

**THE WORKS OF JAMES
WHITCOMB RILEY. VOL. XII: THE
POEMS AND PROSE SKETCHES OF
JAMES WHITCOMB RILEY; THE
BOOK OF JOYOUS CHILDREN**

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JAMES WHITCOMB RILEY

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VOL. XII



THE POEMS AND PROSE
✿ ✿ SKETCHES OF ✿ ✿
JAMES WHITCOMB RILEY

THE BOOK OF ✿ ✿
JOYOUS CHILDREN

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S
SONS ✿ NEW YORK ✿ 1913

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GRATEFULLY AND AFFECTIONATELY
INSCRIBED
TO
JOEL CHANDLER HARRIS

*YOU who to the rounded prime
Of a life of toil and stress,
Still have kept the morning-time
Of glad youth in heart and spirit,
So your laugh, as children hear it,
Seems their own, no less,—
Take this book of childish rhyme—
The Book of Joyous Children.*

*Their first happiness on earth
Here is echoed—their first glee:
Rich, in sooth, the volume's worth—
Not in classic lore, but rich in
The child-sagas of the kitchen;—
Therefore, take from me
To your heart of childish mirth
The Book of Joyous Children.*

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