STEVENSON'S BABY BOOK: BEING THE RECORD OF THE SAYINGS AND DOINGS OF ROBERT LOUIS
BALFOUR STEVENSON SON OF THOMAS STEVENSON, C.E. AND MARGARET ISABELLA BALFOUR OR STEVENSON

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## ROBERT L. BALFOUR STEVENSON & MARGARET I. BALFOUR STEVENSON

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## Stevenson's Baby Book

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SON OF

THOMAS STEVENSON, C. E.

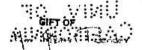
AND MARGARET ISABELLA BALFOUR

OR STEVENSON



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TO ALL CHILDREN,

BIG AND LITTLE, WHO LOVE STEVENSON,

THIS PUBLICATION IS

DEDICATED.

SF 59 ٠,

## A Note to the Reader

HIS Baby Record was meant by the young mother who wrote it, as all such Records are, to keep, for memory's sake, an account of the first years of her adored child. A few of the notes were added by her in later years.

What gives this Record extraordinary value, what sets it apart from countless others, undertaken in the same sweet cause, is that it proved to be the first chapter of the biography of one of the best-loved men who ever lived; and, it will not need to be pointed out, the contents foreshadow in spirit, originality and imagination the great man the wee laddie was to become.

The mother was Margaret Isabella Balfour Stevenson and the babe was Robert Louis Balfour Stevenson. With every passing year this Baby Record grew a more precious possession to the mother. On her death, which followed soon after that of her famous son, the Record passed into the keeping of her sister, Jane Whyte Balfour, the "Auntie" of the "Child's Garden of

Verse." But "Auntie" was already old. It was her concern to give this precious volume to one who would regard it with equal affection. She chose another young mother, a relative by marriage, who, too, had a little son.

Since then many years have passed. The Baby Record, always in the new owner's keeping, has traveled far; sometimes in a satchel on trains and ocean steamers, again hidden in dark bank vaults in widely dispersed cities.

Now, after long treasuring it as a personal possession, it is offered in fee simple that it may reach many other lovers of Robert Louis Stevenson.

KATHARINE D. OSBOURNE.