BARON MONTEZ OF PANAMA AND PARIS, A NOVEL

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Baron Montez of Panama and Paris, a Novel by Archibald Clavering Gunter

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Trieste

BARON MONTEZ

OF PANAMA AND PARIS

A Novel

ARCHIBALD CLAVERING GUNTER

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AUTHOR OF

"MR. BARNES OF NEW YORK," "MR. POTTER OF TEXAS," "THAT FRENCHMAN !" "MISS NOEODY OF NO-WHERE," "A FLORIDA ENCHANTMENT," "MISS DIVIDENDS," ETC., ETC.



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Story for Children of All Ages. SMALL BOYS IN BIG BOOTS. ILLUSTRATED.

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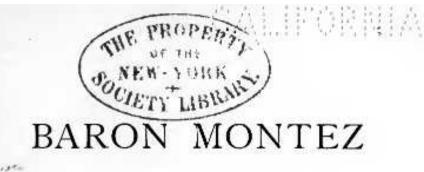
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OF PANAMA AND PARIS.

BOOK I.

A TRAGEDY OF THE EARLY ISTHMUS.

CHAPTER I.

THE RETURNING CALIFORNIANS.

"ANITA !"

"Fernando, light of my heart! Returned from the Pearl Islands!" cries the beautiful Indian girl rushing to his arms and covering Mr. Fernando's olive face with the kisses of youth and love. Anita is but fifteen, and the heart grows fast under the sun of the Equator.

Fernando himself is scarce twenty, but he does not seem so ardent. He replies carelessly, "Yes, last night, by the *Columbus*," pointing to that little unseaworthy steamer as she lies languidly upon the blue waters of the Bay of Panama, about three miles from the town, and seven from the lovely Island of Toboga, from which these two are gazing at it.

"Last night, and you did not come to me? you-away five days!" answers the girl, tears coming into her eyes that flash through mists of passion like topaz stones.

"Last night I had business in Panama-great business." Then the young man says anxiously, "Is the Americano well?"

" Yes."