

**EMMANUEL APPADOCCA;
OR, BLIGHTED LIFE. A TALE
OF THE BOUCANEERS. IN
TWO VOLUMES. VOL. I**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649573301

Emmanuel Appadocca; Or, Blighted Life. A Tale of the Boucaneers. In Two Volumes. Vol. I by
Maxwell Philip

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Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

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MAXWELL PHILIP

**EMMANUEL APPADOCCA;
OR, BLIGHTED LIFE. A TALE
OF THE BOUCANEERS. IN
TWO VOLUMES. VOL. I**

TO HARRY DANIELS, Esq.,

4, BUCKINGHAM COURT,
TEMPLE.

DEAR FRIEND,

I DEDICATE TO YOU THE FIRST-BORN
OF MY BRAINS. RECEIVE THIS TRIFLING MARK OF
ESTEEM IN THE SPIRIT IN WHICH IT IS MADE, AND
ACCEPT THE WILLING HOMAGE THAT I RENDER TO
—OH, MOST RARE POSSESSION!—A GOOD AND TRUE
HEART.

MAXWELL PHILIP.



P R E F A C E.

This work has been written at a moment when the feelings of the Author are roused up to a high pitch of indignant excitement, by a statement of the cruel manner in which the slave-holders of America deal with their slave-children. Not being able to imagine that even that dissolver of natural bonds—slavery—can shade over the heidousness of begetting children for the purpose of turning them out into the fields to labour at the lash's sting, he has ventured to sketch out the line of conduct, which a high-spirited and sensitive person would probably follow, if he found himself picking cotton under the spurring encouragement of "Jimboes" or "Quimboes" on his own father's plantation.

The machinery, or ground-work of the story is based on truth—the known history of the Boucaneers. It is scarcely necessary to tell the reader that the other parts are fiction.

The scenes are laid principally in the Island of Trinidad. This is done entirely from natural predilection, for Trinidad is the Author's native isle, whose green woods, smiling sky, beautiful flowers, and romantic gulf, together with a thousand sweet and melting associations, eternally play on his willing memory, and make him cherish ever the fond hope, that when the spark of life shall have been extinguished, his bones may be deposited on the rising ground that looks over the sea, and that already contains the being who, in death, as well as she was in life, was the object of his deep love and high veneration.

4, ELM COURT,

TEMPLE.

February, 1854.

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EMMANUEL APPADOCCA;

OR,

BLIGHTED LIFE.

CHAPTER .I.

"Plots have I laid; inductions dangerous,"—

RICHARD III.

BETWEEN the north-west coast of Venezuela and the island of Trinidad there lies an extensive expanse of water, known as the Gulf of Paria :—a name which it has derived from the neighbouring Spanish coast.

At first sight this gulf presents to the eye the appearance of a vast lake. On the north, east, and south, it is bordered by the dark mountains of Trinidad : while, on the opposite side the cloud-capt Andes, which terminate in that direction, rear their towering heads, and present a lofty western boundary.

The gulf, thus narrowly surrounded on all sides, communicates with the great Atlantic ocean only by two narrow outlets, which are situated at its northern and