

**ACROSS THE DEAD
LINE OF
AMUSEMENTS**

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Across the Dead Line of Amusements by Henry W. Stough

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HENRY W. STOUGH

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By HELEN RUSS STOUGH

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ACROSS THE DEAD LINE OF AMUSEMENTS

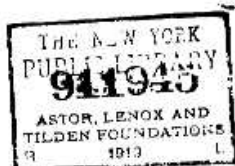
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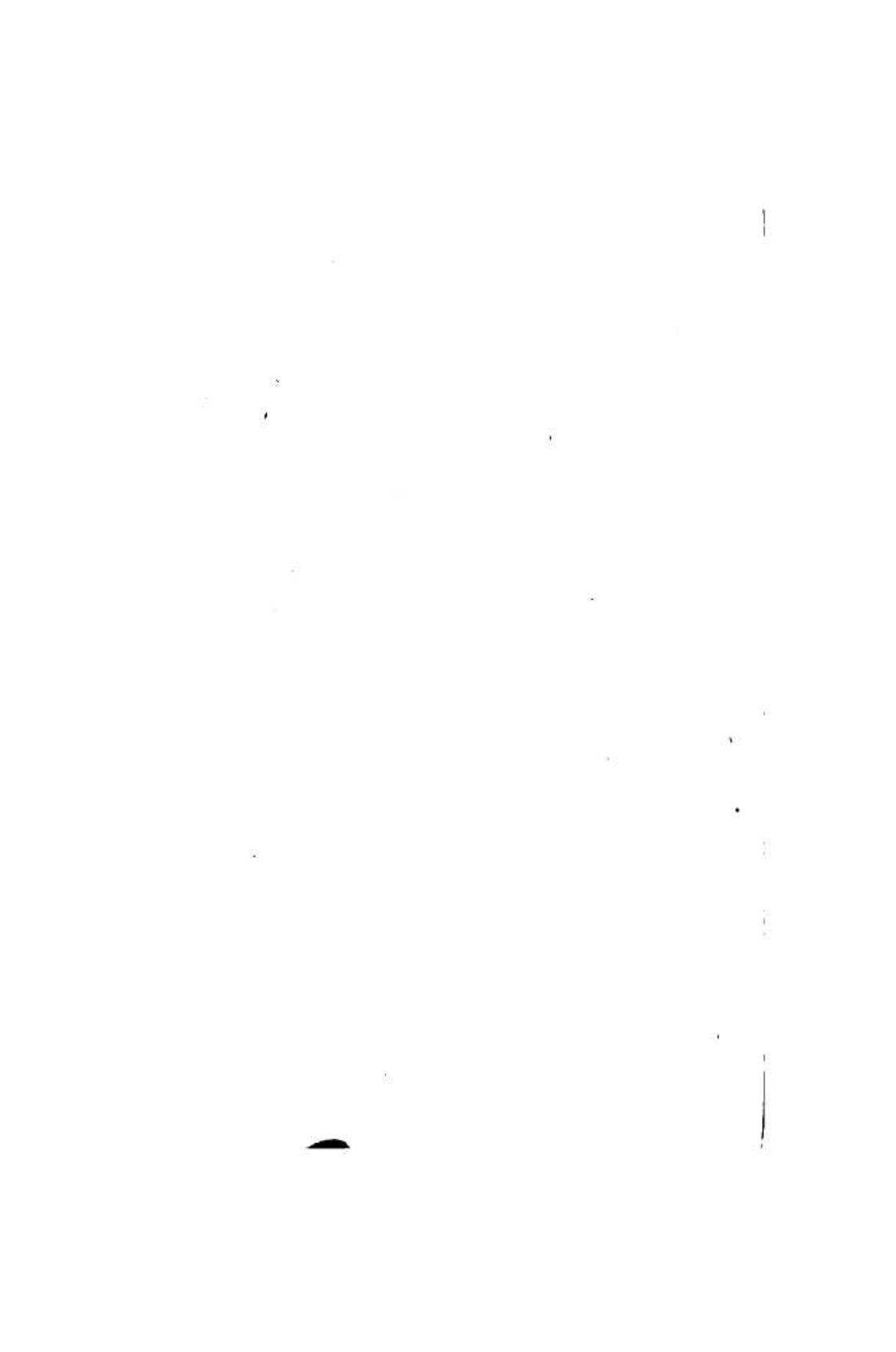


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To My Parents

*The devoted Mother still with me and the sainted Father
whose LOYALTY and LOVE for Christ kept
their children in the path
that seemed to many
"straight and narrow"
But which proved to be the "path of the righteous
that shineth more and more unto the
perfect day,"
This volume is affectionately dedicated
by their son.*



PREFACE.

THE wholesale denunciation of the so-called popular amusements has always brought antagonism from those who have indulged and never been able to see the harm. This antagonism has been aroused because such denunciation has frequently failed to be discerning, discriminating and sympathetic.

The theatre, the cards, and the dance, have been called questions of casuistry, and not without reason. If they were wholly bad, moral people, not to mention Christian people, would have quickly cast them aside. It is because there is woven through them the good and the evil that it is so hard for many to detect the evil. The evil is so wedded to the good that it frequently takes the name of the good.

As a young man, I felt most keenly the opposition of many Christian people, including my godly parents. I could not understand why they should so strenuously oppose what seemed to me the height of youthful enjoyment, in which so many of my friends indulged. I do not know that they even knew why they felt so. It was an inward conviction which God gives to those who walk closely with Him. I have been glad ten thousand times that they were firm