

**SARAH MARTIN, THE
PRISON-VISITOR OF
GREAT YARMOUTH; THE
STORY OF A USEFUL LIFE**

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Sarah Martin, the Prison-Visitor of Great Yarmouth; The Story of a Useful Life by George Mogridge

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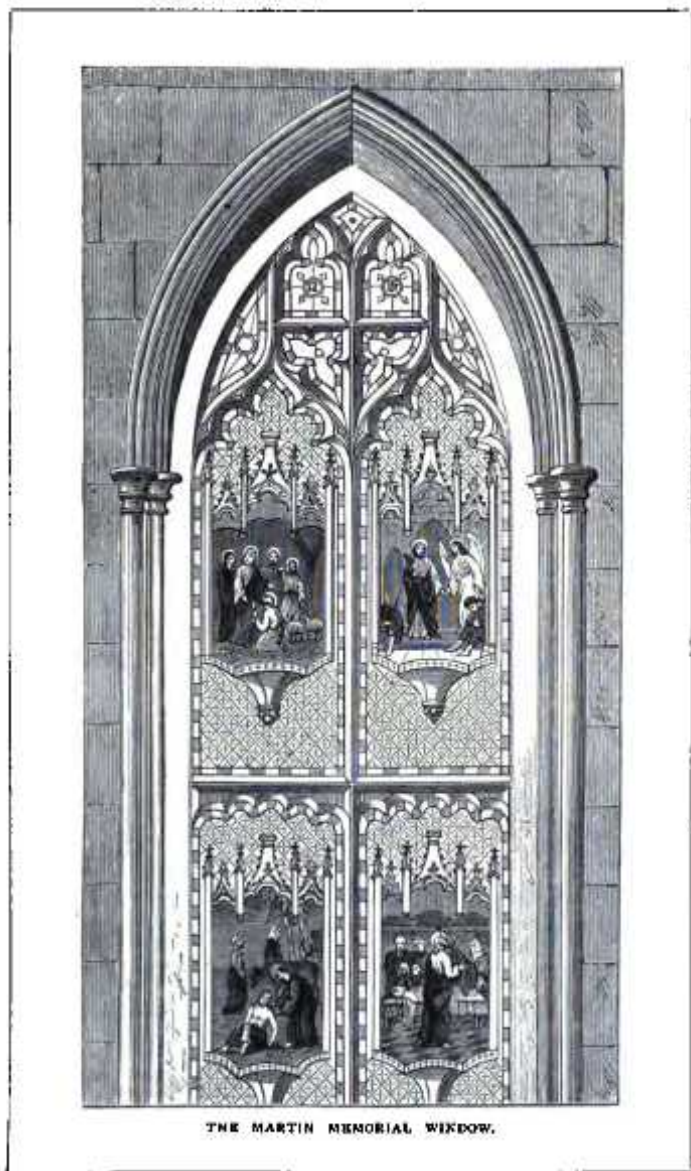
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GEORGE MOGRIDGE

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SARAH MARTIN.



THE MARTIN MEMORIAL WINDOW.

SARAH MARTIN,

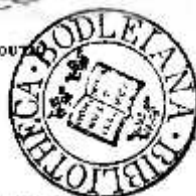
THE PRISON-VISITOR

OF GREAT YARMOUTH:

A Story of a Useful Life.



THE JETTY, GREAT YARMOUTH.

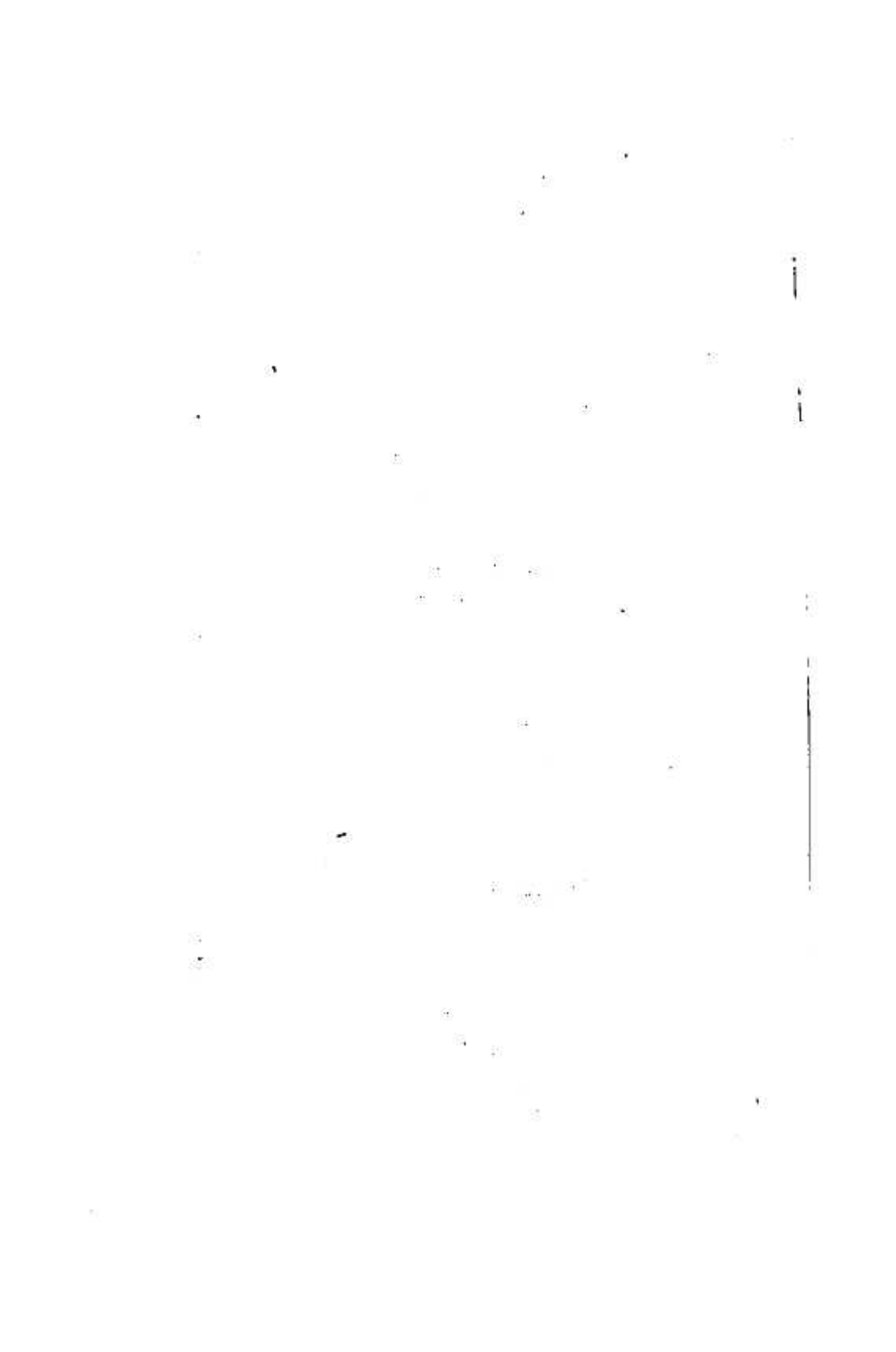


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PREFACE.

IN the year 1847, a pamphlet containing a Brief Life of SARAH MARTIN of Yarmouth—printed chiefly for local circulation,—and a variety of manuscripts, were forwarded to the Committee of the Religious Tract Society, with a request that such use should be made of them as might be deemed desirable. An examination of the papers led to the conviction that they presented a record of self-denying service for the reclamation of the ignorant and fallen, and of entire consecration to Christ, which deserved to be known far beyond the country town where the subject of the Memoir laboured.

About the same time an article, by a distinguished politician, appeared in the *Edinburgh Review*, in which her character and labours were described with great force and eloquence. "It is the business of literature," said the writer, "to make such a life stand out from the masses of ordinary existences with something of the distinctness with which a lofty building uprears itself in the confusion of a distant view. It should be made to attract all eyes, to excite the hearts of all persons who think the welfare of their fellow-mortals an object of interest or duty. It should be included in collections of biography, and chronicled in the high places of history; men should be taught to estimate it as that of one whose philanthropy has entitled her to renown, and children to associate the name of Sarah Martin with those of Howard, Buxton, Fry,—the most benevolent of mankind."

A small volume was in a short time prepared and issued by the Society, which was received with so much favour as to secure a circulation of twenty-five thousand copies. Since its first publication a new generation has arisen; but as time has not seriously impaired the interest felt

in the labours of the Yarmouth Prison-Visitor, it has been suggested by influential persons, that a new and improved Memoir should be given to the public. In conformity with this wish, the present edition is printed. It contains all the incidents of importance found in the former volume, with considerable additions from Miss Martin's papers and books, as well as from information supplied by those to whom she was well known; and as the whole is presented under a different arrangement, with pictorial illustrations,* it may be regarded as almost an entirely new work.

At the time of passing the last pages through the press, the meetings of the INTERNATIONAL PRISON CONGRESS were being held in London, at which some of the most distinguished thinkers and workers, from twenty chief States of the world, were in consultation as to the best means of dealing with the criminal classes, and of making their punishment alike deterrent and reformatory. The present volume may, therefore, be regarded as an opportune, though humble, contribution to this branch of humanity, justice, and civilization.

* Several of the engravings are copied, by permission, from photographs published by Mr. G. Nall, of Great Yarmouth.