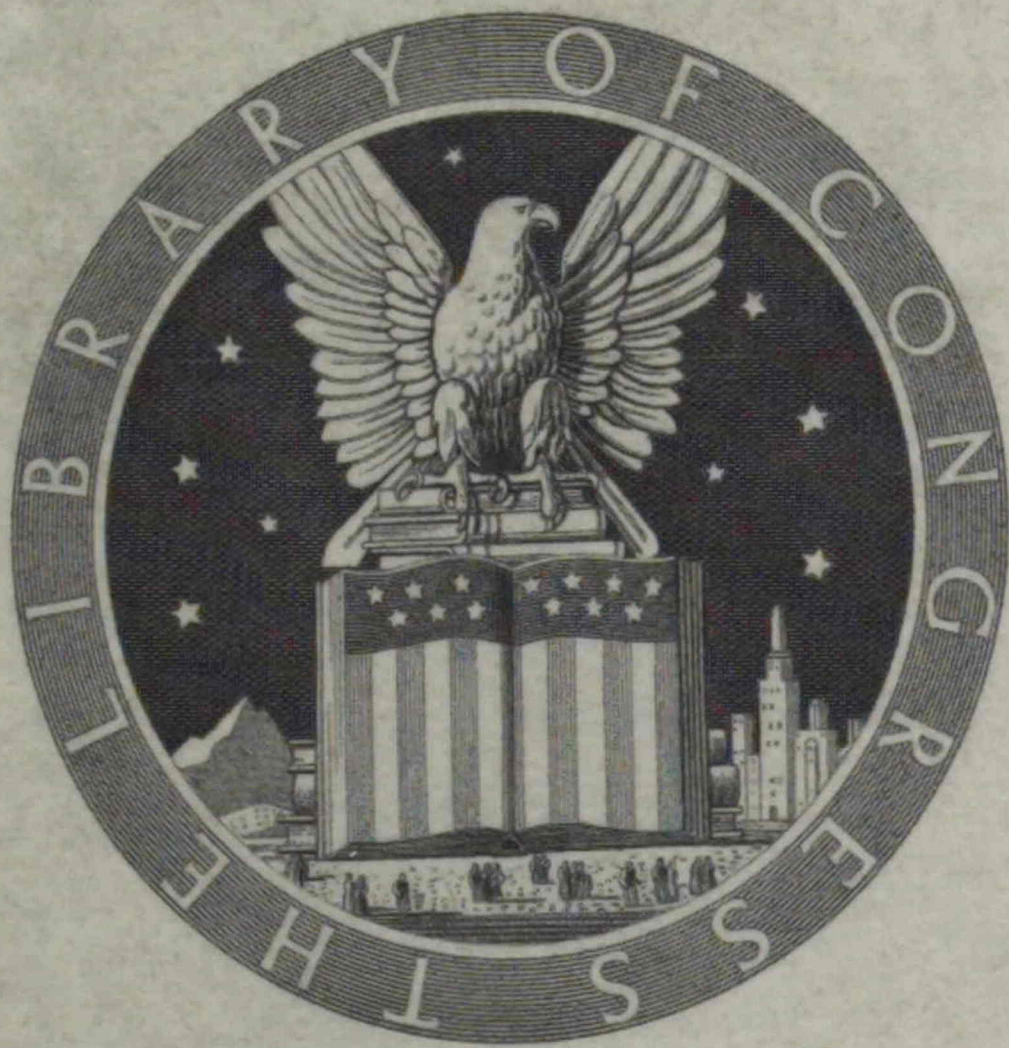
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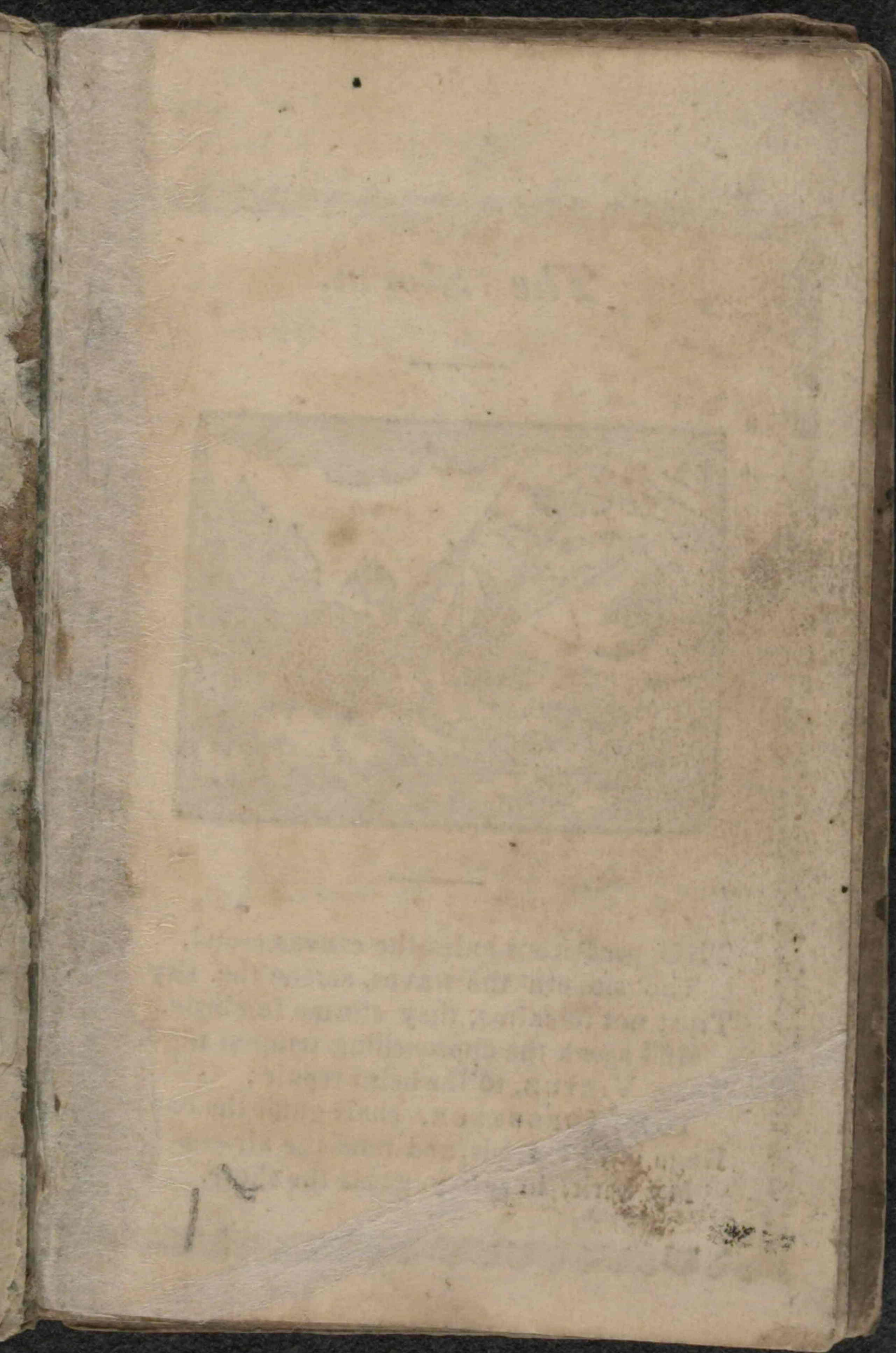
INTERESTING  
HISTORY  
OF  
*Prince Lee Boo.*





RARE BOOK COLLECTION







*The Storm.*

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THO' pros'prous gales the canvas croud,  
Tho' smooth the waves, serene the sky,  
Trust not to calms, they storms forebode,  
And speak the approaching tempest nigh.  
Then, VIRTUE, to the helm repair ;  
THOU, INNOCENCE, shalt guide the oar ;  
Rage on, ye winds, and rend the air——  
My bark, in safety, gains the shore.



THE  
INTERESTING  
HISTORY  
OF  
*Prince Lee Boo,*  
BROUGHT TO ENGLAND,  
FROM THE  
PELEW ISLANDS.

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YORK:

PRINTED AND SOLD BY EDW. PECK.





HISTORICAL

OF THE

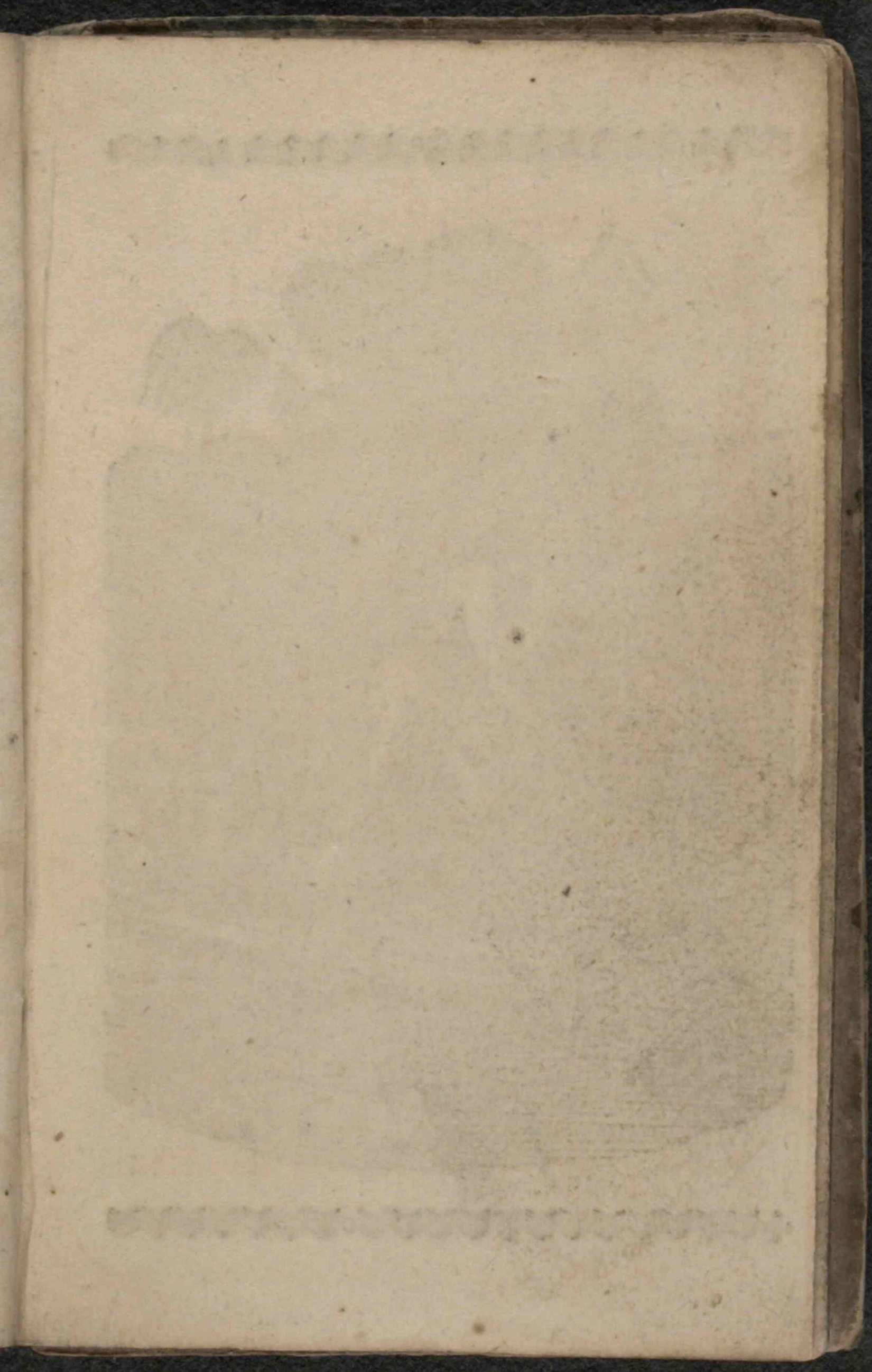
REPUBLIC

OF THE

UNITED STATES

OF AMERICA













THE  
*INTERESTING HISTORY*  
OF  
Prince Lee Boo.

—

**I**N the year 1783, the Antelope, belonging to the English East India Company, and commanded by Captain Wilson, was wrecked in the Pacific Ocean, on a reef of coral which incloses the Pelew Islands; by means of the boats however, the crew reached land safely, near four leagues distant from their ship, on an island named Oroolong, utterly ignorant what resources it afforded, or of the disposition of the inhabitants, if



any there were. In a few days they were discovered by the natives of the other islands, the one on which they were landed proving to be resorted to only occasionally.

The English found them to be a people friendly in their dispositions, simple in their manners, and their conduct towards each other uniformly courteous.

The opening a communication, as well by discourse as good offices, between such a people and perhaps as meritorious a captain and crew as ever ploughed the main, was effected by an union of singular circumstances. It had happened that a native of Bengal, who spoke the Malay language perfectly well, had been recommended to Capt. Wilson as a servant; it had also happened, that, near a year before, a tempest had thrown on those parts a Ma-



lay, who, as a stranger, had been noticed and favoured by the king, and who was now become acquainted with the language of the islanders. By these extraordinary events, both the English and the inhabitants of Pelew had each an interpreter, who could converse freely together in the Malay tongue; and Capt. Wilson's servant, whose name was Tom Rose, speaking English, an easy intercourse immediately took place on both sides, and all those impediments were at once removed which would have arisen among people who had no way of conveying their thoughts to one another but by signs and gestures, which might often have been misunderstood. Thus the English had the happy opportunity of communicating the particulars of the calamity which had befallen



them, and of imploring the friendship of the natives; and these, in return, finding their visitors to have no hostile intentions, freely gave them the good will they desired; and if but little was in their power, that little they bestowed generously to alleviate their distress.

The natives themselves were of a deep copper colour, and naked; and the astonishment which those who first discovered the English manifested on seeing their colour, plainly showed that they had never before beheld a white man. The clothes of the strangers, too, puzzled them exceedingly; for it seemed to be a matter of doubt with them, whether those and their bodies did not form one substance, till the use and occasion thereof were explained by the Malay. The same idea afterwards prevailed among others; for





when one of the crew was deputed to wait upon the king, who resided in an island at some distance from that whereon they had saved their lives, he accidentally pulled off his hat, at which the gazing spectators were all struck with astonishment, as if they thought it had formed a part of his head.

Abba Thulle, which was the king's name, being a man of great humanity, was no less affected with the misfortune the English had met with, than surprised at their persons, and assured them of his friendship and favour. He paid them frequent visits, testifying the utmost admiration at every thing he saw, and the greatest good-will and regard for them and their concerns; and granted them permission to avail themselves of every conveniency his country afforded for their relief: for



the captain and crew entertained the fond hope, as the ship did not go immediately to pieces, of being enabled, by means of the implements and materials they might get out of her, to build another vessel sufficiently large to convey them to some part of China.

As they pursued this design, new wonders broke upon Abba Thulle and his countrymen, who till now were utter strangers to the forge, the saw, and other European implements and utensils, by the use of which they saw such things performed as impressed them with equal surprise and esteem—even the grindstone struck them with wonder; and they could not look upon the English but as a superior as well as an uncommon kind of human beings.

But if the king and his people were so surprised at the effect of a



saw or a grindstone, what must have been their astonishment at that of a gun!—To give them some idea of it, on the first visit from the king, Captain Wilson ordered his men to be exercised before him and his numerous attendants, and to fire three vollies in different positions; when the surprise of the natives was well marked by their hallowing, hooting, jumping, and chattering, which produced a noise almost equal to the report of the musquets. After this, one of the fowls which had been saved from the little live stock of the Antelope, was purposely driven across the cove where they were assembled, and where one of the officers was prepared with a fowling piece loaded with shot. He fired, and the bird instantly dropped, having its wing and leg broken. Some of the natives ran to it, took it up,



and carried it to the king, who examined it with great attention, unable to comprehend how it could be wounded, not having seen any thing pass out of the gun. This created a vast murmur and amazement among them.

From the time of the shipwreck in the early part of August 'till the latter end of October, the crew were indefatigable in getting stores and planks from the ship, in cutting down timber on the island, and in forwarding by every means in their power the grand object in view, and they had the satisfaction to hope, from the great progress they had made, that success would attend their endeavours, and that they should soon complete such a vessel as would carry them from those islands; and this encouraged them to persevere in their labours, how-



ever toilsome, with cheerfulness and alacrity.

So unremittingly had the English worked on the vessel which was to be the means of their deliverance, that by the 9th of November it was ready for launching, and this being happily accomplished, they began to put on board every thing which they judged would be necessary to them in their voyage. By Abba Thulle's desire she was called the Oroolong.

Throughout the whole progress of building the vessel, the king had, in his visits to the English, been very attentive to their manner of working; he would stand by for a considerable time together, and let not the most trivial circumstance escape his observation. He was now come to Oroolong, with some of his chiefs, to be present at their



departure. In the evening of the day after the vessel was launched, he entered very seriously into conversation with Captain Wilson: he said, that notwithstanding he was looked up to by his subjects with respect, and regarded as their superior as well in knowledge as in rank, yet, after mixing with the English, and being witness of their ingenuity, he was often conscious of his own insignificance, in beholding the meanest of them exercise talents to which he had ever been a stranger; and that, therefore, after due consideration, he had come to the resolution of committing his second son, whose name was

LEE BOO,

to the captain's care, in order that he might enjoy the advantage of acquiring improvement himself, by accompanying the English, and also



of learning many things, which on his return, might prove of essential benefit to his country. He then spoke of his son as a youth of gentle and amiable disposition, sensible, and possessing many good qualities.

To this address of the king's, Captain Wilson answered, that he was exceedingly honoured and obliged by the singular mark of confidence and esteem he had mentioned; that he should have considered himself bound in gratitude to take care of any person belonging to Pelew whom he might think proper to send; but in the case proposed, he wished solemnly to assure him, that he should endeavour to merit the high trust reposed in him, by treating the young prince with the same affection and tenderness as his own son.—It is evident that this answer gave the king great satisfaction.



As a testimony of the gratitude the crew owed this worthy man, and as a means of rendering him service after their departure, by arming him against his enemies, it had been intended to leave with Abba Thulle, on quitting the island, whatever fire arms they could spare: on this request therefore, they now presented him, in addition to some working implements and other things they had given him before, five musquets, five cutlasses, a barrel of gunpowder, and gun flints and ball in proportion; to which Captain Wilson added his own fowling-piece, wherewith his royal friend seemed to be particularly pleased, having often been witness of its effects.

In the evening of the 11th of November LEE Boo arrived at Oroolong, and was introduced by his father first to Capt. Wilson, and then



to his officers. He approached them all in so easy and affable a manner, and with such sensibility and good-humour in his countenance, that every one immediately became prepossessed in his favour, and felt the commencement of that interest for him, which his amiable manners daily increased.

Every requisite being now put on board the vessel, and the wind fair, the next day was appointed by the captain for the affecting scene of bidding a last adieu to those friendly islanders to whom he and his crew were so much indebted, and who so much wished for their longer stay; but the captain was fearful of not reaching China soon enough to secure a passage in some of the English ships on their return to Europe that season. Abba Thulle, therefore, lost no time; he entered



into long discourse with his son; giving him instructions how to conduct himself, and what he was to attend to; and telling him, amongst his many other good counsels, that he was thenceforward to consider Captain Wilson as another father, and win his affections by observing his advice. And after further conversation relative to the confidence placed in him, the unlettered king of Cooroora concluded his recommendation nearly in the following expressions, which must make their way to the heart of every reader of the least sensibility: “ I would wish  
 “ you,” said he to Captain Wilson,  
 “ to inform LEE Boo, of all things  
 “ which he ought to know, and  
 “ make him an Englishman.—The  
 “ subject of parting with my son  
 “ I have frequently revolved; I am  
 “ well aware that the distant coun-



“ tries he must go through, differ-  
 “ ing much from his own, may ex-  
 “ pose him to dangers, as well as to  
 “ diseases that are unknown to us  
 “ here, in consequence of which he  
 “ may die;—I have prepared my  
 “ thoughts to this;—I know that  
 “ death to all men is inevitable, and  
 “ whether my son meets this event  
 “ at Pelew, or elsewhere, is imma-  
 “ terial. I am satisfied, from what  
 “ I have observed of the humanity  
 “ of your character, that, if he is  
 “ sick, you will be kind to him;  
 “ and should that happen, which,  
 “ your utmost care cannot prevent,  
 “ let it not hinder you, or your bro-  
 “ ther, or your son, or any of your  
 “ countrymen, returning here; I  
 “ shall receive you, or any of your  
 “ people, in friendship, and rejoice  
 “ to see you again.”

In the morning of the 12th of



November, one of the swivel guns, which had been saved from the wreck, was fired, and an English jack hoisted at the mast-head of the vessel, as a signal for sailing, which being explained to the king, he forthwith ordered to be taken on board yams, cocoa-nuts, sweet-meats, and other things provided for the voyage; besides which there was a profusion of provision in many canoes belonging to the natives lying along-side the Croolong. At eight o'clock, the captain went on board in his boat; and soon afterwards was followed by the king, his son LEE Boo, and such chiefs as were with him. The little vessel was so deeply laden with sea-stores, that a doubt arose whether she could be got over the reef which had proved fatal to the Antelope, and runs along the west side of the Pelew islands; it



was therefore determined to lighten her by landing two six pounders they had on board.

Abba Thalle accompanied the English in their vessel almost to the reef before he made the signal for his canoe to come along-side. And now, wishing him happy and prosperous, he most affectionately took leave of LEE Boo, and gave him his blessing—it was received with profound respect. Seeing Captain Wilson engaged in giving some directions to his people, he stopped till he was perfectly at liberty; then went up to him, and embraced him with the greatest tenderness, showing, by his voice and looks, how distressed he was to bid him farewell. In the most cordial manner he shook hands with all the officers, saying, “You are happy because you are going home—I am happy to find



“you are happy—but still very un-  
“happy myself to see you are going  
“away.” Then, assuring the crew  
of his ardent wishes for their suc-  
cessful voyage, he went over the  
side of the vessel into his canoe.  
As the canoes drew together, sur-  
rounding that of the king, the natives  
all eagerly looked up as if to bid  
adieu, while their countenances im-  
parted the feelings of their bene-  
volent hearts in looks far more  
expressive than language. The  
English might truly say that they left  
a whole people in tears; indeed so  
deeply were they themselves affected  
by this interesting scene, that when  
Abba Thulle and his retinue turned  
back to Oroolong, they were scarce-  
ly able to give them three cheers;  
and their eyes followed them to catch  
the latest look, whilst every man  
among them with gratitude felt the



efficacy of his services, whereby, in a great measure, their deliverance had been brought about, as well as the sincerity of his friendship, which had continued firm and unshaken to the last.

Having now parted from all their friends of Pelew, the crew pursued their voyage towards China with tolerable weather. The first night LEE Boo slept on board, he ordered his Malay servant, whose name was Boyam, to bring his mat upon deck; a warmer covering was, however, prepared to defend him against the cold. The next morning no land was to be seen, which much surprised him. Captain Wilson now clothed him in a shirt, waistcoat, and pair of trowsers, the two first articles of which seemed to be very uneasy to him, and he soon took those off, folded them up, and used them



only as a pillow: but imbibing an idea of the indelicacy, of having no clothing, he never appeared without his trowsers; and as the vessel, by steering northward, advanced into a climate gradually becoming colder, he felt less and less inconvenience in resuming the use of his jacket and shirt; and the dislike he had to them lost itself in his new taught sense of propriety, which daily increasing, soon became too powerful to suffer him to change his dress in the presence of another person; and he would afterwards always retire for that purpose to some dark corner where he could not be seen; he was remarkably clean in his person, washing himself several times a day. At first the motion of the vessel made him sea-sick, insomuch that he was obliged to lie down.—But when he was quite recovered, he appeared



to be perfectly easy and contented.

In the morning of the 25th, at day light, the vessel came in sight of the Bashee islands at about three leagues distance. LEE BOO was much pleased at the circumstance, and eagerly desired to know their names: which being repeated to him until he could pronounce them, he took a piece of line, and tied a knot in remembrance of the event. It is the custom of the people in the Pelew islands to make remarks by tying knots in a line, and LEE BOO had brought with him the one he now used for that purpose.

Having pursued their course without interruption, on Friday the 28th the voyagers saw several Chinese fishing-boats, and next morning land: they stood in amongst the islands, as the wind would permit, till six o'clock in the evening, when they



anchored in the midst of some small Chinese vessels; LEE Boo being quite delighted with viewing the land and the number of boats upon the water.

On the 30th in the morning, Captain Wilson procured a pilot to conduct their vessel between the islands to Macao, where lived Mr. M'Intyre, a gentleman from whom the captain had received many testimonies of friendship when before at that place in the Antelope.

LEE Boo was astonished on seeing the Portuguese ships at Macao: he cried out, as he looked at them, *Clow, clow, muc clow!* that is, *Large, large, very large!* The English had here an early opportunity of observing the natural benevolence of his mind. Some Chinese boats, rowed by poor Tartar women, with their little children tied to their backs,



surrounding the vessel, and the poor creatures in them petitioning for fragments of victuals, LEE BOO was very anxious to relieve their necessities, giving them oranges, and selecting, with particular attention, from such things as he had, whatever he liked best himself.

By the good offices of Mr. M'Intyre, a house servants, and other necessaries were provided at Macao for the crew of the Oroolong, and they all came on shore, leaving a guard of one officer and a few men, who at due times were changed. In purchasing such things as they stood in need of, they did not forget LEE BOO, who was a favourite with them all. Among other trinkets, which, from their novelty, they thought would please him, was a string of large glass beads, the sight whereof threw him almost into an ec-



stacy : he hugged them with a trans-  
 port which could not be equalled  
 by that of the interested possessor of  
 a string of pearls of the same mag-  
 nitude—his imagination told him  
 he had in his hands all the wealth  
 the world could afford—he ran with  
 eagerness to Captain Wilson to shew  
 him his riches, and enraptured with  
 the idea of his family's sharing them  
 with him, in the utmost agitation  
 of spirits, entreated the captain,  
 “ immediately to get him a Chinese  
 “ vessel, to carry his treasures to Pe-  
 “ lew, and deliver them to the king,  
 “ that he might distribute them as  
 “ he thought proper, and thereby  
 “ see what a country the English  
 “ had conveyed him to ;” adding,  
 “ that the people who carried them  
 “ should inform the king that LEE  
 “ Boo would soon send him other  
 presents.” He then assured Cap-  
 tain Wilson, that, “ if the people



“faithfully executed their charge,  
 “he would, besides what Abba  
 “Thulle might give them, present  
 “them on their return, with one  
 “or two beads, as a reward for their  
 “fidelity.”—Happy state of sim-  
 plicity and innocence, whose plea-  
 sures can be purchased on such easy  
 terms!

In a short time Captain Wilson received letters from the supercar-  
 goes, expressing their concern for  
 the misfortune of the crew, and ad-  
 vising the disposal of the vessel and  
 stores. The crew were waiting at  
 Macao for a permit and boats to car-  
 ry them to Canton, when Captain  
 Churchill, of the Walpole, arriving,  
 was so obliging as to accommodate  
 them with a passage up to Wampoa;  
 the chief mate, and five or six of the  
 men, only, remaining with the Oroo-  
 long at Macao 'till she should be sold.

LEE Boo found sufficient matter



to keep his mental faculties awak  
 on board the Walpole; the furniture,  
 chairs, tables, lamps, the upright  
 bulk-heads, and deck over-head, were  
 all surprising. After silently casting  
 his eyes over those objects, he whis-  
 pered to Captain Wilson, that *clow*  
*ship was bouse*. It is to be presumed,  
 that nothing on board the Walpole  
 escaped his notice, as it was evident  
 nothing on shore did. At Canton,  
 being at the Company's table at the  
 Factory, his admiration was much  
 excited by the vessels of glass, of  
 various shapes and sizes, particularly  
 the chandeliers. Having surveyed  
 the numerous attendants behind the  
 gentlemen's chairs, as well as the  
 profuse variety of provisions and  
 liquors, he remarked to Captain Wil-  
 son, that "the king his father, lived  
 "in a manner very different,  
 "having only a fish, a yam, or a  
 "cocoa-nut, which he ate from off



“ a leaf, and drank out of the shell  
 “ of the nut, and, when his meal  
 “ was finished, wiped his mouth and  
 “ his fingers with a bit of cocoa-nut  
 “ husk; whereas the company pre-  
 “ sent ate a bit of one thing, and  
 “ then a bit of another, the servants  
 “ always supplying them with a dif-  
 “ ferent plate, and different sorts of  
 “ vessels to drink out of.”

How quick was the light of wis-  
 dom and virtue kindled in the breast  
 of this young man!—Upon the first  
 intimation, he instantly conceived  
 the pernicious effects of drinking  
 spirits, and resolved to guard himself  
 against contracting so vile an habit.  
 There is scarcely a trait in his cha-  
 racter, but gives a proof of correct  
 judgement, or a lesson of eminent  
 morality.

The vessel having being sold,  
 the men who remained went up to  
 Canton in one of the country boats.



LEE Boo was much delighted with the stone buildings and spacious rooms of the houses at Canton: the flat ceilings were particularly marvellous in his eyes: he often contrasted them with the sloping thatched roofs at Pelew, and said, that “ by the time he went back he should have learnt how it was done, and would then tell the people there in what manner they ought to build.” In all his observations, the grand consideration he seemed to have at heart was the advantage and improvement of his country.

Among other things brought for tea at one of the Company's *percargoes*, was a sugar-dish of blue glass, which greatly striking L. Boo's fancy, the gentleman was induced, when tea was over, to take him into another room, where there were two barrels of the same kind of blue glass (holding about two



quarts each,) placed on brackets: the alluring colour again caught his eye; he gazed at them with much eagerness—went away—returned to them with new delight. Mr. Freeman, observing to what excess he was captivated by these articles, told him he would make him a present of them, and that he should carry them to Pelew. This threw him into such an extacy that he could scarcely contain himself: he declared, that, on his return, Abba Thulle should possess so great a treasure; and he wished his relations could but have a view of them; he was sure they would be lost in astonishment at the sight.

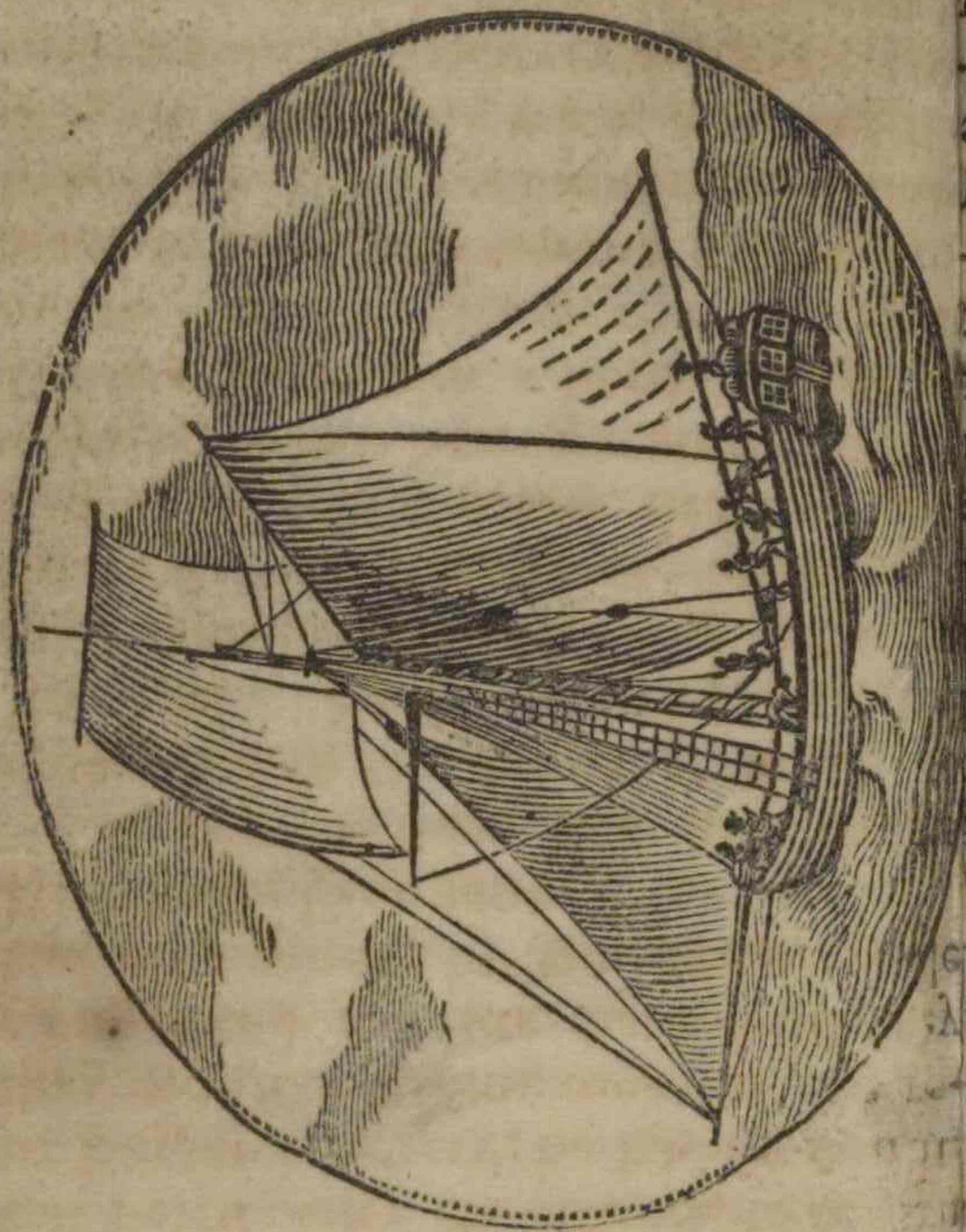
Captain Wilson now laid before his companions in adverse fortune a statement of what the sale of the ship, stores, &c. had produced, and divided the whole among them. This done, he acquainted them that



they were at liberty to provide for themselves as opportunity should offer, yet recommending to them, but particularly his officers, to return to England, where, he had no doubt they would, in some measure, be recompenced for the hardships they had undergone, by the Honourable East India Company.

Captain Wilson and his charge embarked in the Morse Indiman, to England. He frequently enquired after the people who had gone on board different ships at China, and had been but a short time on the voyage, when he requested Captain Wilson to get him a book, and point out to him the letters, that he might learn to read: the captain kindly embraced every convenient opportunity of gratifying this wish, and had the satisfaction of discovering great readiness of apprehension in his young pupil.

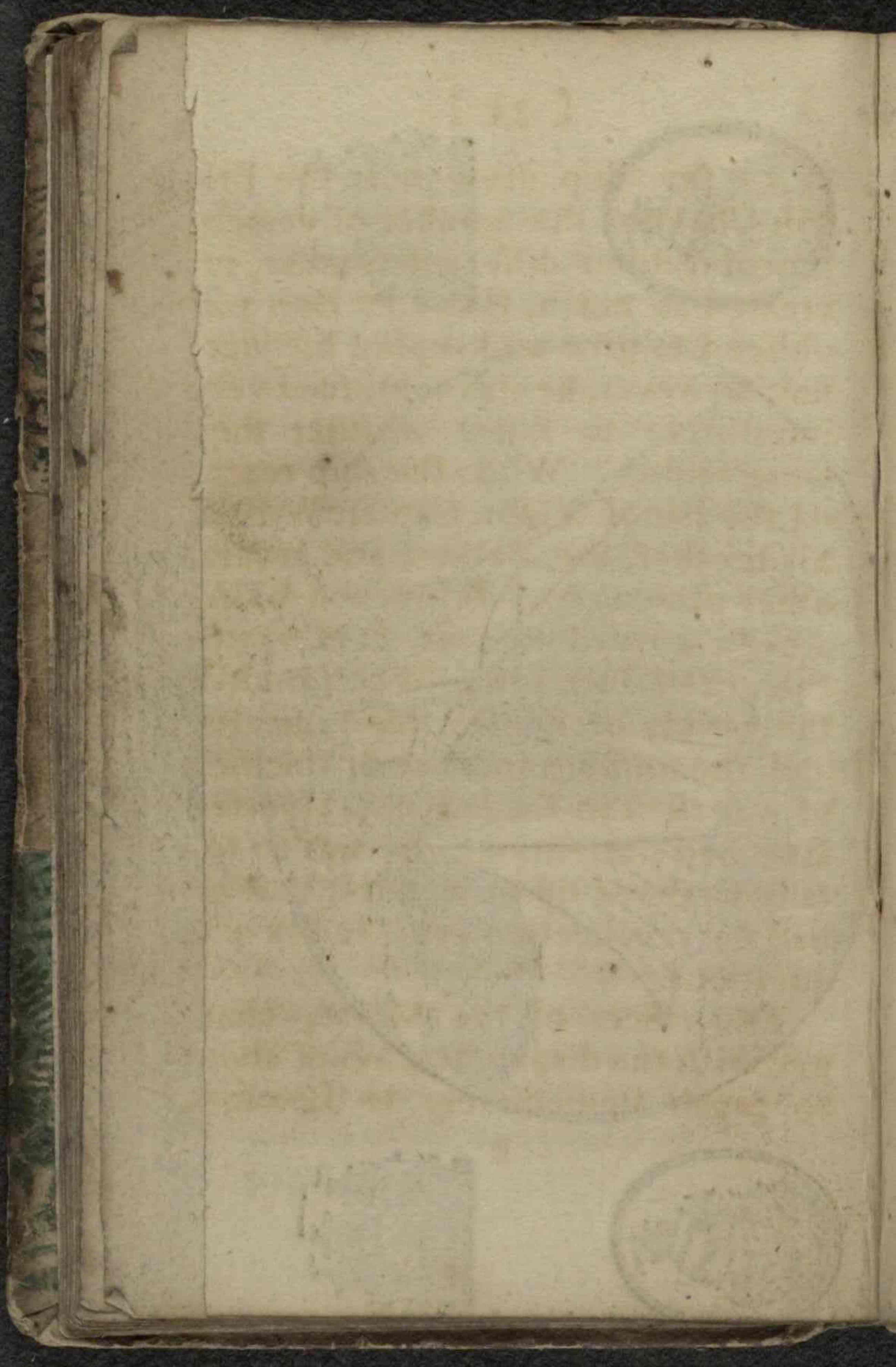




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As the ship drew near the British Channel, the number of vessels, pursuing their different courses, increased so much, that LEE BOO was obliged to give up keeping his journal; however, he still continued very inquisitive to know whither they were sailing. When the ship reached the Isle of Wight, Captain Wilson, his brother, the PRINCE, and several other passengers, left her, and taking a boat, arrived safe at Portsmouth the 4th of July 1784. When landed, the variety of houses, the ramparts, and the number and size of the men of war then in the harbour, rivetted LEE BOO's attention; he was so totally wrapped up in wonder, that he had no recollection even to ask any questions.

The officer of the Morse, charged with the dispatches, being about to repair immediately to London,



Captain Wilson, naturally impatient to behold his family, accompanied him, entrusting LEE Boo to the care of his brother, both of whom were to follow in a coach which was to set off in the evening. As soon as he arrived in town he was carried to Captain Wilson's house at Rotherhithe, where, as may be supposed, he was not a little happy in rejoining his adopted father, and being introduced to his family.

Part of his journey from Portsmouth passed during the night: the return of day, however, brought full employment for his eyes; and he reached what was to be, for some time, his home, in all the natural glow of his youthful spirits. Whatever he had observed in silence, was now eagerly disclosed. He described the circumstances of his journey; said it had been very plea-



sant—that he had been put into a little house, which was run away with by horses—that he slept, but still was going on; and whilst he went one way, the fields, houses, and trees, all went another; every thing, from the quickness of travelling, appearing to be in motion.

When, at the hour of rest, he was conducted to his chamber, he saw, for the first time, a four-post bed. Scarcely could he conceive what it meant—he jumped in and jumped out again—felt and pulled aside the curtains—got into bed, and then got out a second time, to admire, its outward form. At length, when he was fully acquainted with its use and convenience, he laid himself down to sleep, saying, that *in England there was a house for every thing.*

This promising young man was introduced to several of the Directors of the India Company, taken on vi-



sits to many of the captain's friends, and gradually shown most of the public buildings in the metropolis; but Captain Wilson very prudently avoided taking him to any of the places of public entertainment, for fear of his catching the small-pox, a distemper for which it was proposed to inoculate him, as soon as he should become sufficiently acquainted with the English language to be made fully sensible of the necessity of the measure; for it was judged, and surely not without good reason, that to bring upon him so troublesome and offensive a disease, without first explaining its nature, and preparing his mind to submit to it, might weaken that unlimited confidence he had placed in his adopted father.

After being somewhat habituated to the manners of this country, he went every day to an academy at



Rotherhithe, for the purpose of being instructed in reading and writing. His application was equal to his intense desire of learning; and he conducted himself there with such propriety, and in a manner so engaging, that he gained, not only the esteem of the gentleman under whose tuition he was placed, but also the affection of his young companions—which should ever be a main object with youth at school. When, in the hours of recess, he returned to his home, he diverted all the family by his vivacity, noticing every singularity he had observed in any of his schoolfellows, and with great good humour imitating and taking them off: sometimes he added that he would have a school of his own when he returned to Pelew, and should be thought very wise when he taught the great people their letters.



Wherever LEE Boo was, his observation extended to every thing around him, having an ardent desire for information, which he received with thanks. He derived particular pleasure from going to church, where, though he did not understand the words of the service, yet perfectly comprehended the intent of it, he always behaved with the greatest attention and reverence. Once, when Captain Wilson told him, that saying prayers at church was to make men good, that, when they died and were buried, they might live again above, pointing to the sky, LEE Boo answered with much earnestness—*All same Pelew—bad men stay in earth—good men go into sky—become very beautiful*, holding his hand in the air, and giving a fluttering motion to his fingers—thereby seeming to indicate his own



countrymen's belief of the existence of the spirit after the death of the body.

In order to avoid the small-pox, and also to prevent his mind from being disturbed and drawn off from the attainment of the English language, the great mean by which information was to be conveyed to him, Captain Wilson was very cautious, and sparing in letting him go abroad: however, he not only generally accompanied the captain on visits to his friends, but had also a view of most of the public buildings in the metropolis, the river, shipping, and bridges, which struck him greatly: he was, moreover, several times gratified with seeing the Guards exercised in St. James's Park, as every thing of a military kind greatly engaged his attention.

This inquisitive and pains-taking



young man was proceeding extremely fast in gaining the English language, and making so rapid a progress with his pen, that in a short time he would have written a very fine hand, when, alas! he was attacked by that very disease against which so much caution had been used. On the 16th of December he found himself greatly disordered, and in the course of a day or two an eruption appeared all over him, and, upon the first sight of him, the physician not only pronounced the distemper to be the small-pox, but was obliged to add, that the appearances were such as almost totally precluded the hope of a favourable termination.

In this sad situation the afflicted youth was deprived of the solacing presence of his dear friend Captain Wilson, who, not having had the small-pox himself, yielded



to the entreaties of his family not to go into his chamber. However, his first and faithful friend Mr. Sharp, on hearing of his illness, repaired to his assistance, nor quitted the captain's house till it was become the scene of death!

During the progress of this grievous distemper, LEE BOO maintained the utmost firmness of mind, and, having the highest opinion of the physician, never refused to take any thing administered to him, when informed that he desired it.—The youthful reader is here particularly called upon to imitate poor LEE BOO in cases of like necessity.

On the Thursday before his death, as he walked across the room, he looked at himself in the glass, and finding his face much swoln and disfigured, shook his head, and in seeming disgust with his own appearance,



turned away, telling Mr. Sharp that his father much grieve, for they knew he was very sick. This he several times repeated. In the eveuing, growing worse, he became sensible of his danger; and taking Mr. Sharp by the hand, and steadily fixing his eyes upon him, said, with great earnestness, *Good friend, when you go to Pelew, tell Abba Thulle that LEE Boo take much drink to make small-pox go away, but he die—that the Captain and mother (Mrs. Wilson) very kind—all English very good men—was much sorry he could not speak to the king the number of fine things the English had got.* He then enumerated the presents which had been made him, and expressed his wishes that Mr. Sharp would distribute them, when he returned to Pelew, amongst the chiefs, recommending to his especial care the blue



glass barrels on pedestals, which he particularly directed to be given to the king.

His faithful servant Tom Rose, who stood at the foot of the bed, melted into tears at this melancholy scene: the agonized master gently rebuked him for his weakness, saying, *Why should he be crying so because LEE BOO die?*

The small-pox not rising, after eight or nine days from its coming out, he began to feel himself sink, and told Mr. Sharp *he was going away.* What he suffered in the latter part of his existence was severe indeed: his mind, however, continued perfectly clear and calm to the last, and the strength of his constitution struggled long and hard against the virulence of his distemper, till, overwhelmed, nature yielded in the contest.



Captain Wilson, having notified at the India House the death of this admirable youth, received orders to conduct his funeral with every mark of decency and respect. He was accordingly interred in Rotherhithe church-yard, attended by the captain and his brother; and such was the affectionate regard which all who knew entertained for him, that not only the young people of the academy, but even the whole parish, seemed to have assembled to see the last ceremonies paid to his remains. An additional honour was soon afterwards done them by the India Company's ordering a tomb to be erected over his grave, on which is the following inscription:



To the memory  
of Prince LEE BOO,  
A native of the Pelew or Palos Islands;  
And son to Abba Thulle, rupack or king  
of the Island of Cooroora;  
who departed this life on the 27th of December  
1784,  
aged 20 Years;

This stone is inscribed,  
by the  
Honourable United East-India Company,  
as a testimony of esteem  
for the humane and kind treatment afforded  
by his Father to the crew of their ship,  
the Antelope, Captain Wilson,  
which was wrecked off that island  
in the night of the 9th of August, 1783.

Stop, reader, stop! let Nature claim a tear—  
A Prince of *mine*, LEE BOO, lies buried here.



From these trifling anecdotes of this amiable youth, cut off in the moment that his character began to blossom, what hopes might not have been entertained of the future fruit such a plant would have produced! He had both ardour and talents for improvement, and every gentle quality of the heart to make himself beloved: so that, as far as the dim sight of mortals is permitted to penetrate, he might, had his days been lengthened, have *carried back* to his own country—not the *vices* of a new world—but those *solid* advantages which his own good sense would have suggested, as likely to become most useful to it.

The evening before the Oroolong sailed, the king asked Captain Wilson how long it might be before his return to Pelew? and being told, that it would probably be about



thirty moons, or might chance to extend to six more, Abba Thulle drew from his basket a piece of *line*, and after making thirty knots on it, a little distance from each other, left a long space, and then adding six others, carefully put it by.

As the slow but sure steps of Time have been moving onward, the reader's imagination will figure the anxious parent resorting to this cherished remembrancer, and with joy untying the earlier records of each elapsing period;—as he sees him advancing on his *line*, he will conceive the joy redoubled;—and when nearly approaching to the *thirtieth* knot, almost accusing the planet of the night for passing so tardily away.

When verging towards the termination of his latest reckoning, he will then picture his mind glowing



with parental affection, occasionally alarmed by doubt—yet still buoyed up by hope;—he will fancy him pacing inquisitively the sea-shore, and often commanding his people to ascend every rocky height, and glance their eyes along the level line of the horizon which bounds the surrounding ocean, to see if haply it might not in some part be broken by the distant appearance of a returning sail.







THE  
HISTORY  
OF  
PRINCE LEE BOO.



ALONG the star impeopled sky.  
Full thirty moons had run,  
Since Abba Thule, with manly grief,  
Dismiss'd his vent'rous son.

Go, youth! the prudent Monarch  
said,

This wond'rous England view:  
Go to that distant world, disclose  
The virtues of Pelew.



To useful arts thy hands apply,  
 To useful lore attend.  
 So shall the travels of thy youth  
 Thy riper age befriend.

For not to please thy roving eye  
 Thou seek'st the land unknown,  
 But that its wisdom, arts, and arms,  
 May dignify thy own.

Nor let the grandeur of the scene  
 With fear thy soul appall;  
 'Tis but mock'ry, a shew,  
 True worth transcends it all.

Ye friendly strangers! to whose care  
 My darling I confide,  
 Oh! think, henceforth a father's love  
 Must be by you supplied.



Good speed to all, when on this line  
 No record I discern.  
 I'll climb the heights of Oroolong,  
 And wait my son's return.

Here ceas'd the just, benignant  
 Prince,  
 The flowing sails expand,  
 And Britain's generous tars with  
 grief.  
 Forsake the friendly land.

Remember'd kindness fill'd each eye  
 With sympathetic tears,  
 Depress'd with woe, each feeling  
 heart,  
 And check'd the parting cheers.

And now to grace his son's return,  
 When free from regal cares.  
 The tender father, with delight,  
 The polish'd bone prepares.



No more on the recording line  
 A token he discerns;  
 He climbs the heights of Oroolong,  
 No more his son returns.—

Nor yet with tidings of his fate,  
 Where parts the coral reef,  
 He sees the well-known English sail,  
 Or well-known English Chief.

To-morrow's sun perhaps may bring  
 The dear expected youth;  
 He will not yield to mean complaint,  
 Nor doubt the English truth.

To-morrow's sun, Oh King! ascends,  
 It sets unblest by thee,  
 And wherefore did I trust my child  
 To you unpitying sea?



Cold with my darling lie entomb'd  
 Each valiant English friend ;  
 Or would not those I sav'd from  
 death  
 To my distress attend ?

The angry spirit hath prevail'd,  
 Its curse my hopes betrayed,  
 Yet in the happy isles above  
 My motives shall be weigh'd.

In those blue fields, those sunny  
 clouds,  
 For virtue soon confess'd,  
 Lee Boo enjoys perpetual peace,  
 There too shall I be bless'd.

So spake the Sire, yet sigh'd to find  
 His anxious wishes vain :  
 Nor ere must Europe's envy'd arts  
 Adorn his simple reign.



And now he marks the funeral plant,  
 And lays it on the ground:  
 Then bending o'er it, chaunts a  
 dirge,  
 And piles the turf around.

Prince of Humanity, thy fears  
 Are just—thy son is dead,  
 But England's dust, not ocean's wave  
 Conceals the stranger's head.

He came with confidence and joy  
 Her welcome pleas'd she gave—  
 With sweet simplicity he charm'd,  
 Then sunk into the grave.

Then wither'd all his father's hopes  
 And all his country's fame,  
 Then fled a soul which, ev'n in death  
 Confess'd a patriot's flame.



His powerless but impassion'd wish,  
 His lov'd Pelew rejoin'd,  
 To tell that England was good place,  
 And English very kind.

Far from his country, kindred, sire,  
 His tomb affection rears,  
 Graves with his name the votive  
 stone,  
 And bathes it with her tears.

There as she paints uncultur'd worth  
 And unaffected grace,  
 She shames the boast of letter'd  
 pride,  
 And Europe's polish'd race.

Mild, uncorrupt, tho' unadorn'd,  
 The natives of Pelew  
 Present the portrait of an heart,  
 To artless goodness true.



In sophistry's deep maze unlearn'd  
 In studious lore untaught,  
 They only know the useful law  
 Of acting as they ought,

In happy ignorance of all  
 The ills of polish'd life,  
 That wealth, which arms the mid-  
 night foe,  
 And lures the faithless wife.

Firm, not ferocious, brave, sincere,  
 Industrious and content,  
 In scenes of inoffensive toil  
 Their blameless lives are spent,

And will not heav'n, for them, un-  
 close  
 Her golden gates of light?  
 Will not the God, to them unknown,  
 The life he loves requite?



Will not the Saviour, whom they  
ne'er

Were call'd on to confess,  
The charity himself enjoins  
With promis'd glory bless?

Faith's precious ray, by Nature's  
light,

But partially supplied,  
Will their just Maker claim of them  
The talent he denied?

Hence be the narrow mind, that  
views

The savage with disdain,  
Hence be the arrogance, that dares  
To limit mercy's reign.

For ever open are thy doors,  
Thou city of our God!

By every people, kindred, tongue,  
Shall thy large courts be trod.

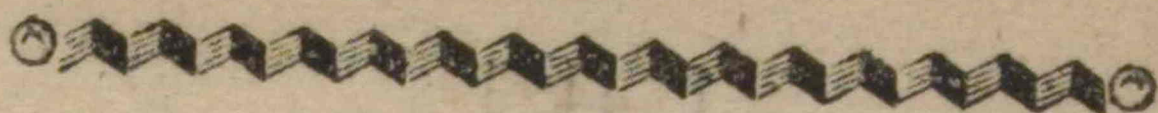


Then controversial pride shall meet  
The brother he disown'd,  
And see the children of the South  
With Abraham's sons enthron'd.

Then shall philanthropy transcend,  
Their systematic plan:  
And only truth and goodness give  
Pre-eminence to man.







**T**HEY that o'er the wide ocean  
their business pursue  
Can tell, to God's wonders what  
praises are due :  
When tost to and fro by the huge  
swelling wave,  
They rise up to heaven, or sink  
down to the grave ;  
Dismay'd with the tempest that  
mocks at their skill,  
They cry to the Lord, and he ma-  
keth it still :  
His works in remembrance religious-  
ly keep,  
And praise him whose judgements  
are like the great deep.

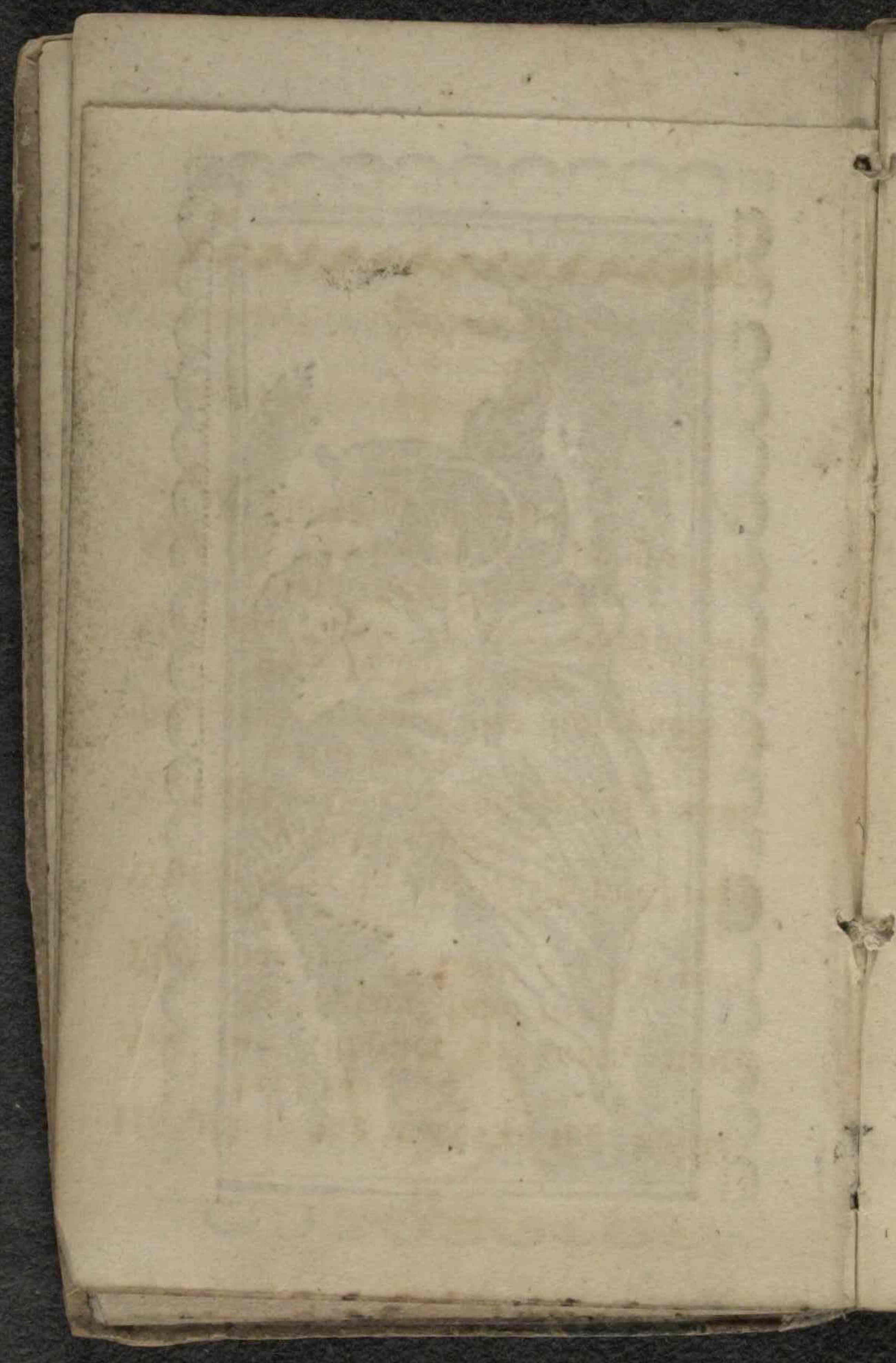




He stilleth the waves of the boiste-  
 rous sea,  
 And the tumults of men, more  
 outrageous than they :  
 Thy goodness O Lord, let the peo-  
 ple confess,  
 Whom wars do not waste nor proud  
 tyrants oppress,  
 And devoutly contemplate thy won-  
 derful ways,  
 Thou that turnest the fierceness of  
 man to thy praise :  
 May our lands in due season, still  
 yield their increase,  
 And the Lord give his people the  
 blessings of peace,





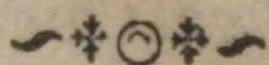








THE  
UNIVERSAL PRAYER.



FATHER of all! in every age,  
In every clime ador'd,  
By saint, by savage, and by sage,  
Jehovah, Jove, or Lord!  
Thou great First Cause, least un-  
derstood;  
Who all my sense confin'd  
To know but this, that thou art good,  
And that myself am blind;  
Yet gave me, in this dark estate,  
To see the good from ill;  
And, binding Nature fast in fate,  
Left free the human will.  
What Conscience dictates to be done,  
Or warns me not to do,  
This teach me more than hell to shun,  
That more than heaven pursue.



What blessings thy free bounty gives,  
 Let me not cast away,  
 For God is paid when man receives,  
 T' enjoy is to obey.

Yet not to earth's contracted span  
 Thy goodness let me bound,  
 Or think thee Lord alone of man,  
 When thousand worlds are round.

Let not this weak unknowing hand  
 Presume thy bolts to throw,  
 And deal damnation round the land,  
 On each I judge thy foe.

If I am right thy grace impart,  
 Still in the right to stay :  
 If I am wrong, O teach my heart  
 To find that better way !

Save me alike from foolish pride  
 Or impious discontent,  
 At ought thy wisdom has deny'd,  
 Or ought thy goodness lent.



Teach me to feel another's woe,  
 To hide the fault I see;  
 That mercy I to others show,  
 That mercy shew to me.

Mean tho' I am, not wholly so,  
 Since quicken'd by thy breath;  
 O, lead me wheresoe'er I go,  
 Thro' this day's life or death.

This day. be bread and peace my lot;  
 All else beneath the sun,  
 Thou know'st if best bestow'd or not,  
 And let thy will be done.

To thee whose temple is all space,  
 Whose altar, earth, sea, skies!  
 One chorus let all beings raise!  
 All nature's incense rise!

*The End.*

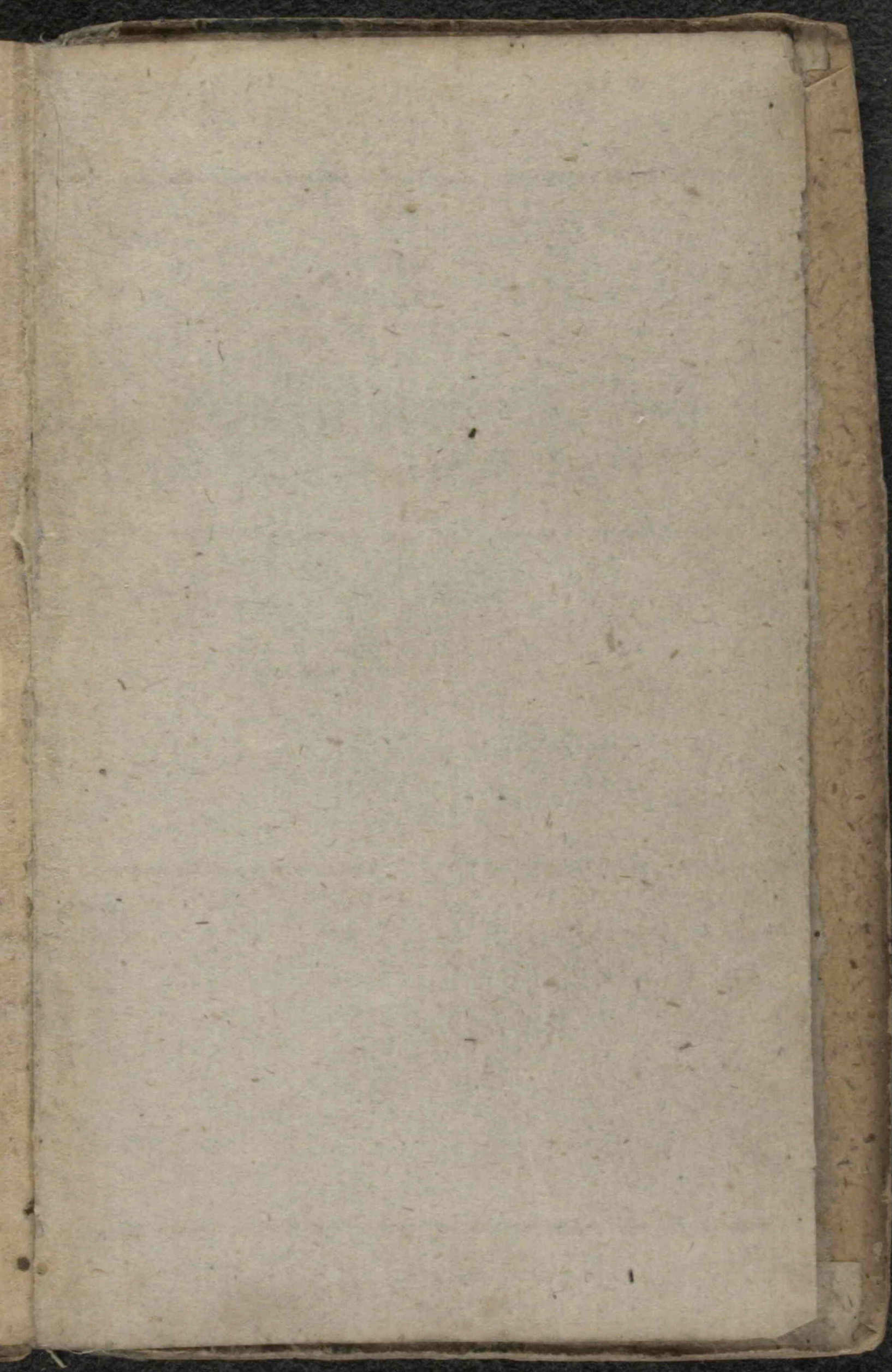


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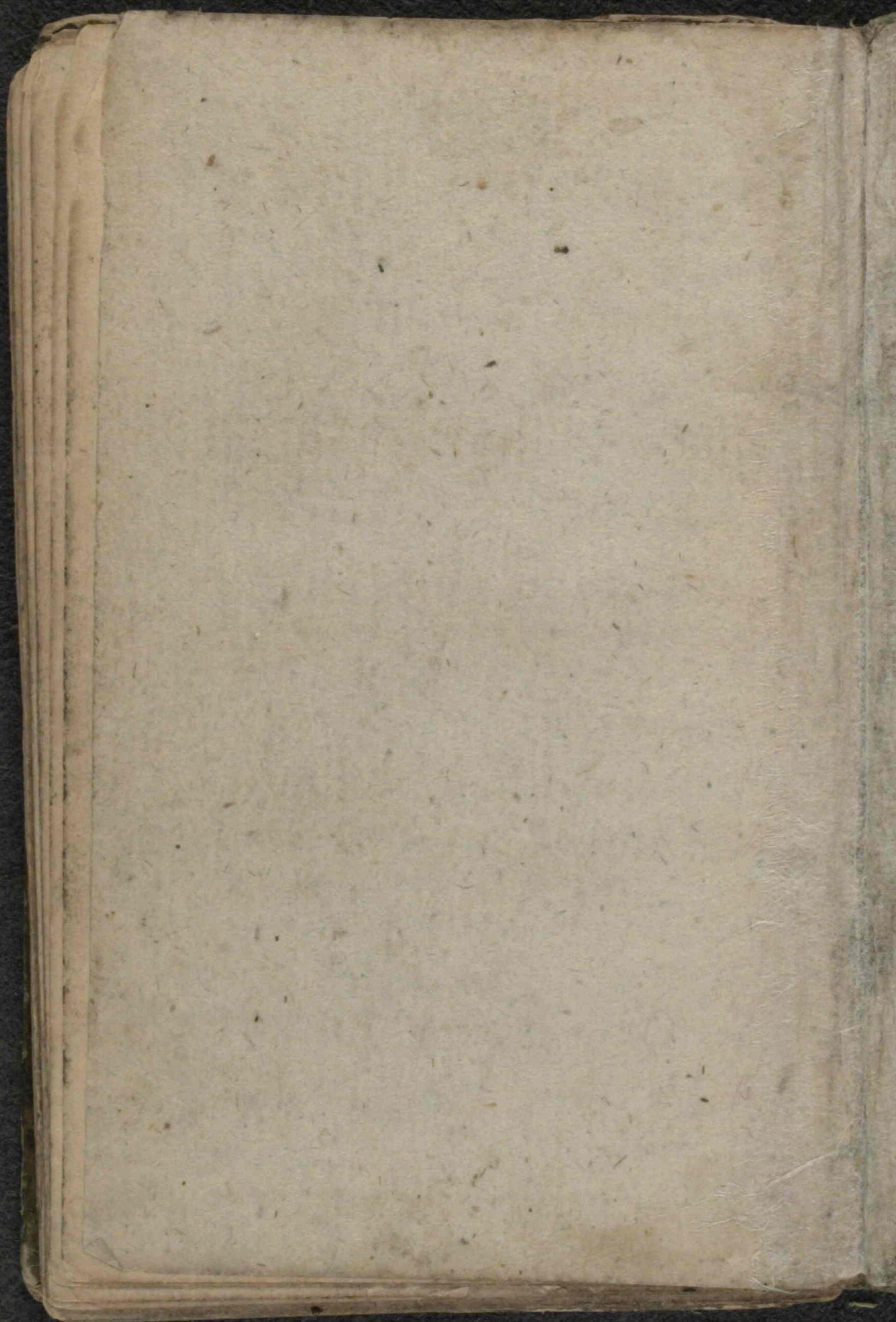


*[The text on this page is extremely faint and illegible due to fading and bleed-through from the reverse side. It appears to be a list or a series of entries, possibly containing names and dates, but the specific details cannot be discerned.]*











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Sept. 17, 1969

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The Interesting history  
of Prince Lee Boo...

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