

**THE ATTACHÉ, OR, SAM
SLICK IN ENGLAND, IN
TWO VOLUMES. VOL. I,
PP. 1-286**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649068470

The Attaché, Or, Sam Slick in England, In Two Volumes. Vol. I, pp. 1-286 by Thomas Chandler Haliburton

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THOMAS CHANDLER HALIBURTON

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Haliburton, Thomas Chandler

THE ATTACHÉ;

OR,

SAM SLICK IN ENGLAND.

BY THE AUTHOR OF

"THE CLOCKMAKER; OR, SAYINGS AND DOINGS OF SAM SLICK,"
&c. &c. &c.

*Duplex libelli dos est; quod ritum movet,
Et quod prudenti vitam consilio monet.*

SECOND AND LAST SERIES.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

VOL. I.

LONDON:

RICHARD BENTLEY, NEW BURLINGTON STREET.

1844.

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7-27-46 R.F

CONTENTS

OF

THE FIRST VOLUME.

	PAGE
CHAPTER I.	
THE OLD AND NEW WORLD	1
CHAPTER II.	
BOARDING-SCHOOLS	23
CHAPTER III.	
THE REVOLUTIONARY HERO	44
CHAPTER IV.	
THE EYE	58
CHAPTER V.	
THE QUEEN	78
CHAPTER VI.	
SMALL TALK	93
CHAPTER VII.	
WHITE BAIT	108

	PAGE
CHAPTER VIII.	
THE CURLING WAVE	115
CHAPTER IX.	
NATIONAL CHARACTER	128
CHAPTER X.	
THE PULPIT AND THE PRESS	145
CHAPTER XI.	
WATERLOO AND BUNKER HILL	160
CHAPTER XII.	
HOOKS AND EYES.—PART I.	183
CHAPTER XIII.	
HOOKS AND EYES.—PART II.	198
CHAPTER XIV.	
RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT.—PART I.	211
CHAPTER XV.	
RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT.—PART II.	227
CHAPTER XVI.	
THE DUKE OF KRNT AND HIS TRUMPETER	243
CHAPTER XVII.	
REPRAL	261
CHAPTER XVIII.	
THE HORSE STRALER	273

THE ATTACHÉ;
OR,
SAM SLICK IN ENGLAND.

CHAPTER I.

THE OLD AND THE NEW WORLD.

THE first series of this work had scarcely issued from the press, when I was compelled to return to Nova Scotia, on urgent private affairs. I was fortunately not detained long, and arrived again at Liverpool after an absence of three months. To my surprise, I found Mr. Slick at the Liner's Hotel. He was evidently out of spirits, and even the excitement of my

unexpected return did not wholly dissipate his gloom. My fears were at first awakened for the safety of my excellent friend Mr. Hopewell, but I was delighted to find that he was in good health, and in no way the cause of Mr. Slick's anxiety. I pushed my enquiries no further, but left it to him to disclose, as I knew he would in due time, the source of his grief. His outer man was no less changed than his countenance. He wore a dress-coat and pantaloons, a gaudy-figured silk waistcoat, black satin stock, and Parisian hat. A large diamond brooch decorated his bosom, and a heavy gold chain, suspended over his waistcoat, secured his watch; while one of very delicate texture and exquisite workmanship supported an eye-glass. To complete the metamorphos, he had cultivated a very military moustache, and an imperial of the most approved size finished the picture.

I was astonished and grieved beyond measure to find that three short months had effected such a total change in him. He had set up for a man of fashion, and in his failure had made himself, what he in his happier days would have called "a caution to sinners." His plain unpretending attire, frank rough manners, and sound practical good sense, had heretofore always disarmed criticism, and rendered his peculiarities, if not attractive, at least inoffensive and amusing, inasmuch as altogether they constituted a very original and a very striking character. He had now rendered himself ridiculous. It is impossible to express the pain with which I contemplated this awkward, over-dressed, vulgar caricature; and the difficulty with which I recognised my old friend the Clockmaker in dandy Slick. Dress, however, can be put on or laid aside with ease, but fortunately a man's

train of thinking is not so readily changed. It was a source of great satisfaction to me, therefore, to find, as soon as he began to converse, that, with the exception of a very great increase of personal vanity, he was still himself.

“ Well, I am glad to see you again, too, Squire,” he said, “ it raily makes me feel kinder all-overish to shake hands along with you onct more ; and won't Minister feel hand-over-foot in a twitteration when he hears you've come back. Poor dear old critter, he loves you like a son ; he says you are the only man that has done us justice, and that though you rub us pretty hard sometimes, you touch up the blue noses, and the British, too, every mite and mossel as much, and that it is all done good-natured, and no spite or prejudice in it nother. There is no abuse in your books, he says. Yes, I am glad to see you, 'cause now I *have* got some