

**SEVEN SUMMERS:
AN ETON MEDLEY**

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Seven Summers: An Eton Medley by Anonymous

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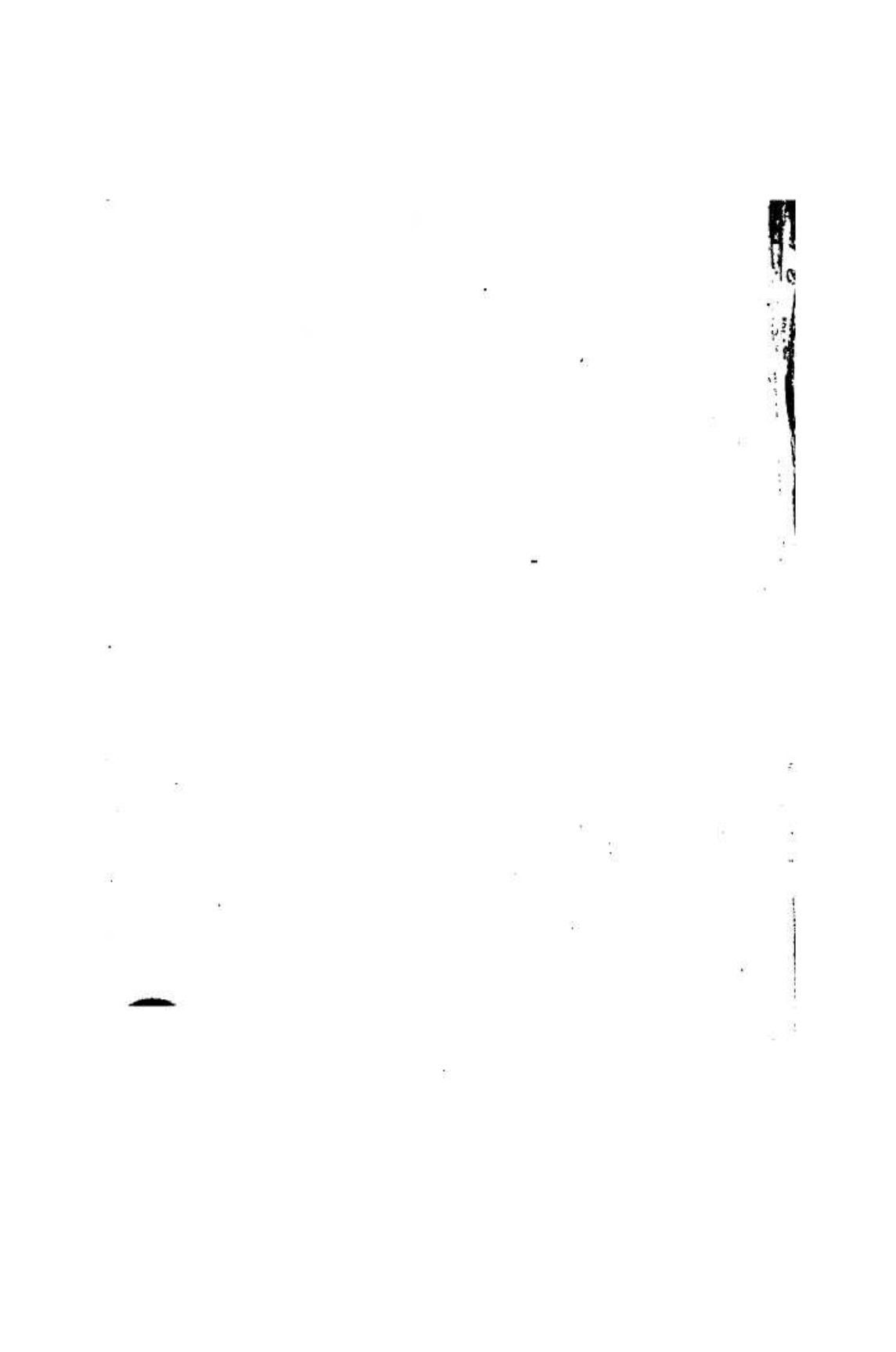
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ANONYMOUS

**SEVEN SUMMERS:
AN ETON MEDLEY**

SEVEN SUMMERS.



SEVEN SUMMERS:

AN ETON MEDLEY

BY

THE EDITORS OF THE *PARACHUTE* AND
PRESENT ETONIAN

ETON: R. INGALTON DRAKE

LONDON: SIMPKIN MARSHALL & Co.

1890

HARVARD UNIVERSITY
GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
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TO HIM
WHO FIRST SOWED IN OUR BREAST
THE FATAL AMBITION
TO PERPETUATE OUR THOUGHTS
IN BLACK AND WHITE :
AND FREELY WATERED THE GREEN SHOOTS
WITH VIOLET INK :
YET NEVER DESPAIRED WHEN HIS TOILSOME TILTH
BORE ONLY A HARVEST—AND THAT A PLENTIFUL ONE—
OF YELLOW TICKETS :
IN THE HOPE THAT HE MAY REGARD IT
AS A FOLLY
RATHER THAN AS A CRIME,
FINDING NOTHING HEREIN TO GRIEVE HIM
AND SOMEWHAT TO AMUSE :
TO OUR TUTOR,
WE DEDICATE THIS INARTISTIC PATCHWORK
OF ETON BLUE.

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PROLOGUE.

To the future Etonian who would fain know something of the Land of Promise : to the present Etonian who is unaccountably ready to read whatever other present Etonians are so rash as to write : to the old Etonian who cannot but take some interest in the sayings and doings of his successors : to the Mothers of Etonians, past, present, and future, whose sisterly love for the KINDLY MOTHER of us all is as warm as that of any of her sons : to all who lately watched with friendly eyes the brief but happy career of a certain PARACHUTE whose battered framework now lies rusting somewhere in the Limbo of Forgotten Publications : to all these a book which is the work of Eton boys may be offered in the certainty that they will require no Preface, and that if a Preface be set before them not one will pause to read it. But, for the benefit of those whom adverse fortune has not included in the happy host of Eton boys and Mothers of Eton boys, it may be well to say that this book is an attempt to sketch the inner workings of the Etonian's mind and the inner machinery of the Etonian's life, as they are revealed, not to the Clerical Mudrake, not to the Path-finding American, but to the Disinterested Observer and the Boy who Chalks the Boots.