

**PETER  
SCHLEMIHL**

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Peter Schlemihl by Adelbert von Chamisso

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**ADELBERT VON CHAMISSO**

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PETER SCHLEMIHL.



# PETER SCHLEMIHL:

FROM THE GERMAN

OF

LAMOTTE FOUQUÉ.

*Adapted by George Cruickshank*

WITH PLATES BY GEORGE CRUICKSHANK.

"There are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio,  
Than are dreamt of in your philosophy."

SHAKESPEARE.

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LONDON:

G. AND W. B. WHITTAKER,  
AVE-MARIA LANE.

1824.

LONDON:  
PRINTED BY COX AND BAYLIS, GREAT QUEEN STREET.



## NOTICE.

ABELUNG said to me one day at Petersburg  
—“ Have you read Peter Schlemihl ? ” — “ No. ”  
—“ If you read it, you will translate it. ” —  
I have translated it.

The story is a moral one. I leave its develop-  
ment to my readers. It would be little flattering  
to them to suspect they required my assistance,  
in order to discover the obvious lessons it con-  
veys.

I have not scrupled to introduce a few verbal  
alterations; but the deviations from the original  
are very trifling.

THE TRANSLATOR.

TO MY FRIEND WANGNER!

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Come to the land of shadows for awhile,  
And seek for truth and wisdom! Here below,  
In the dark misty paths of fear and woe,  
We weary out our souls and waste our toil;  
But if we harvest in the richer soil  
Of towering thoughts—where holy breezes blow,  
And everlasting flowers in beauty smile—  
No disappointment shall the labourer know.

Methought I saw a fair and sparkling gem  
In this rude casket—but thy shrewder eye,  
WANGNER! a jewelled coronet could descry.  
Take then the bright, unreal diadem!  
Worldlings may doubt and smile insultingly,  
The hidden stores of truth are not for them.

[The page contains extremely faint and illegible text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the document. A small dark speck is visible near the top center.]