

# **THE CHILD; ITS SPIRITUAL NATURE**

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The child; its spiritual nature by Henry King Lewis

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**HENRY KING LEWIS**

**THE CHILD; ITS  
SPIRITUAL NATURE**





THE CHILD  
ITS SPIRITUAL NATURE

BY

HENRY KING LEWIS

II

COMPILER OF "SONGS FOR LITTLE SINGERS IN THE SUNDAY SCHOOL AND HOME"



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"If religion cannot accommodate itself on the one side to the capacity of children, or if on the other side it fails to satisfy the requirements of men, it has lost its vitality, and it becomes mere superstition or mere philosophy."—MAX MÜLLER.

## PREFACE.

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IT is unnecessary to say more here than that the tracing of the mental and physical aspects of childhood, intensely interesting and highly important as they are, must be regarded as quite subordinate to the point of view from which the child is contemplated in these pages, namely, the Spiritual. The mental, as well as the corporeal, are now receiving deserved investigation, but the Spiritual has been almost exclusively in the hands of those whose special purpose has been the classification of the various qualities of spirit according to the theological system whose claims they accept, usually as a theoretical assumption.

But the question is not one of theory or theology only, but is of intense practical importance, for as is the child so will the man become.



A few illustrations have been introduced of typical children, and of some of these stories are given under their respective headings in the following pages.

Grateful acknowledgments are due to many parents who have kindly assisted the author with trustworthy facts from their own family records, besides which many illustrative instances are selected from historical sources which are generally available.

H. K. L.

*June, 1896.*



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