

**HOPKINS'S POND
AND OTHER
SKETCHES**

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Hopkins's Pond and Other Sketches by Robert T. Morris

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ROBERT T. MORRIS

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BY
ROBERT T. MORRIS



G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS

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1896



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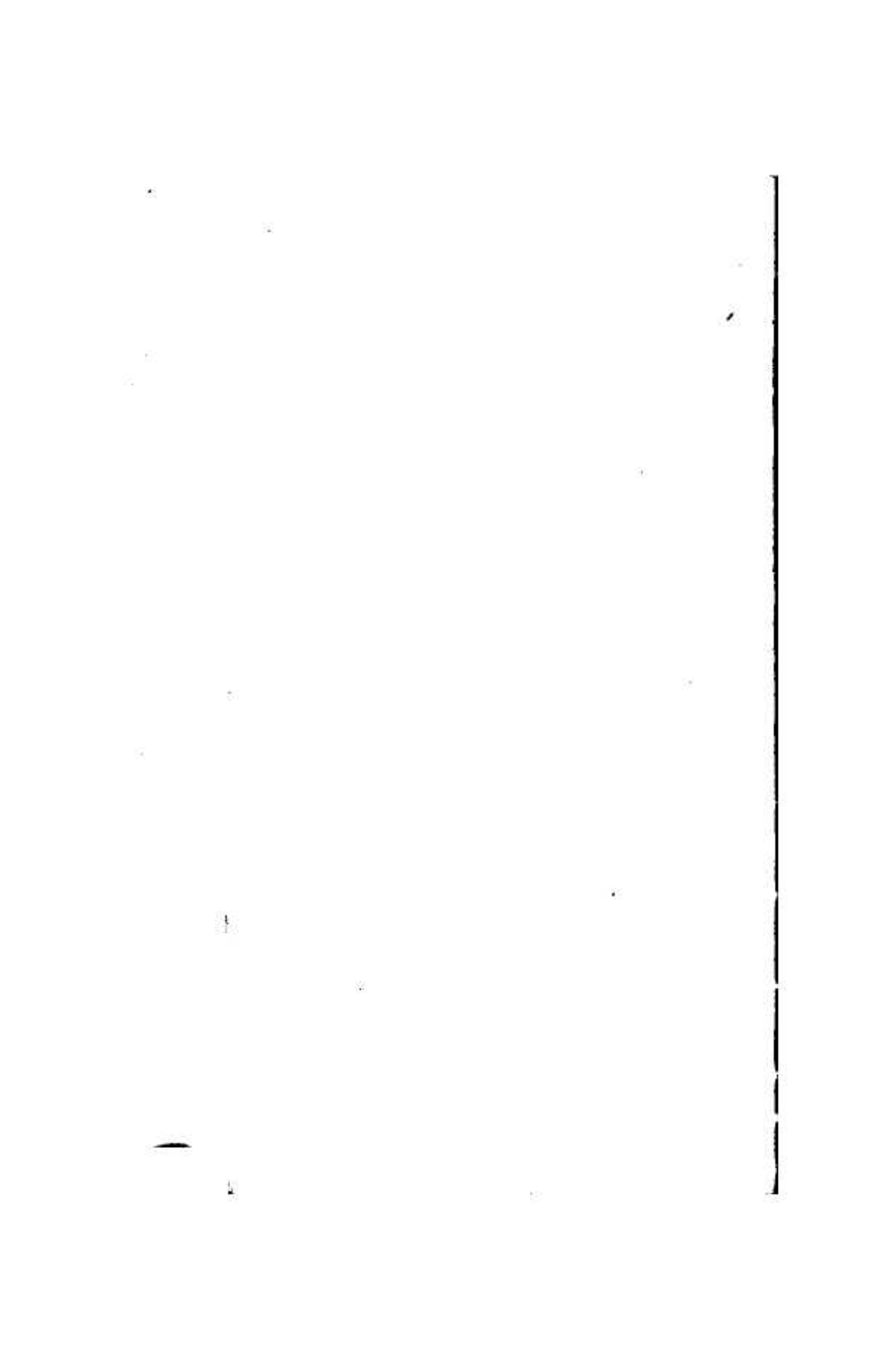
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DEDICATED TO
THE MEMORY OF MY BELOVED FATHER
LUZON B. MORRIS
WHO ENJOYED EVERYTHING THAT HIS
CHILDREN ENJOYED





PREFACE.

WHEN these sketches were first published, the author had no more thought of preserving them in book form, than the brown thrush thinks of recording the things that he says to his mate from the bending tip-top of a white birch in June. They were penned in spare moments to please the little coterie of friends who gather about my open fireplace in the long winter evenings, where the largest bass fails to escape from the hook, and where the bear makes his most furious onslaught. There was a pleasure also in fixing certain thoughts in definite form so that when fatigued with work and with city surroundings I could turn to an old paper and find that I really had thought of nice things once.

Then again there was a feeling that the

pappus of the pen might float a tiny bit of germ to some barren office desk, where it would spring into fresh memories for some lover of richer fields, who was chained to the desk.

Many sketches which were published anonymously and in various places have been trimmed out of mind by the sickle of the Reaper, and I do not know where to look for them to-day, but the Editor of *Forest and Stream* has found in his files a number of contributions that were published over my name, or over the *nom de plume* of Mark West, which was adopted from the familiar call of New England sea-shooters. The story from the sandy end of a Connecticut township was published in *The Rider and Driver*.





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