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R. L. STEVENSON
MEMORIES

T. N. FOULIS
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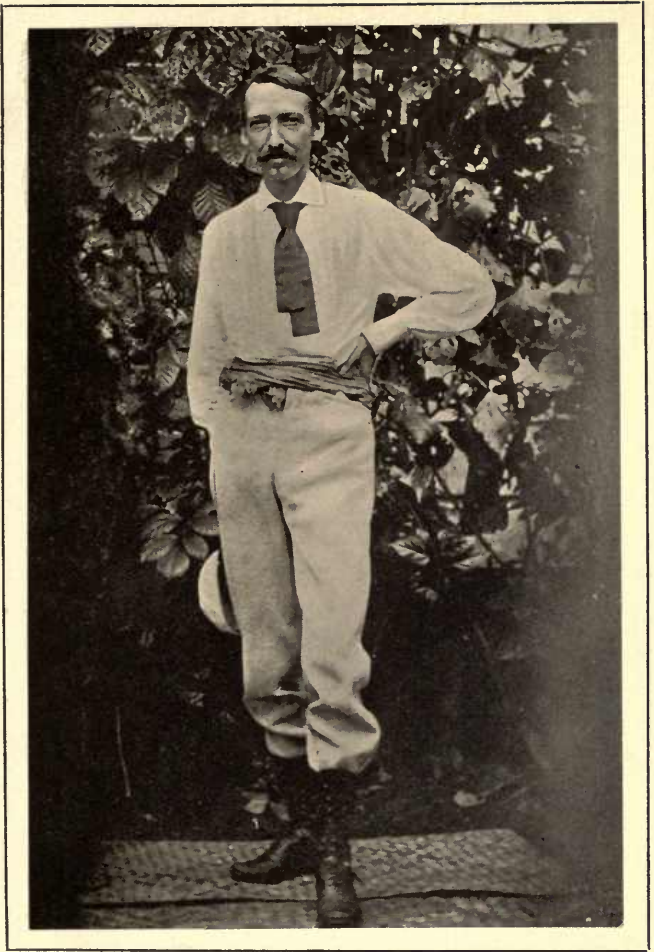
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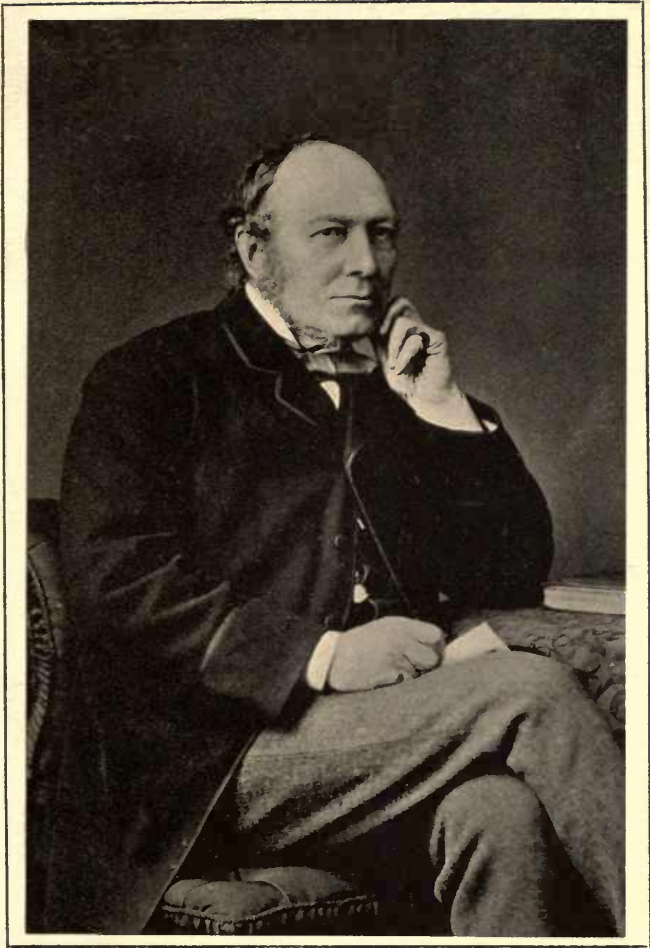
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ON HIS SMALL PROPERTY IN SAMOA, WHERE THE CLIMATE WAS SO BENEFICIAL TO HIS HEALTH, STEVENSON LIVED A FREE AND ACTIVE OUTDOOR LIFE. AS A RELIEF TO HOURS OF WRITING IN THE EARLY MORNING, OR DICTATING TO MRS STRONG, R. L. S. EXERCISED HIMSELF VIGOROUSLY IN CLEARING HIS "HOLDING" OF UNDERGROWTH, AND IN BEAUTIFYING THE IMMEDIATE SURROUNDINGS OF HIS HOUSE; OR BY RIDING, WHICH HOWEVER, OWING TO THE NATURE AND CONDITION OF THE GROUND, WAS RESTRICTED TO A FEW MILES AT A TIME. SO MUCH DID HE BENEFIT BY THIS MODE OF LIFE THAT THERE IS HERE LITTLE SUGGESTION OF THE INVALID OF "SKERRYVORE" AT BOURNEMOUTH TEN YEARS PREVIOUS.



R. L. S.—LAST PORTRAIT.

THE FATHER OF R. L. S. WAS THE YOUNGEST SON OF ROBERT STEVENSON, THE FIRST OF THE FAMOUS QUARTET OF ENGINEERS TO THE BOARD OF NORTHERN LIGHTS. THOMAS STEVENSON'S CHIEF DISTINCTION WAS PROBABLY THE DEVELOPMENT, AND PERFECTING OF THE REVOLVING LIGHT FOR LIGHTHOUSE ILLUMINATION. IN HIS SON'S "MEMORIES AND PORTRAITS" HIS CHARACTER IS GRAPHICALLY PORTRAYED ; HIS " BLENDED STERNNESS AND SOFTNESS . . . A MAN OF MANY EXTREMES," WHOSE " INMOST THOUGHTS WERE EVER TINGED WITH CELTIC MELANCHOLY."



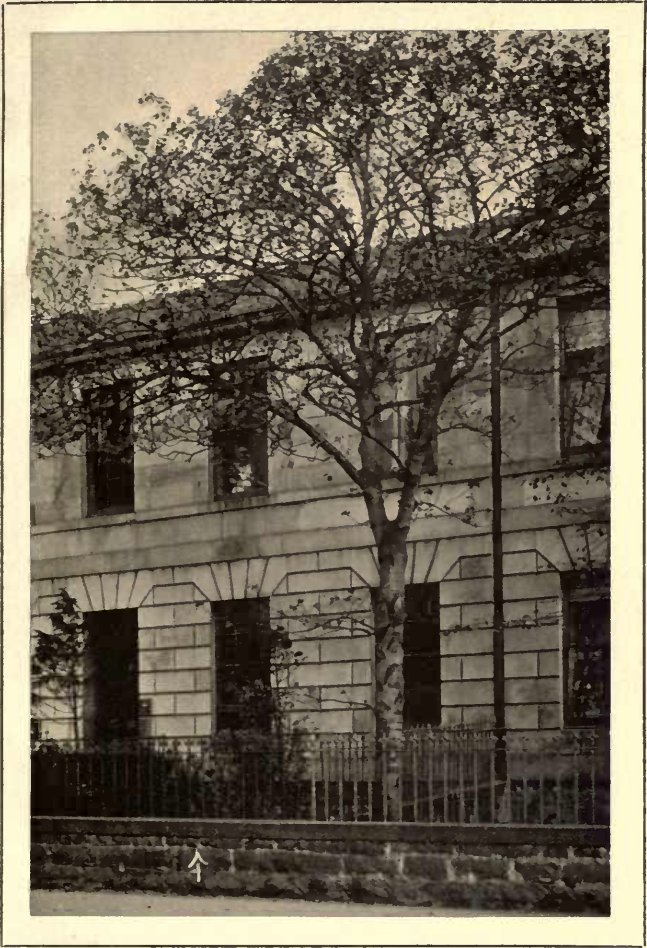
THOMAS STEVENSON.

MARGARET ISABELLA, THE YOUNGEST OF THE DAUGHTERS OF COLINTON MANSE, WAS KNOWN TO THE PARISHIONERS AS "THE MINISTER'S WHITE-HEADED LASSIE." TALL AND GRACEFUL IN FIGURE AND OF A VIVACIOUS AND BRIGHT TEMPERAMENT, R. L. S. HAS DESCRIBED HIS CHILDISH PRIDE AT RECOGNISING HIS MOTHER AS THE PRETTIEST LADY AT THE CHILDREN'S PARTIES TO WHICH SHE ACCOMPANIED HIM, AND INTO THE AMUSEMENTS OF WHICH SHE ENTERED WITH AS MUCH ZEST AS THE YOUNG PEOPLE.



MRS THOMAS STEVENSON.

AT NO. 8 HOWARD PLACE, EDINBURGH, R. L. S. WAS BORN ON 13TH NOVEMBER 1850, AND HERE WERE SPENT THE FIRST TWO AND A HALF YEARS OF HIS LIFE. FROM THE GARDEN OF THIS HOUSE HE VIEWED THE "FOREIGN LANDS" RECALLED IN HIS VERSES IN "A CHILD'S GARDEN," AND HERE ALSO HE EAGERLY AWAITED THE DAILY PASSING OF "LEERIE THE LAMP-LIGHTER," WHOSE OCCUPATION IT WAS HIS CHILDISH AMBITION TO FOLLOW WHEN HE GREW UP. THIS ALSO HE PRETTILY DESCRIBES IN THE SAME VOLUME.



NO. EIGHT HOWARD PLACE.

THIS PORTRAIT IS A REPRODUCTION OF A CHALK DRAWING OF THE NOVELIST AS A CHILD OF FOUR. MISS E. B. SIMPSON (STEVENSON'S EDINBURGH DAYS) RECORDS THE TROUBLE "CUMMY" MUST HAVE HAD TO GET AND KEEP THE RINGLETS IN PERFECT ORDER FOR THE ARTIST. IT WAS PROBABLY THEIR LAST APPEARANCE ; FOR SHORTLY AFTERWARDS, WHEN "CUMMY" WAS ON HOLIDAY, "SMOUTIE'S" FATHER WITH A BARBER'S ASSISTANCE HAD THE RINGLETS REMOVED. THEY WERE GREATLY TREASURED WITH MANY OTHER KEEPSAKES BY HIS FAITHFUL OLD NURSE.

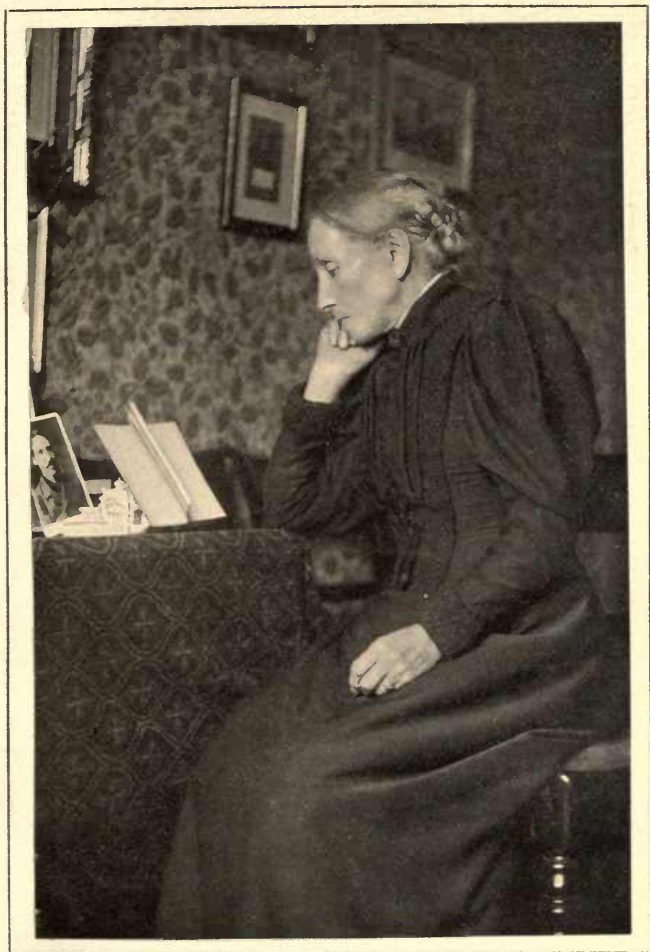


R. L. S. AT THE AGE OF FOUR.

ALISON CUNNINGHAM ENTERED EARLY INTO THE LIFE OF R. L. S. AND NEVER LEFT IT AS LONG AS HE LIVED. TO HER ALMOST AS MUCH AS TO HIS MOTHER, HE PROBABLY OWED MUCH OF THAT SUNNY DISPOSITION WHICH CARRIED HIM THROUGH THE WEAK HEALTH THAT WAS SO DEPRESSING TO HIS EARLY YEARS. "CUMMY," AS HER CHARGE CHRISTENED HER, BELONGED TO TORRYBURN, ON THE NORTH SHORE OF THE FORTH,—“A VILLAGE OF WHITE HOUSES, RED ROOFS, CROW-STEPPED GABLES, BASKING LAZILY IN THE SUN.” ONCE INSTALLED IN THE STEVENSON HOUSEHOLD, SHE BECAME ONE OF THE FAMILY,—SHE IS SAID TO HAVE REFUSED AN OFFER OF MARRIAGE RATHER THAN DESERT HER “BOY,”—AND FEW NURSES HAVE BEEN SO AMPLY REWARDED FOR THEIR DEVOTION. TO HER STEVENSON DEDICATED HIS “CHILD’S GARDEN OF VERSES”—

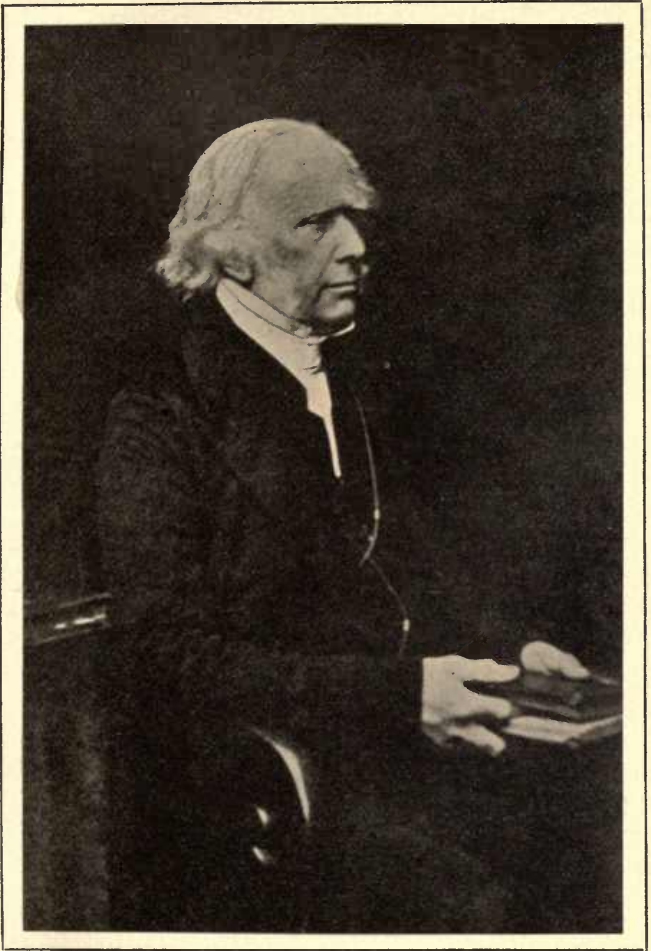
“FOR THE LONG NIGHTS YOU LAY AWAKE
AND WATCHED FOR MY UNWORTHY SAKE.”

HE REGULARLY CORRESPONDED WITH HER IN WHATEVER PART OF THE WORLD HE WAS, AND SENT HER EACH OF HIS NEW BOOKS AS THEY APPEARED. ACCOMPANYING “KIDNAPPED” HE WRITES HER THAT “ALISON HASTIE OF LIMEKILNS” MUST HAVE BEEN A RELATIVE, AND SHE IS ALSO RECALLED IN “KIRSTIE WEIR OF HERMISTON.” “CUMMY’S” HOUSE IN THE SOUTH SIDE OF EDINBURGH CONTAINED MANY TREASURES OF HER EARLY DAYS AT HOWARD PLACE; AMONG THEM THE MINIATURE TEA-SERVICE USED BY “SMOUTIE” WHEN, ACTING AS HOST, HE ENTERTAINED HIS MOTHER AND NURSE TO AFTERNOON TEA.



“CUMMY.”

THE MATERNAL GRANDFATHER OF R. L. S. CAME OF AN OLD FAMILY DATING BACK TO THE DAYS OF JAMES IV., WHEN ONE ALEXANDER BALFOUR WAS KING'S CELLARMAN. A LATER ANCESTOR OF THE BALFOURS, PROFESSOR OF THE LAWS OF NATURE AND NATIONS IN EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY, MARRIED A GRANDDAUGHTER OF SIR GILBERT ELLIOT, WHICH SUGGESTED THE IDEA TO STEVENSON THAT HE HAD AT A REMOTE PERIOD "SHAKEN A SPEAR IN THE DEBATEABLE LAND." DR LEWIS BALFOUR'S WIFE WAS A DAUGHTER OF THE REV. DR SMITH OF GALSTON WHO IS SATIRISED BY BURNS IN HIS "HOLY FAIR" FOR HIS "CAULD HARANGUES ON PRACTICE AND ON MORALS." DR BALFOUR IS DESCRIBED AS AN AUSTERE MAN, SELDOM UNBENDING EVEN AMONG THE MANY GRANDCHILDREN WHO WERE CONTINUALLY INMATES OF THE MANSE AT COLINTON. INDEED, HIS GRANDSON TELLS THAT IT WAS A TRADITION AMONG THEM THAT IF GRANDFATHER SAW A FOOTPRINT ON THE FLOWER BORDERS OF THE GARDEN, HE MEASURED IT TO DISCOVER THE CULPRIT WHEN THE BOOTS WERE PUT OUT IN THE EVENING. ON ONE OCCASION THE COMING NOVELIST WAS GREATLY DISAPPOINTED ON HIS GRANDPARENT PEREMPTORILY REFUSING HIM A "BARLEY SUGAR KISS" BECAUSE HE HAD NOT, LIKE THE OLD GENTLEMAN, BEEN OBLIGED TO SWALLOW A DOSE OF GREGORY'S POWDER. BUT, AGAIN, WHEN THE GRANDSON WAS SENT INTO THE STUDY TO REPEAT A PSALM, HE WAS UNEXPECTEDLY TAKEN UP ON THE OLD MAN'S KNEE AND TENDERLY KISSED—SO MUCH SO WAS THIS ACTION TO THE CHILD'S SURPRISE THAT HE QUITE FORGOT TO LOOK AT AN INDIAN PICTURE WHICH HE KNEW HUNG IN THE ROOM, AND WHICH HE HOPED MIGHT BE THE REWARD OF HIS SUCCESS.



REV. DR BALFOUR.

“CHIEF OF OUR AUNTS”—THUS HER NEPHEW DISTINGUISHED MISS BALFOUR, THE ELDEST DAUGHTER OF THE MINISTER OF COLINTON, TO WHOM FOR MANY YEARS AFTER HER MOTHER'S DEATH SHE ACTED AS HOUSEKEEPER AT THE MANSE. MISS BALFOUR HAD BEEN A BEAUTY IN HER YOUTH, “IMPERIOUS, MANAGING, SELF-SUFFICIENT,” SAYS HER NEPHEW; BUT AN ACCIDENT AFFECTED HER HEARING AND EYESIGHT, AND THIS CALAMITY CHANGED THE CURRENT OF HER LIFE INTO AN AMIABLE AND TENDER “SECOND MOTHER” TO THE NUMEROUS BAND OF NEPHEWS AND NIECES WHO WERE SENT HOME FROM UNHEALTHY INDIAN STATIONS TO BE REARED AND EDUCATED AT
“THE OLD MANSE.”



MISS BALFOUR.

SWANSTON LIES SNUGLY HID IN A LAP OF THE PENTLAND HILLS, BEHIND, BUT OUT OF SIGHT, OF THE FARMHOUSE AND THE COTTAGE. APPROACHING IT BY THE MAIN ROAD THE VISITOR LIGHTS UPON THE CLUSTER OF COTTAGES BEFORE HE IS WELL AWARE OF THEIR PROXIMITY. STANDING THERE WITH ONLY THE RIPPLING OF THE BURN, THE SINGING OF THE BIRDS, AND THE BLEATING OF SHEEP STRIKING ON HIS EAR, IT IS DIFFICULT TO REALISE HE IS CLOSE TO THE NOISE AND BUSTLE OF CITY LIFE, AND NOT IN SOME CLACHAN IN A REMOTE HIGHLAND GLEN.



SWANSTON—I.

THE ORIGINAL COTTAGE WAS BUILT BY THE CORPORATION OF EDINBURGH WHEN A NEW WATER-SUPPLY TO THE CITY WAS INTRODUCED. THEY MADE THE PLACE A SORT OF HOLIDAY RETREAT. ITS HISTORY AT THIS PERIOD—WHEN ST IVES WAS CONDUCTED TO IT AND FROM WHENCE HE SET FORTH, DISGUISED AS A DRIVER, IN THE COMPANY OF SIM—IS PICTURESQUELY TOLD BY STEVENSON IN HIS “EDINBURGH NOTES.” AFTER THE OLD COTTAGE WAS ALTERED TO SUIT MODERN CONVENIENCE, AND BECAME THE HOME OF THE STEVENSON FAMILY IN 1867. ITS SITUATION, LIKE THE VILLAGE, ALMOST ENTIRELY HIDDEN FROM PUBLIC VIEW, IS APTLY DESCRIBED BY R. L. S. AS “SECLUDED SWANSTON, LAPPED IN A FOLD OF THE PENTLANDS.”



SWANSTON COTTAGE.

ON THE TREE AT SWANSTON, SHOWN IN THE PHOTOGRAPH, R. L. S. CUT HIS OWN AND HIS FATHER'S INITIALS IN THE EARLY DAYS OF THE FAMILY RESIDENCE AT THE COTTAGE. THE TREE WAS UNFORTUNATELY BLOWN DOWN SOME YEARS AGO, AND WAS DESTROYED ALONG WITH THIS INTERESTING MEMENTO.



TREE AT SWANSTON.

THE GARDENER AT SWANSTON EXERCISED SUPREME AUTHORITY IN HIS OWN DEPARTMENT OF WORK, ACCEPTING CONGRATULATIONS FOR ANY SUCCESS HE ATTAINED IN IT ; BUT MEETING ANY REFERENCE TO BACKWARDNESS IN THE PRODUCTIONS OF THE GARDEN WITH AN APT QUOTATION FROM SCRIPTURE, WHICH CLEARLY PLACED ALL RESPONSIBILITY ON PROVIDENCE. HIS BIOGRAPHER TELLS MANY QUAINSTORIES OF HIM IN THIS CAPACITY. HIS IS ONE OF THE MOST DELIGHTFUL OF "MEMORIES AND PORTRAITS."



IN THE GARDEN, SWANSTON.

WHEN WANDERING ON THE SLOPES OF THE PENTLANDS HE WOULD BE STARTLED BY THE WRATHFUL SHOUT OF THE SHEPHERD, "C'WAY OOT AMANG THE SHEEP." R. L. S. AND THE ROARING SHEPHERD ULTIMATELY BECAME GREAT FRIENDS—THE ICE BEING FIRST BROKEN BY THE LATTER TENDERING THE YOUNG INTRUDER HIS SNUFF-BOX. TOD, LIKE EVERY ONE ELSE WHO CAME IN CONTACT WITH STEVENSON, BECAME SO ATTRACTED TO HIM THAT IN PASSING THE GARDENS IN HIS ROUNDS HE NEVER FAILED TO GIVE HIM A "CA' IN" AND INVITE HIS COMPANY TO THE HILLS. MANY OF THE TALES OF THE PROWESS AND PERFIDY OF SHEEP-DOGS RECORDED IN THE "PASTORAL" ESSAY WERE GLEANED FROM JOHN TOD'S RECOLLECTIONS AS A "DROVER," BY HIS EAGER YOUNG COMPANION, AS THEY TRUDGED THE SLOPES OF KIRK YETTON TOGETHER. JOHN TOD—"THE OLDEST HERD ON THE PENTLANDS"—APPEARS IN "ST IVES."



SHEPHERD'S COTTAGE, SWANSTON.

TO VIEW SWANSTON ARIGHT ONE MUST ASCEND THE HILLSIDE BEHIND THE VILLAGE. FROM THE HIGH GROUND OF LOTHIANBURN GOLF COURSE ONE CAN LOOK DOWN ON THIS NOW WORLD-FAMOUS LITTLE VILLAGE AND REALISE TO SOME EXTENT THE HOLD IT HAD IN THE MEMORY OF STEVENSON WHEN, FROM THE VERANDAH OF HIS HOME AT VAILIMA, HE LOOKED OUT ON OTHER SCENES AND RECALLED THE DAYS OF HIS BOYHOOD AND YOUTH SPENT IN THIS DELIGHTFUL SPOT ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF HIS "OWN ROMANTIC TOWN."



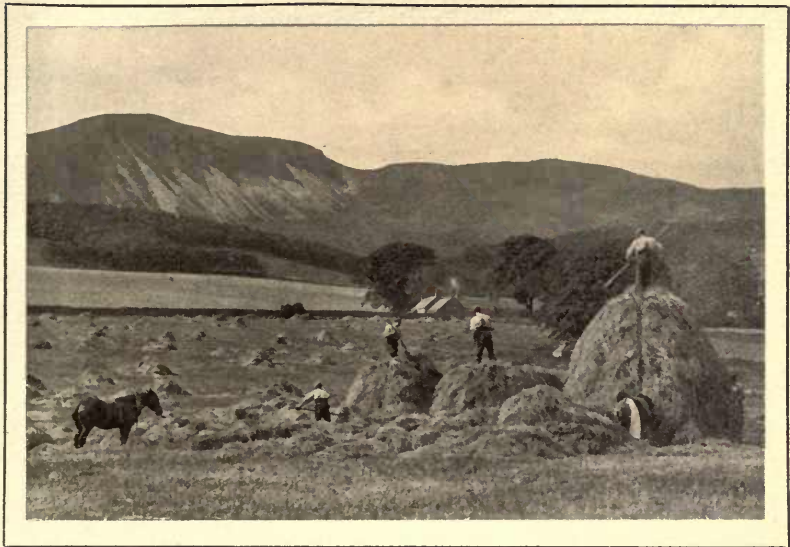
SWANSTON—II.

NOTHING COULD BE MORE SUGGESTIVE OF THE QUIETUDE OF SWANSTON VILLAGE THAN THIS "INTERIOR" OF ONE OF ITS COTTAGES. ALTHOUGH WITHIN SIGHT AND SOUND OF EDINBURGH, THIS SCENE REMINDS ONE THAT IN ITS SEQUESTERED NOOK AT THE FOOT OF THE PENTLANDS, SWANSTON IS STILL "FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD" !



LIGHT AT EVENTIDE.

A SCENE SUCH AS IS SHOWN IN THE ACCOMPANYING PHOTOGRAPH WOULD BE ONE WITH WHICH R. I. S. WOULD BE VERY FAMILIAR, AND THE MEMORY OF WHICH HE WOULD RETAIN IN THE LONG AFTER YEARS. NOT ONLY WAS HE THE FRIEND OF THE GARDENER AND "THE ROARING SHEPHERD," BUT HE ASSOCIATED FREELY WITH THE FARM HANDS, AND DOUBTLESS OFTEN ASSISTED THEM IN THE FIELDS.



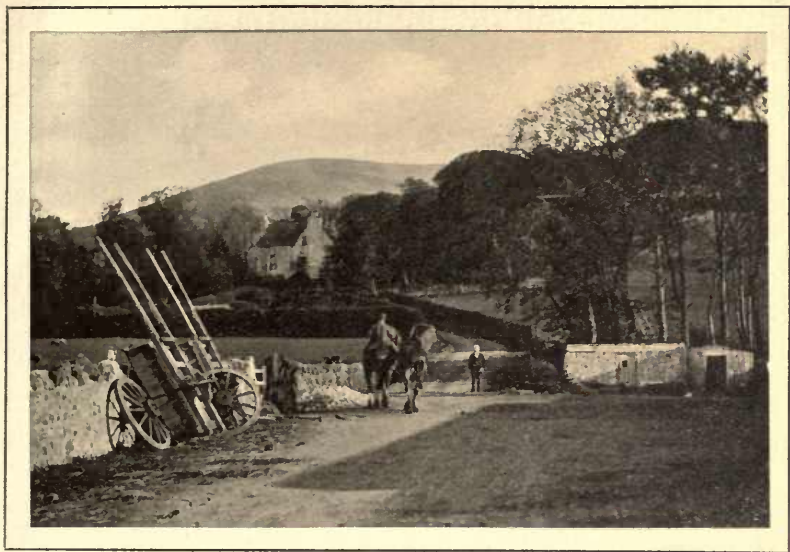
HAYMAKING AT SWANSTON.

THERE IS AN OLD AND A NEW SWANSTON. THE LATTER, FORMING THREESIDES OF A SQUARE, IS A TYPICAL SCOTTISH FARM "TOWN"; THE FORMER, HIDDEN FROM ITS NEIGHBOUR ON A GENTLE SLOPE FACING THE WEST, CONSISTS OF THATCHED COTTAGES DELIGHTFULLY SUGGESTIVE OF THE EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY DAYS WHEN THE GAUGER'S FLUTE WAS HEARD PLAYING "OVER THE HILLS AND FAR AWAY." AT HER COTTAGE DOOR IN THIS SECLUDED "HAUNT" IS ONE OF R. L. S.'S OLD FRIENDS.



AN OLD FRIEND OF R. L. S.

THE OLD HOUSE OF SWANSTON—NOW THE FARMHOUSE—WAS AT ONE TIME THE GRANGE OF WHITEKIRK IN EAST LOTHIAN. IT HAS HAD INTERESTING ASSOCIATIONS WITH CONVENTICLES IN THE HILLS BEHIND, AND DURING THE FORTY-FIVE WAS VISITED BY A FORAGING PARTY OF HIGHLANDERS. FINDING A CHURN FULL OF CREAM, THEY COMMANDEERED IT FOR THEIR BREAKFAST, AND HAVING SATISFIED THEMSELVES WITH THE 'BRAW BROSE' THEY MADE OFF, CARRYING ALL THEY COULD WITH THEM.



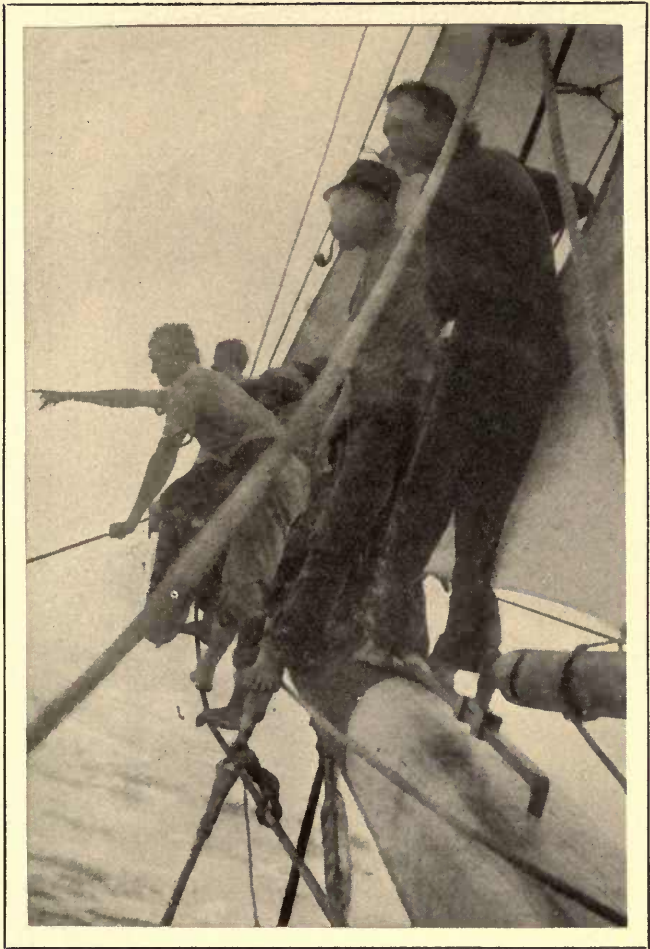
THE FARMHOUSE OF SWANSTON.

ON THE SCHOONER "EQUATOR" STEVENSON MADE A CRUISE IN THE CENTRAL PACIFIC, VISITING THE GILBERT ISLANDS AND THE SAMOAN GROUP, LANDING AT APIA FOR THE FIRST TIME TOWARDS THE END OF 1891. IT WAS DURING THIS CRUISE, WHEN SPENDING SOME DAYS ASHORE ON ONE OF THE GILBERT ISLANDS, THAT R. L. S. FOR THE FIRST AND ONLY TIME ENCOUNTERED SOME RISK OF ATTACK FROM NATIVES, WITH WHOM, ESPECIALLY IN SAMOA, HE WAS ON THE MOST FRIENDLY TERMS.



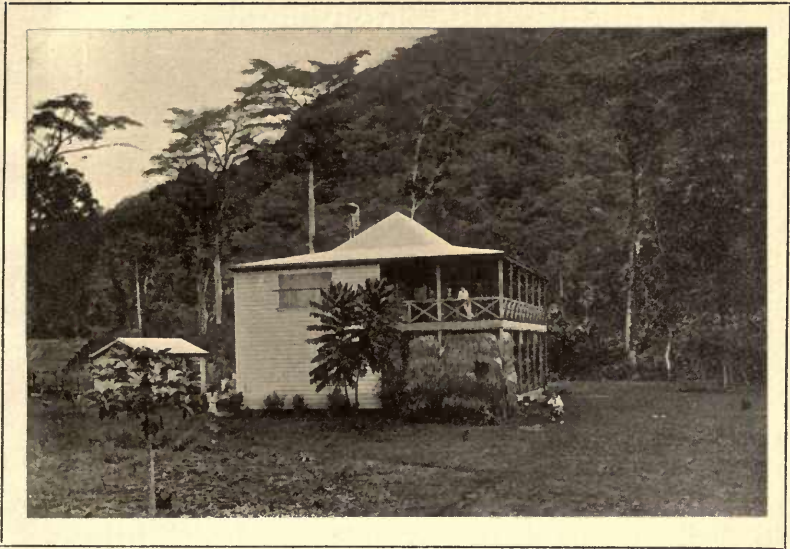
ON BOARD THE "EQUATOR."

IN THE "CASCO," A SCHOONER YACHT OF 70 TONS, STEVENSON MADE HIS FIRST CRUISE IN THE PACIFIC, STARTING FROM CALIFORNIA. IT WAS CHARACTERISTIC OF HIS EXUBERANT SPIRITS, WHEN IN GOOD HEALTH, TO TAKE SOME PART IN THE WORK OF THOSE WITH WHOM HE WAS ASSOCIATED, HIS CONTAGIOUS ENTHUSIASM KEEPING ALL ABOUT HIM IN HIGH GOOD HUMOUR.



LAND OH !

R. L. S.'S HOUSE AT VAILIMA WAS A WOODEN BUILDING WHICH IN ITS SITE AND CONSTRUCTION FULFILLED IN MANY RESPECTS HIS IDEAL OF A HOME. IT STOOD INLAND ABOUT THREE MILES FROM THE COAST AND SOME SIX HUNDRED FEET ABOVE THE LEVEL OF THE SEA. SURROUNDING THE DWELLING - HOUSE AND FORMING A MINIATURE VILLAGE—OR WHAT IN SCOTLAND IS KNOWN AS “THE FARM TOUN”—WERE GROUPED ACCOMMODATION FOR SERVANTS, OUT-HOUSES, STORES, AND STABLES. HERE STEVENSON EXERCISED WHAT HIS FANCY PICTURED AS THE POSITION OF A HIGHLAND CHIEF: ON THE ONE HAND CONSULTED BY HIS NATIVE SERVANTS ON ALL MATTERS AFFECTING THEIR INTERESTS (WHEN MARRIAGE WAS IN VIEW HIS PERMISSION WAS ASKED); ON THE OTHER, WHEN OCCASION AROSE, IMPOSING SMALL FINES FOR MINOR DELINQUENCIES.



THE HOME AT VAILIMA.

WHEN STEVENSON SETTLED AT VAILIMA THERE WAS NO ROAD TO HIS HOUSE FROM APIA, THE PRINCIPAL TOWN OF THE ISLAND OF UPOLU. HE IMMEDIATELY BEGAN THE CONSTRUCTION OF ONE, AND REMADE IT SEVERAL TIMES, UNTIL LATTERLY, UNDER FAVOURABLE WEATHER CONDITIONS, IT WAS AVAILABLE FOR LIGHT-WHEELED TRAFFIC; BUT FOR CARRYING SUPPLIES OF ALL KINDS PACK-HORSES HAD TO BE USED, AND THE PHOTOGRAPH SHOWS THE ARRIVAL OF TWO AT VAILIMA.



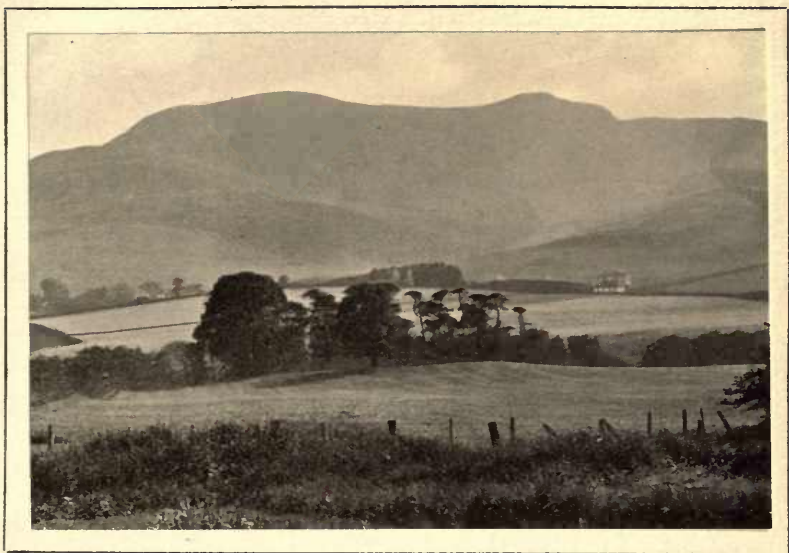
ARRIVAL OF PACK-HORSES AT VAILIMA.

THE VAILIMA HOUSEHOLD GROUPEd ON THE VERAN-
DAH OF STEVENSON'S FIRST HOME ON MOUNT VAEA IS
AN INTERESTING STUDY. HERE WE SEE THE GREAT
WRITER FOR WHOSE WORKS "PUBLISHERS AND PUB-
LIC IMPATIENTLY WAITED" SURROUNDED BY HIS
NEAREST AND DEAREST RELATIVES, AND HIS FAITH-
FUL NATIVE SERVANTS, WHO LOOKED TO HIM AS A
KIND AND STAUNCH FRIEND AS WELL AS A MASTER.
IN STRONG CONTRAST TO THE CHILDLIKE UNCONVEN-
TIONALITY OF THE NATIVES IS HIS MOTHER'S PRIM
POSE; BUT THIS WE ARE TOLD WAS ONLY ASSUMED
WITH THE APPEARANCE OF A CAMERA, WHEN SHE
"DONNED HER CAP," TUCKED IN HER STOCKINGLESS
FEET, AND "PREENED HERSELF."



HOUSEHOLD AT VAILIMA.

OF THE PENTLAND HILLS, CAERKETTON (KIRK YET-
TON) AND ALLERMUIR—THE FORMER WITH ITS LONG
SCARS VISIBLE FROM ANY HIGH POINT IN EDINBURGH,
THE LATTER THE HIGHEST ON THE NORTH-EASTERN
SPUR OF THE RANGE—WERE THE FAVOURITE RESORTS
OF R. L. S. IN HIS "PICTURESQUE NOTES" HE FULLY
DESCRIBES THEM AND THE SURROUNDING COUNTRY.



“HILLS OF HOME.”

AS IS WELL KNOWN, STEVENSON WAS BURIED ON THE SUMMIT OF VAEA—THE HILL ON THE SLOPES OF WHICH HE BUILT HIS HOUSE. THE SPOT IS DESCRIBED AS “NO WIDER THAN A ROOM AND FLAT AS A TABLE.” OVER THE GRAVE WAS ERECTED “THE TOMB OF TUSITALA”—THE TELLER OF TALES—BEARING TWO PANELS WITH INSCRIPTIONS IN SAMOAN AND IN ENGLISH. THE LATTER CONCLUDES WITH HIS OWN LINES

“HOME IS THE SAILOR, HOME FROM THE SEA,
AND THE HUNTER HOME FROM THE HILL.”



TOMB OF R. L. STEVENSON.

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