NOTES FROM PLYMOUTH PULPIT: A COLLECTION OF MEMORABLE PASSAGES FROM THE DISCOURSES OF HENRY WARD BEECHER. [NEW YORK-1859]

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Notes from Plymouth Pulpit: A Collection of Memorable Passages from the Discourses of Henry Ward Beecher. [New York-1859] by Henry Ward Beecher & Augusta Moore

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HENRY WARD BEECHER & AUGUSTA MOORE

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DISCOURSES OF HENRY WARD BEECHER,

BY AUGUSTA MOORE.

NEW YORK:
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1859.

PUBLISHERS' NOTICE.

This volume is published not only without preparation or revision by Mr. Beecher, but he is ignorant of its entire contents, he having seen neither the copy or the proof. In withdrawing his objections to the publication of it, Mr. Beecher was influenced by the same generous motives which prompted him to give to others than himself, the benefit of his previous published works. It is believed that the editor has faithfully eaught the spirit of the living, breathing words, as uttered by the pastor of Plymouth Church; and that her work will be received with acceptance by the public,

INTRODUCTORY.

The Notes contained in this volume are chiefly from memory. The most of them were written during the years of 1856-7—and were committed to paper simply because it was impossible to think of, or to write, anything else with a mind so fully possessed by the memory of the sermons from which they were taken.

Mr. Beecher is not responsible for the contents of this volume. There is no pretension that the Notes are verbatim. Whether they are, in tone and spirit, like him, the public will judge. But, because a thing is written here, it must not be said to Mr. Beecher, "You said that thing," unless he chooses to own it. In repeating from memory the sayings of another, it is very likely that errors may occur. Meanings may be modified or colored by the mind through which they pass.

And yet the writer has tried faithfully to give the true sense, and, as far as memory would assist, the exact expressions of Mr. Beecher.

It is not the beauty of Mr. Beecher's expressions, nor

the startling and resplendent flashes of his thought that this book will show, so much as his presentation of simple and holy truth, in such guise as never fails to interest and instruct all whose notice is gained. And thousands who cannot be induced to peruse long sermons, will cheerfully read, and undoubtedly remember the vital truths illustrated and enforced in the following pages.

The volume is a testimony to the power with which the mind from whence it sprung influences other minds, and of the nature of that influence.

A. M.

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