

**A SINGLE  
GENTLEMAN**

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A Single Gentleman by Timothy Thistle

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**TIMOTHY THISTLE**

**A SINGLE  
GENTLEMAN**





A  
SINGLE GENTLEMAN:

BY

TIMOTHY THISTLE.

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DESIGNS BY THE AUTHOR.

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ILLUSTRATIONS BY I. HYDE.

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BOSTON:  
OLIVER ELLSWORTH.

1867.

Entered, according to Act of Congress, in the year 1867, by

THOMAS DAVIS,

In the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the District of Massachusetts.

# CONTENTS.

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	PAGE.
I. A SINGLE GENTLEMAN . . . . .	11-20
Responds to Calls. — Mortifying Incidence. — Letters Received. — Evening with the "Family." — Sudden Exit.	
II. . . . .	21-37
Invited to the "Comforts of a Home." — Moves. — Breakfast. — Unfortunate Remarks. — Concert. — Survey of the Furniture. — Prevalence of Influenza. — Appearance of the "Band." — Retires to Apartments. — Calls for the Landlady. — Meets with "Disguised Affliction." — Sudden Change in Expectations. — Consolation Sought.	
III. . . . .	39-55
Uncomfortable Condition. — Leaves the House. — Remembers the "Help." — Note from Miss Rousindash. — Meets a Supposed Acquaintance. — Information Obtained. — Visit to the Lady. — Reception. — Rooms Engaged. — Rebellion among the "Ladies." — Explanation Refused. — Search after Jonathan and the Cot-bed. — Unrealized Temporal Blessings.	
IV. . . . .	57-75
Miss Rousindash. — Secret Organization. — Constitution. — By-laws and Resolutions of the "Order of My Lady." — Combination and Coalescing. — Means Employed to Convey Information. — Return to the Hotel. — Seeks Other Apartments.	



- V. . . . . 77-115  
 Visit from Mr. Doolittle. — Decides upon a Change. —  
 Selects a Club. — Duties and Obligation. — Introduc-  
 tion. — Music. — Method Adopted by the "Corporate  
 Body." — Mistake Discovered. — Return to Hotel. —  
 Soliloquy. — Mr. Doolittle's Visit. — Explanation.
- VI. . . . . 117-159  
 Indisposition. — Frequent Visits of Mr. Doolittle. —  
 Chagrin Experienced. — Visit to the Club. — Recep-  
 tion. — Supper. — Song. — Interview with the Members.  
 — Extra Bill. — Correspondence. — Indignation. — Re-  
 solves. — Resignation. — Visit to Colonel Thompson  
 and Lady. — Result. — Mrs. Thompson's Opinion of  
 Women. — Change Proposed. — Mr. Doolittle's Advice.  
 — Experience. — Auction Room. — Purchase of Fur-  
 niture. — Visit of Miss Stebbins. — Her Opinion and  
 Advice. — Disposal of the "Traps." — Visit to Miss  
 Stebbins. — Reception. — Engagement Broken. — Sud-  
 den Change in Prospects. — Return to Hotel.
- VII. . . . . 161-182  
 Effects of the Broken Engagement. — Visit of Mr.  
 Doolittle. — Reading of Correspondence. — New De-  
 velopments. — Mr. Doolittle's Advice. — Acquaintance  
 of Mr. Sprout. — The Book-agency. — Acceptance of  
 Terms. — Examination of Books. — Preparation for  
 the Work. — Discouraging Commencement. — Miscon-  
 struction of Remarks. — Forms other Acquaintances.  
 — Proposals. — Attends the Board of Education. —  
 Competing Books. — Unsuccessful Efforts. — Discon-  
 tinuance of Book-agency. — "Business Rules." — Gen-  
 eral Agency. — Success.

## TO THE READER.

**I**N glancing over the "prefatory notices" of every work, the reader should be permitted to form an idea of the author's design, in the presentation of his subject.

Many writers, I find, have thought proper to include in their "brief outlines," lengthy "Editorial remarks," while others embrace the opportunity in which to offer an apology for what has been omitted or committed.

A few, I regret, unconsciously lead the mind into an abyss of darkness, from which there is no escape after once passing beneath the arches of a subterranean edifice possessed of countless apartments, "traversed only through windings so intricate and tortuous in their construction, it is astonishing that the architect — after the completion of his labor — ever afterwards held communication with the "outside world."

In each narrative herein presented, I have endeavored to reach the close in the use of as few words as possible ; while the delineation of characters assumed,

will, I trust, show to those whose duty and privilege it is to *add* to the happiness and comfort of all with whom they are associated, how detestable as well as ridiculous their conduct often appears, — either from want of education, experience or *disposition* — in neglecting to fulfill the humble calling to which they have been assigned.

It has not been my design to offer any offence: those who may feel condemned, become their own judges; while others, — who have suffered — will, like myself, I trust, “majestically” rise above their tormentors, and “coincide most fully” with one who has experienced untold misery searching after “temporal blessings,” under the disguise of that promised place “possessing all the comforts of a home.”

This work having received no “Editorial” assistance, such remarks must necessarily be dispensed with: the author would therefore inform the public, he has no one connected with him through whom an apology, if necessary, could be offered.

The only objection to the work, thus far advanced by several of my friends, is that of brevity. Among these, I most highly esteem the opinion of Solomon Doolittle, Esq., a gentleman to whom I owe a debt of gratitude for constant and unalloyed friendship so long existing between us, and from whom I have received comfort and consolation in the most trying moments of my life.