

**OLD-TIME PICTURES
AND SHEAVES OF
RHYME**

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Old-time pictures and sheaves of rhyme by Benjamin F. Taylor

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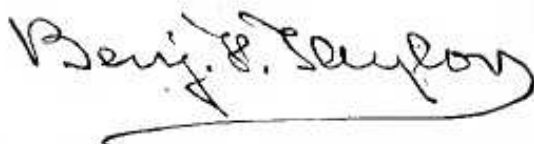
**OLD-TIME PICTURES
AND SHEAVES OF
RHYME**

OLD-TIME PICTURES

AND

SHEAVES OF RHYME.

BY

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Benj. S. Taylor". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned centrally on the page.

Author of "JANUARY AND JUNE," "LIFE AND SCENES IN THE ARMY," etc

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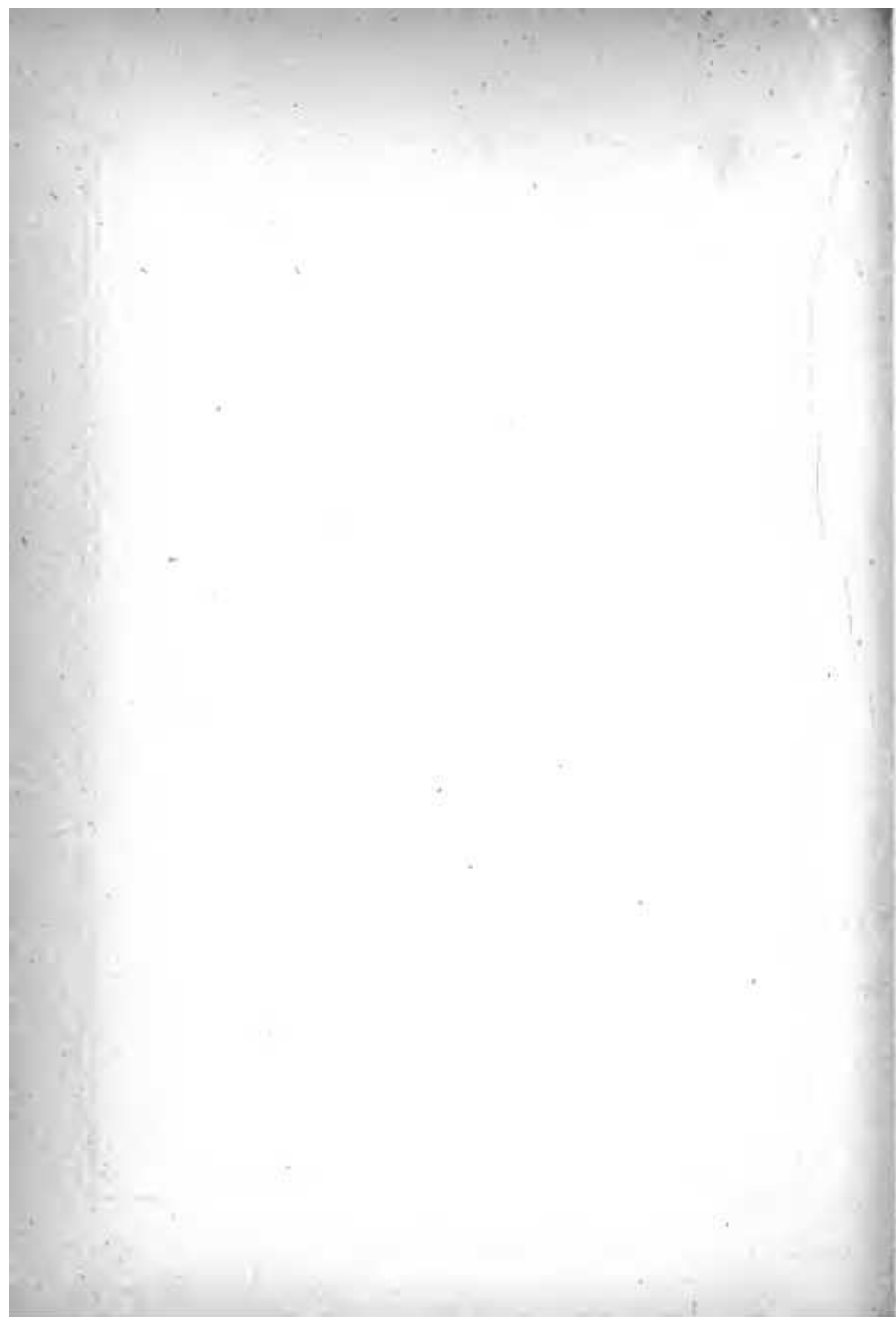
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1874

June Seventh,
1852.

TO HER FOR WHOM TWENTY YEARS HAVE NOT DIMMED THE
MEMORY OF THAT LONG-GONE DAY, THIS
LITTLE BOOK IS

Most Affectionately Inscribed.

623939



PREFACE.

SET adrift in the newspapers, like thistle-down in the Fall wind, a few poems of mine have "lodged" at last between the lids of a book.

Never thinking seriously about it until it was too late to think at all, I find myself fearing that their meaning to me is a sort of personal property I cannot make over to anybody, and that I should have slipped them in among the leaves of the Family Record, between the book of Malachi and the Gospel according to St. Matthew, as being the very place in a world of sinners about the safest from perusal.

A friend once sent me some withered pansies, but he brightened and humanized the faded things by writing a single line: "From the grave of Hamlet,

Prince of Denmark." Ah, how beautiful they turned, and what treasures they became!

Less fortunate than the pansies, this sheaf of rhymes has nobody to write the single line. Only this: I suspect one or two of them of being better than I once thought, because several clever people have stolen and never returned them.

THE SHEAF.

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