

**MY MISCELLANIES.
IN TWO VOLUMES.
VOL. I**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649654017

My Miscellanies. In Two Volumes. Vol. I by Wilkie Collins

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

WILKIE COLLINS

**MY MISCELLANIES.
IN TWO VOLUMES.
VOL. I**

MY MISCELLANIES.

BY WILKIE COLLINS,

AUTHOR OF 'THE WOMAN IN WHITE,' 'NO NAME,' 'THE DEAD SECRET,'

&c. &c. &c.

IN TWO VOLUMES.—Vol. I.

LONDON:

SAMPSON LOW, SON, & CO., LUDGATE HILL.

1863.

The Author reserves the right of Translation.

250. p. 78.

Affectionately Inscribed

TO

HENRY BULLAR

(OF THE WESTERN CIRCUIT).

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

51

52

53

54

55

56

57

58

59

60

61

62

63

64

65

66

67

68

69

70

71

72

73

74

75

76

77

78

79

80

81

82

83

84

85

86

87

88

89

90

91

92

93

94

95

96

97

98

99

100

P R E F A C E.



THE various papers of which the following collection is composed, were most of them written some years since, and were all originally published—with many more, which I have not thought it desirable to reprint—in 'Household Words,' and in the earlier volumes of 'All the Year Round.' They were fortunate enough to be received with favour by the reader, at the period of their first appearance, and were thought worthy in many instances of being largely quoted from in other journals. After careful selection and revision, they are now collected in book-form; having been so arranged, in contrast with each other, as to present specimens of all the shorter compositions which I have contributed in past years to periodical literature.

My object in writing most of these papers—especially those collected under the general heads of 'Sketches of Character' and 'Social Grievances'—was to present what I had observed and what I had thought, in the lightest and the least pretentious form; to address the public (if I could) with some-

thing of the ease of letter writing, and something of the familiarity of friendly talk. The literary Pulpit appeared to me at that time—as it appears to me still—to be rather overcrowded with the Preachers of Lay Sermons. Views of life and society to set us thinking penitently in some cases, or doubting contemptuously in others, were, I thought, quite plentiful enough already. More freshness and novelty of appeal to the much-lectured and much-enduring reader, seemed to lie in views which might put us on easier terms with ourselves and with others; and which might encourage us to laugh good-humouredly over some of the lighter eccentricities of character, and some of the more palpable absurdities of custom—without any unfair perversion of truth, or any needless descent to the lower regions of vulgarity and caricature. With that idea, all the lighter contributions to these *Miscellanies* were originally written; and with that idea they are now again dismissed from my desk, to win what approval they may from new readers.

HARLEY STREET, LONDON.

September, 1863.

CONTENTS OF VOL. I.

	PAGE
SKETCHES OF CHARACTER : I.	
Talk-Stoppers	1
SOCIAL GRIEVANCES : I.	
A Journey in Search of Nothing	22
NOOKS AND CORNERS OF HISTORY : I.	
A Queen's Revenge.....	48
SOCIAL GRIEVANCES : II.	
A Petition to the Novel-Writers.....	72
FRAGMENTS OF PERSONAL EXPERIENCE : I.	
Laid Up in Lodgings	90
SKETCHES OF CHARACTER : II.	
A Shockingly Rude Article	135
NOOKS AND CORNERS OF HISTORY : II.	
The Great (Forgotten) Invasion	152
CURIOSITIES OF LITERATURE : I.	
The Unknown Public	169
SOCIAL GRIEVANCES : III.	
Give us Room!	192
CURIOSITIES OF LITERATURE : II.	
Portrait of an Author, Painted by his Publisher	205
FRAGMENTS OF PERSONAL EXPERIENCE : II.	
My Black Mirror	250
SKETCHES OF CHARACTER : III.	
Mrs. Badgery	274

