

**MEN IN  
EPIGRAM**

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Men in epigram by Frederick W. Morton

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**FREDERICK W. MORTON**

**MEN IN  
EPIGRAM**





*Uniform with this Volume.*

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WOMAN IN EPIGRAM:

*FLASHES OF WIT, WISDOM, AND SATIRE, FROM THE  
WORLD'S LITERATURE.*

COMPILED BY

FREDERICK W. MORTON.



# MEN IN EPIGRAM

Views of Maids, Wives, Widows, and  
other Amateurs and Professionals

COMPILED BY

FREDERICK W. MORTON



CHICAGO

A. C. McCLURG AND COMPANY

1897

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A. D. 1897

*TO MEN.*



*O wad some Power the giftie gie us  
To see oursel as ithers see us!  
It wad frae mony a blunder free us,  
An' foolish notion:  
What airs in dress an' gait wad lee'e us,  
An' ev'n devotion!*

ROBERT BURNS.



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## INTRODUCTORY.

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IT would be Providential if some sage would kindly come with a new evangel, revealing clearly to men — not man — who and what they are. Eulogists and detractors have had an ample say; but praise has too often gilded untruth, wit has distorted wisdom, and cynicism has framed its picture in irony, till not a son of Adam to-day knows whether he is a “sublime brute” or a “degenerate angel.”

True, the New Woman and the Old Girl have done something to clear away doubt; but even with their aid the man of the Nineteenth Century wakes up like Irving's sleeper of the Kaatskills and echoes the same words, “Does nobody know poor Rip Van Winkle?”

Strange if any one should; the patchwork of characteristics the ages have made is so

grotesque! Emersonian and Carlylean enthusiasts, often under the flimsy screen of the general term "man," have done their best to make men seem divine; poets have set their eulogy to music; theologians have found in them the soil in which evil thrives most luxuriantly; and women have looked through the spectacles of wifehood, widowhood, and spinsterhood with, as might be expected, various results.

Nor are the analysts of science and society more in accord. *Man* has easily been classified as the animal that laughs, the animal that weeps, the animal that thinks he thinks, and under many other distinctive terms borrowed from text-books and domestic economy. But *men* resent the lines drawn by every sort of court of judgment, and walk proudly unclassified, save that they are willing to be called the animals who carry the purse.

Withal, it is to be noted that till of late, when women have taken a hand in the matter, the men have had a monopoly in extolling their own merits, damning themselves with faint praise, and ascribing to themselves qualities to suit their taste. One regrets that false modesty has led so many