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THE NOVELS AND LETTERS OF

JANE AUSTEN

Edited by

REGINALD BRIMLEY JOHNSON

with an Introduction by

WILLIAM LYON PHELPS, Ph.D.

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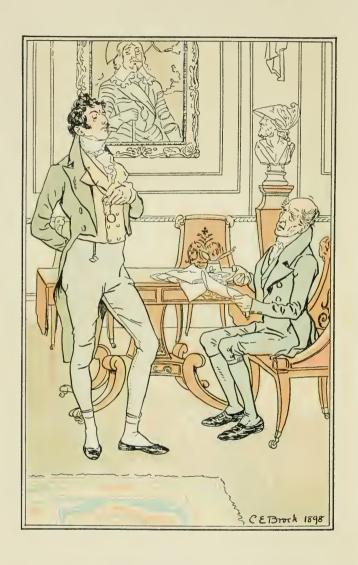
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But now her father was growing distressed for money (page 10

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R. BRIMLEY JOHNSON
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PROF. WILLIAM LYON PHELPS, Ph. D.

Lampson Professor of English Literature,
Yale University.

PERSUASION

With Colored Illustrations by C. E. and H. M. BROCK



The Old Theatre, Bath

FRANK S. HOLBY

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PREFACE

Persuasion was one of the three novels written between February, 1811, and August, 1816. As the manuscript was subscribed "Finis, July 18, 1816," it is probable that it was written later than Emma and Mansfield Park. It appears from Mr. Austen-Leigh's Memoir that it was not finally completed in July, for in the original manuscript the re-engagement of Anne and Captain Wentworth was arranged in Admiral Croft's lodgings. This dénouement did not satisfy Miss Austen, and she was at first depressed about the whole book. But she afterwards wrote Chapters X and XI as we now have them, which are thus the latest, and certainly not the least brilliant, part of her works. The cancelled chapter is printed in The Memoir.

NORTHANGER ABBEY, and PERSUASION. By the author of "Pride and Prejudice," "Mansfield Park," &c. With a biographical notice of the author. In four volumes. London: John Murray, Albemarle Street, 1818.

[Vols. I. and II., containing Northanger Abbet, were printed by C. Roworth, Bell-yard, Temple Bar. Vols. III. and IV., containing Persuasion, were printed by T. Davison, Lombard Street, Whitefriars, London.]

PREFACE

This edition is a reprint of the first, except that a few obvious misprints are corrected, which is indicated by the words being enclosed in square brackets.

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PERSUASION

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