

**BREAKFAST-TABLE SCIENCE:
WRITTEN EXPRESSLY FOR THE
AMUSEMENT AND INSTRUCTION
OF YOUNG PEOPLE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649404728

Breakfast-Table Science: Written Expressly for the Amusement and Instruction of Young People by J. H. Wright

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J. H. WRIGHT

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AMUSEMENT AND INSTRUCTION
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BREAKFAST-TABLE SCIENCE;
FOR THE
AMUSEMENT AND INSTRUCTION
OF
YOUNG PEOPLE.

BY J. H. WRIGHT
SURGEON.



LONDON
PUBLISHED BY THOMAS TEGG, 57A, CHANCERY-LANE
1840

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WRITTEN EXPRESSLY

for the Amusement and Instruction

OF

YOUNG PEOPLE.

BY J. H. WRIGHT,

SENATOR.



"Nihil dictum, quod non dictum prius; methodus sola artificum calculis."

GARRUS.

LONDON:

PRINTED FOR THOMAS TEGG, 73, CHEAPSIDE.

1840.

409.

TO

THOMAS PETTIT,	}	WRIGHT,
AMELIA,		
ELLA,		
KENNETH,		
ESTHER,		
CEDRIC—AND		
ALBERT		

AND TO

THEIR MOTHER,

This Little Volume

IS AFFECTIONATELY PRESENTED BY

THE AUTHOR.

CHATTERIS, ISLE OF ELY,
Nov. 24th. 1839.

P R E F A C E.

IN writing a Boy's Book, it is well to bear in mind the sage advice of Mrs. Glasse, touching the roasting of a hare—"First catch your hare, and then," &c.

Now, there are a thousand modes of instructing boys and girls; but the art of "catching boys" is in its infancy.

The authors of many admirable books for children, have entirely overlooked this: their books contain much that is valuable, but they fail in

“catching” the careless and frolicsome boy.

Others have attempted “to catch their boy” with pictures: these have been very successful, in storing the memory with facts; but they cannot, they do not, make him think.

I have endeavoured to “catch” my readers by the adoption of a quaint, and rather affected, table of contents. Ask a boy “Why animals can wrinkle their skins?” or, “How great is the atmospheric pressure upon an object?” and, if he be well-trained, he will pay you the compliment of looking at you, while you explain them; but, as they interest him not, your explanation is forgotten. Put the inquiry in another

form. Ask a group of merry urchins "Why a fly cannot ride on horse-back?" or, "If a fly had a sore toe, what would happen?" and they feel interested in the inquiry, and begin to think. In educational matters, we are not half so rational as the showman, who paints the "animal that cannot live on the land, and dies in the water," in glowing colours, outside, to tempt the young gentlemen to "walk in."

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