Lothrop, were memorial addresses and reminiscences, with the unveiling of the bronze tablet set in a boulder on the path leading to the hill, where Hawthorne daily paced to and fro in solitary communion with his work; these exercises to take place on the birthday, July 4; to be followed on the mornings of July 5, 6, and 7, by addresses at the Hillside Chapel (the chapel of the Concord School of Philosophy, next The Wayside); these addresses to be given by eminent men and women peculiarly fitted to bring tribute to the great Romancer.

Acknowledgment is made to Mr. Thomas Wentworth Higginson for his kindness in editing and preparing this volume for the press.