

PREFACE.

THIS little book, written for young children, is but a stepping-stone to the more systematic study of English History.

Its chief purpose is to awaken an interest in the subject, and create in the children a desire to know more of it. Its aim is not so much to store the mind with facts, as to fill it with pictures of the past, that will live in the imagination and take root in the memory.

It dwells, therefore, only on the more striking and picturesque events in the life of the nation, and on such as are likely to be of interest to the young.

And as children are more interested in personal actions than in great national movements, much of the book is taken up with *personal history*—with tales of noble and heroic deeds, with stories of