

**CHORRONESSEE,  
AND OTHER TALES**

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Chorronnesee, and Other Tales by James Douglas Thornton

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**JAMES DOUGLAS THORNTON**

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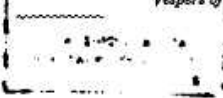
OTHER TALES.

BY

JAMES DOUGLAS THORNTON.

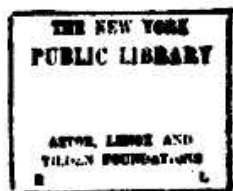
\* \* \* \* \* yet doth my soul,  
 Far midst its darkness, see one word of hope,  
 Wherein is bright vitality: 'tis to see  
 Their blood avenged, and our fair hills  
 My beautiful native land, in glory risen,  
 Like a warrior from his slumbers!"

*Vespers of Palermo.*



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## PREFACE.

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In publishing this little volume, I have been actuated, principally, by a wish to satisfy the importunities of a few partial friends, who have discovered, (whether through the medium of favorable prejudices, or with the sagacity of literary critics, the reader must determine,) something worthy of preservation among the fragments with which I have sometimes amused them at my own fireside.

These fragments were written at different periods, and, with the exception of a few poems, have never been presented to the public.

Should it appear that some of them are tinged with sectional prejudices, I can only offer one reason for it, viz: that *I am a Virginian!*

It has also been noticed by some friends to whom I have submitted the manuscripts for examination, that I have ignored all American poets, in making selections for mottoes. To this, I can only say, that, from my earliest years, I have adored British poetry; and if Shakspeare, Wordsworth, Pope, and Southey, or the heart-

Handley 11-7-33

touching Mrs. Hemans, or the impassioned Miss Landon, have been selected as mediums to convey, in a concentrated form, ideas, upon which I have endeavored to found a poem or a chapter, it may be attributed to my early reading, rather than to any premeditated design.

Southern by birth—Southern in sentiment, education, and interest—*my book is Southern, too*—

“ And little reck I of the censure sharp  
May idly cavil at an idle lay.”

To the free-born citizens of the South, then, I commit the work. To them it remains to say, whether Southern genius and Southern enterprise, even though it be of an humble and unpretending character, shall meet with such encouragement as to stimulate Southern authors and publishers to attempt something which may reflect credit upon themselves, and their native land; and thus, “the stone which has been set at naught by the builders” as unfit for use, possessing merit to them unknown, may be discovered among the rubbish of the temple, and “become the head of the corner.”

J. DOUGLAS THORNTON.

NORFOLK, VA., MAY 15, 1868.



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**CHORRONESSEE.**

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