

**THE GEORGIA BEQUEST.  
MANOLIA; OR THE  
VALE OF TALLULAH**

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The Georgia bequest. Manolia; or The vale of Tallulah by Georgia Huntsman

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**GEORGIA HUNTSMAN**

**THE GEORGIA BEQUEST.  
MANOLIA; OR THE  
VALE OF TALLULAH**





Manolia at Tallulah Falls.

**THE GEORGIA BEQUEST.**

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**MANOLIA;**

OR,

**THE VALE OF TALLULAH.**

BY A

**GEORGIA HUNTSMAN.**

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AUGUSTA:  
McKINNE & HALL,  
1854.

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## DEDICATION.

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WHENEVER the public is addressed, either by speech, lecture, or through the press; the first and highest object to be attained is, to induce thought and investigation; and, if we are to fall short of its accomplishment, the effort had better not have been undertaken; information may even be imparted, at times, (which is always desirable,) in so prosaic a style, as to fail in accomplishing the main desideratum. This effort has been undertaken from the solicitations of the wife of my bosom, and the mother of my offspring, and if the effusion, (written as hastily as an epistle,) has any claim to merit, *she* has elicited it; and to *her*, we dedicate it; we, therefore, sow to the winds, and we leave it to the reader to gather, whether of tares or of good grain.

THE AUTHOR.

(3)

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# MANOLIA;

OR,

## THE VALE OF TALLULAH.

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### CHAPTER I.

FROM that eventful period, when our first parents were expelled from the garden of Eden, to the present time, their offspring have ever manifested an eagerness after something not attainable; and, when the hopes entertained at one period of our existence are realized, new thirsts are created, and higher hopes, and more exalted aspirations excited, until, in the vale of life, if success and triumph should attend our journeyings; it would then, even, be with us, as it was with the eastern conqueror, overwhelmed with grief for new theatres, upon which to push his conquests. This characteristic is stamped upon every condition and pursuit of life.

The affluent, living in a metropolis, luxuriating every day upon the bounties of every clime which the physical appetite craves, and banqueting upon the exhilarating drinks of the islands, and the intellectual thirstings overwhelmed amidst "the feast of reason, and the flow of soul;" and continually surrounded by a "concord of sweet sounds," surpassing even Wirt's description, as having been cherished on the beautiful island in the Ohio. All, all these, with the luxuries of the nobleman's parlor, we are made to renounce; for after a time they all clog, and we involuntarily turn from the conventional observances of fashionable depravity, as realized among the excessive autocratic planters! the busy marts of commerce! the political arena of hirelings—vampires feeding upon government patronage, with their constructive salaries! The Adelpi of secret conclaves, with their hebdomadal and mensiversary banquetings, which, with their five secret signs of recognition, constituting their badge of secrecy! their puerilities only adapted, in republic America, to boys or young collegians, in which to cultivate lasting ties of friendship and reminiscences; but in the despotic governments of the old world, where they were instituted, they serve to plot treasons, and evade the vigilance of the rapacious authorities. We would here take occasion to refer to the

K. A. Soc. of C. C., as a striking exception to our remarks of censure, being pre-eminently adapted to the cultivation of the social and mental susceptibilities.

Even the more rational acquisitions, attainable only in the laboratory and lecture room, are all renounced; and our eyes and affections, with telegraphic despatch, stop nowhere short of the "freeman's stronghold," "nature's bulwarks," the "juvenescent founts," the exhilarating, elasticity-imparting atmosphere; the deep, green valleys, scolloped by the silvery, dashing, headlong ocean-bound torrents, and the far-away blue acclivities of a thousand summits, presented at one view, rising one above the other, in one direction, with the ocean view in another direction, stretching far away, illimitable in extent, as viewed from Rockcliff's summit, at the junction of the Tallulah and Chatooga rivers at the head of the Tugalo.\*

\* Why termed ocean view? At times the optical delusion is so complete, that involuntarily we cast our eyes over the vast expanse of water—as we suppose it to be—resembling some beautiful lake or inland sea, in search of some craft that may be borne upon its billows;—and the first time we witnessed this unrivalled delusion, afar off, in the direction of the Atlantic, we beheld a black volume of smoke, curling upwards, with the forced rapidity and blackness, so characteristic of an ocean steamer.