FOREWORD

We cannot alter external things, nor shape other people to our liking, nor mould the world to our wishes; but we can alter internal things,—our desires, passions, thoughts,—we can shape our liking to other people, and we can mould the inner world of our own mind in accordance with wisdom, and so reconcile it to the outer world of men and things. The turmoil of the world we cannot avoid, but the disturbances of the mind we can overcome. The duties and difficulties of life claim our attention, but we can rise above all anxiety concerning them.
Foreword

Surrounded by noise, we can yet have a quiet mind; involved in responsibilities, the heart can be at rest; in the midst of strife, we can know the abiding peace.

The twenty pieces which comprise this book, unrelated as some of them are in the letter, will be found to be harmonious in the spirit, in that they point the reader towards those heights of self-knowledge and self-conquest which, rising above the turbulence of the world, lift their peaks where the Heavenly Silence reigns.

JAMES ALLEN.

BRYNGOLEU,
ILFRACOMBE, ENGLAND.
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