# APPLETONS' NEW HANDY-VOLUME SERIES. LITTLE COMEDIES

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649637249

Appletons' New Handy-Volume Series. Little Comedies by Julian Sturgis

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# **JULIAN STURGIS**

# APPLETONS' NEW HANDY-VOLUME SERIES. LITTLE COMEDIES



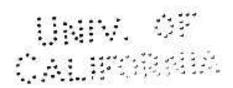
## APPLETONS' NEW HANDY-VOLUME SERIES.

# LITTLE COMEDIES.

BY

## JULIAN STURGIS,

"JOHN-A-DREAMS," AND "AN ACCOMPLISHED GENTLEMAN."



NEW YORK:

D. APPLETON AND COMPANY,

1, 8, AND 5 BOND STREET.

1880.

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"This green plot shall be our stage, this hawthorne brake our tyring bouse,"

.

"Like cutler's poetry
Upon a knife, Love me, and leave me not,"

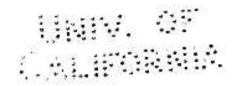
APPLES.

# CHARACTERS.

CLAUD HUNTLEY, Artist.

LADY ROEDALE.

BETTY TYRREL.



# APPLES.

It is spring-time in Rome, and one of the first hot days. In the veiled light of his studio CLAUD HUNTLEY is painting LADY ROE-DALE'S picture. He likes to talk as he works.

#### CLAUD.

Then why did you offer to sit to me?

.

## LADY ROEDALE.

Why? Why? It's too hot to give reasons. Perhaps because your studio is the coolest place in Rome. Or shall I merely say that I sit to you because I choose?

## CLAUD.

That's better. You always did what you chose. And now you are free. You delight in your liberty.

# LATY RORDADE.

"Delight" is a strong word. It is suggestive of violent emotion. I detest violence.

#### CLAUD.

You say with Hamlet, "Man delights me not."

#### LADY ROEDALE.

I say nothing with Hamlet. Heaven defend me from such presumption! and besides, Hamlet was a bore, and thought too much of himself.

#### CLAUD.

Heaven defend you from presumption! But any way you agree. You don't like man, and you do like liberty?

## LADY ROEDALE.

I prefer liberty of the two. A widow can do what she pleases, and—and this is far better, she need not do anything which bores her.

## CLAUD.

Ah, there you are wrong. Your liberty is a sham. You are bound by a thousand silk threads of society. Your conduct is modified by the criticism of a dozen tea-tables. Trippet takes your cup, and sees that your eyes are red. By the way, they are red—