

**A NEW YEAR OFFERING:  
MISCELLANEOUS  
ARTICLES IN PROSE AND  
POETRY**

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A New Year Offering: Miscellaneous Articles in Prose and Poetry by A. Wm. Fiske

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**A. WM. FISKE**

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# A NEW YEAR OFFERING.

MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES

IN

PROSE AND POETRY,

BY

REV. A. WM. FISKE.

'WE SPEND OUR YEARS AS A TALE THAT IS TOLD.' Prov. 9: 9.

"The moments fly—a minute gone!  
The minutes fly—an hour is run!  
The day is fled—The night is here!  
Thus fly the weeks—the months, the year!"

—o—

BRISTOL, N. H.:  
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1880.

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## PREFACE.

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When a book is born into the world, it needs a name, as much as any other infant. Often a name may be given that is characteristic of the whole work; but, when the contents are peculiarly miscellaneous, it may take such a name as best suits the will and the fancy of the author. As this volume begins an existence at the beginning of a new year, it has received the title of *A NEW YEAR OFFERING*.

The wisdom of publishing in book form, such a variety of articles, some may presume to question. But, wise or unwise, when the thing is done it must stay done, whatever may be the opinion of critics. The shorter articles have been selected from a scrap-book, kept exclusively for original articles, the subjects of which were suggested by incidents and circumstances occurring at the time when they were written. Thinking and writing them out was found to be a pleasant recreation.

The book lays no claim to literary merit, either in philosophy, science, rhetoric, theology or poetry. The poetic articles have been sandwiched through the vol-

ume, agreeably to the inclination of the author. The sermons have been introduced, hoping that friends may be interested and profited by their perusal. In the lecture added, a free use has been made of such facts and illustrations, gathered from various sources, as seemed to illustrate the different phases of temper and passion, exhibited in common life, and are calculated to afford some useful and practical lessons to all who find any trouble in controlling their temper.

The whole book must take its chance among reviewers and critics, whatever may be its fate. If they flay this infant with their sharp knives, it may occasion some chagrin and pain; but all tears will be bravely suppressed. It starts in life like the infant for whom the parent feels no small anxiety; yet, with the hope and prayer to God, that it may not fail to profit the reader by the candid perusal of its pages. The ruling object of this volume is a desire for its usefulness, by presenting such practical views upon the various subjects, as shall tend to honor our Divine Lord and Master; and meet a response in the understanding, the faith, and the heart of every Christian reader.

A. W. F.

FISHERVILLE, Jan. 1, 1880.

## A NEW YEAR OFFERING.



### THE NEW YEAR.

We have just entered the vestibule of the New Year. Think of it as a temple comprising 365 apartments, which are all locked up by our Heavenly Father's hand, who knows what is in store for us; but who will allow us to know only as in regular rotation they are opened. Curiosity would lead us to open beforehand each of these apartments, could we be permitted to do it. But He wisely keeps the key in his own hand, telling us that, "sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof;" so, also, of the good thereof. God allows us to keep in mind the past, but he does not permit us to pry into the secrets of the future. Such an indulgence would be likely to unfit us for present duty. Suppose, however, He should allow some angel, or waiting spirit, to take the key, open and conduct you through all the rooms; that you might see at once, and know all that is to befall you during the 365 days of this year. Would you desire it? Allowed to take the key, suppose he begins the work. He opens to you one room, perhaps full of joys, another full of sorrows; and yet another of joys and sorrows intermingled. Here he opens a row of rooms full of health, and the next full of sickness, pain and suffering. Would you like to have it opened to you now? In another are the re-