

# **THE GENTLE PRINCE**

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The Gentle Prince by James Inches Hillocks

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**JAMES INCHES HILLOCKS**

**THE  
GENTLE PRINCE**



THE GENTLE PRINCE.





## PREFACE.



DEAR READER,—I think I owe you a word before you begin to read. I have made an adventure. That is, I have done what others do not do. This little book is written under the impression that many of you will receive it from your parents, teachers, or friends, *as a present* for some good done by you. I, therefore, infer that you are not a mere baby, who cannot read any other but trifling toy books. I have a thought that you can do something—would be somebody, and read a book that is not composed of words of one syllable only.

I know what intelligent boys and girls can do, and I have written this book for such. But if at any time I have sent the arrow too high, and you wish to find it, you can ask your parents, your advanced brothers and sisters, your guar-

dians, your teachers, or any other whom you suppose ready to help you; and you may do them good—put them in the way of thinking.

And, besides, though this book is for intelligent youth—girls as well as boys—yet you will be ready, after you have read it, to say, “Mother, or even father—my teacher, or even the superintendent—shall have a read of it.”

One other sentence. Our hero is not “*a goody goody*,” as we understand that sneering phrase we so often hear. As you will see, he had failings, even faults like others, but you will say, he was manly, Christian, from boyhood.







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## CHAPTER I.

### THE BEGINNING AND THE END.

"Blind ambition quite mistakes her road."

"**B**ETWEEN birth and *a* birth there may be a vast difference."

"Explain yourself, my friend; you speak mysteriously, as usual."

"To those only who cannot see that twice two are four."

"For the sake of the desired information, let me confess to be one of those."

"We say *a birth*, meaning thereby that a child is born; hence we have birthday—the day beloved by every boy and every girl as it comes round and round—the good wishes, the sweet kisses, and the beautiful presents."