

**BERTIE, OR, LIFE IN  
THE OLD FIELD: A  
HUMOROUS NOVEL**

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Bertie, Or, Life in the Old Field: A Humorous Novel by George Seaworthy

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**GEORGE SEAWORTHY**

**BERTIE, OR, LIFE IN  
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2761  
BERTIE:  
106.3

OR,

LIFE IN THE OLD FIELD.

A HUMOROUS NOVEL.

BY  
CAPT. GREGORY SEAWORTHY.

AUTHOR OF "NAG'S HEAD."

"Leves, non procester solitum."—HORACE.

"Faith, thin! It's a pairt o' me systim, sir!"—THE IRISH TUTOR.

WITH A LETTER TO THE AUTHOR FROM  
WASHINGTON IRVING.

PHILADELPHIA:  
A. HART, LATE CAREY AND HART.  
126 CHESTNUT STREET.

1851.

TO A. HART, ESQ.

MY DEAR SIR—

To whom so appropriately as to yourself  
I can I dedicate the following pages? Very few  
things could give me so much pleasure as the  
knowledge that the volume will seem to you a  
worthy token of the hearty regard with which

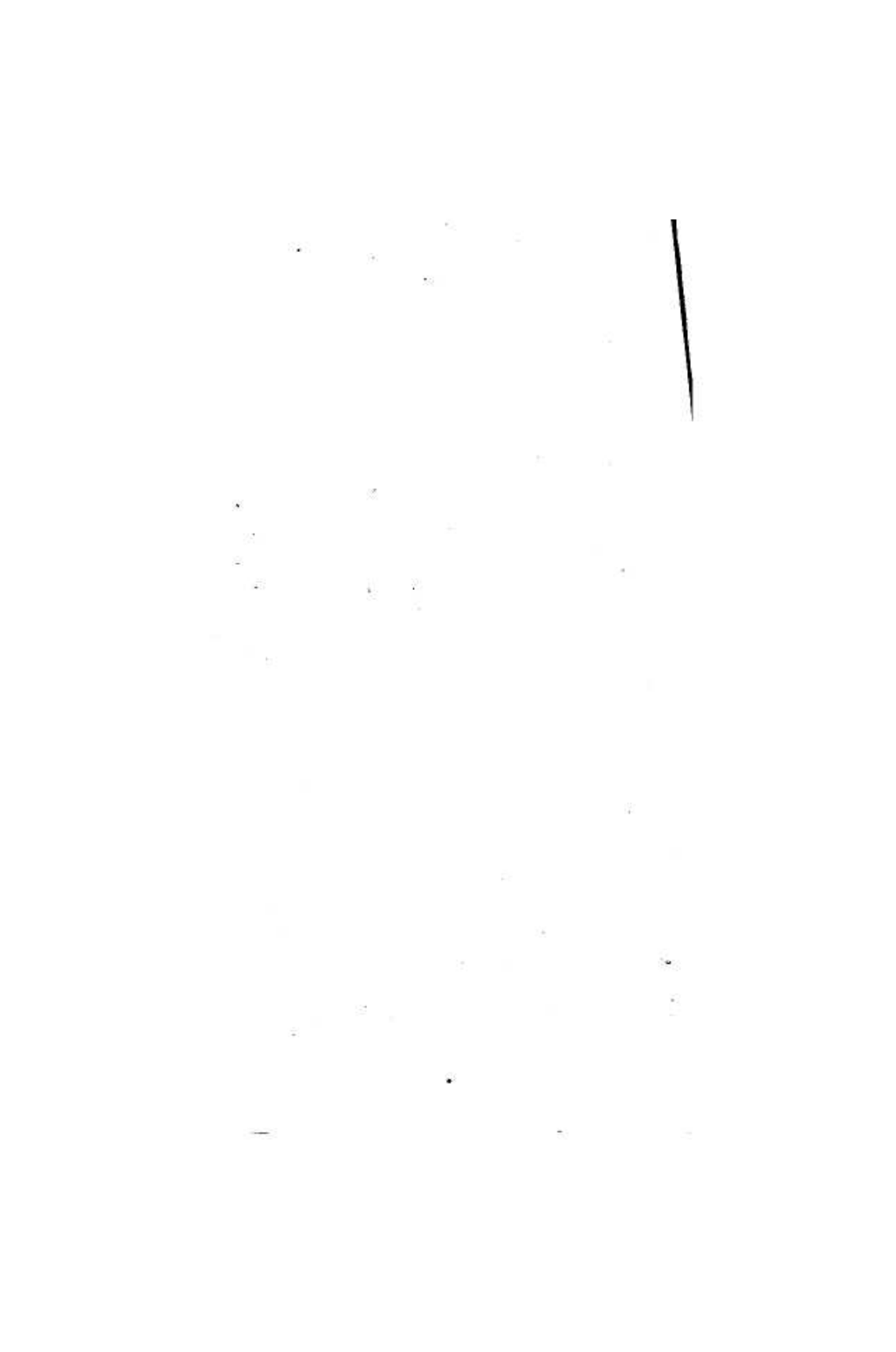
I am

Yours, always,

GREGORY SEAWORTHY.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 15, 1850.

190  
24 Apr  
W. M. S. C.



## PROLEGOMENA.

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### TO THE READER.

#### I.

Wise men are in coveys,  
Schoolmasters abroad;  
And to hills of science,  
Lo! a royal road!  
Some are writing folios,  
Some are writing odes;  
While I worship COMUS,  
Only, of the gods.

#### II.

Some are dropping honey,  
Others dropping gall;  
I am merely funny—  
When I write at all.  
Simply to amuse you  
Do I choose to write;  
All herein that's better  
'S accidental—quite.



## III.

HOLMES was once too funny  
For his valet's good;  
So, I've been less merry  
Than I really could!  
Offer to Minerva,  
But reserve a part;  
COMUS and VACUNA  
Both demand A. HART!

## “INTRODUCTORY WORD TO THE READER.”

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MY DEAR READER:—

Do you know that publishers still cling, with the tenacity of first love, to the time-honored custom of writing a preface? It is verily so! And even my *Prolegomena* will not pass muster in this behalf. Wherefore, though you will not read this preface, and do not care a straw *why* I have written another book, I may as well say, briefly, that I was mainly encouraged so to do by the reception of “NAG’S HEAD,” and by kind letters from older brethren, among which is the following:—

“SUNNYSIDE, Sept. 17th, 1850.

“MY DEAR SIR—

“Though I received in due time your letter dated August 11th, your book did not reach me until within a week past. I thank you most heartily for the pleasure afforded me by the perusal. You have depicted scenes, characters, and manners which were in many respects new to me, and full of interest and peculiarity. I allude more especially to the views of Southern life. We do not know sufficiently of the South; which appears to

“me to abound with materials for a rich, original and  
“varied literature.

“I hope the success of this first production will be  
“such as to encourage you to follow out the vein you  
“have opened, and to give us a new series of scenes of  
“American life both by sea and land.

“With best wishes for your success,

“I remain, very truly,

“Your obliged friend and servant,

“WASHINGTON IRVING.”