ANTONY AND OCTAVIUS. SCENES FOR THE STUDY

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Antony and Octavius. Scenes for the Study by Walter Savage Landor

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WALTER SAVAGE LANDOR

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WALTER SAVAGE LANDOR.

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THESE SCENES

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ARE DEDICATED TO

EDWARD CAPERN,

Post and Day-laborer at Bideford, Devon.

WE are fellow-laborers; you work in two fields, I in one only; you incessantly, I intermittently. Well do I know the elevation of your mind above your worldly condition, and that in Christian humility there walks with you a spirit conscious of its divine descent. This shall not deter me from offering what may be eventually of some service, however small; and I offer it with confidence, because it is not personally to yourself, but to your children. Should there be at the close of the year any small profit accruing from the sale of this first, and perhaps last, edition of Scenes for the Study, accept it for their benefit. Little is to be expected from so oldfashioned and obsolete a style of composition, and that little will be owing to the virtues and genius, not of the author, but of EDWARD CAPERN. Rely on your own exertions, and on that Supreme Power whence is derived whatever is worth possessing. Depend not on the favor of Royalty; expect nothing from it; for you are not a hound or a spaniel or a German prince.

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PREFACE.

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FEW have obtained the privilege of entering Shakespeare's garden, and of seeing him take turn after turn, quite alone, now nimbly, now gravely, on his broad and lofty terrace.

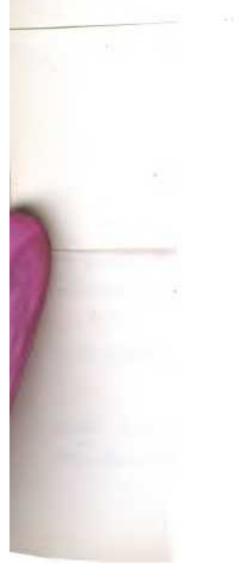
Let us never venture where he is walking, whether in deep meditation or in buoyant spirits. Enough is it for us to ramble and loiter in the narrower paths below, and to look up at the various images which, in the prodigality of his wealth, he has placed in every quarter.

Before you, reader, are some scattered leaves gathered from under them : carefuller hands may

49.

PREFACE.

arrange and compress them in a book of their own, and thus for a while preserve them, if rude children do not finger them first and tamper with their fragility.



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