

**RICH AND HUMBLE; OR
THE MISSION OF
BERTHA GRANT. A STORY
FOR YOUNG PEOPLE**

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Rich and humble; or The mission of Bertha Grant. A story for young people by Oliver Optic

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William T. Adams

RICH AND HUMBLE

OR

THE MISSION OF BERTHA GRANT

A Story for Young People

BY

OLIVER OPTIC

AUTHOR OF "THE BOAT CLUB," "ALL ABOARD," "NOW OR
NEVER," "TRY AGAIN," "POOR AND PROUD," "LITTLE
BY LITTLE," "THE RIVERDALE STORY BOOKS," ETC.

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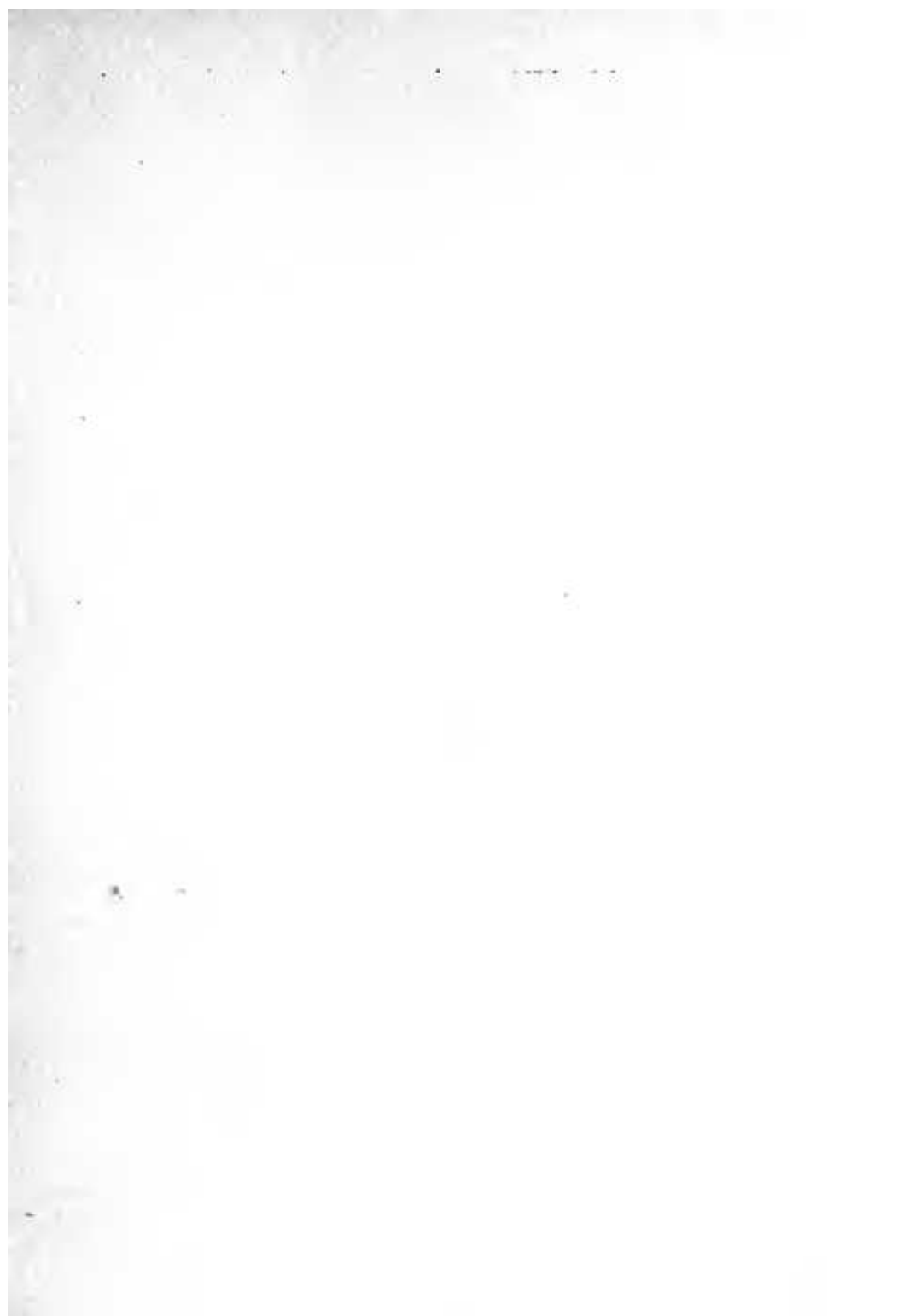
HURST & COMPANY
PUBLISHERS, NEW YORK

TO
Emma Louise Adams

THIS BOOK

IS AFFECTIONATELY DEDICATED

BY HER FATHER.



PREFACE.

AGREEABLY to the promise made in the preface of "Little by Little," the author presents the following story to his young lady friends, though he confidently expects it will prove as acceptable to the embryo "lords of creation" as to those for whom it was more especially written.

The girls will find that Bertha Grant is not only a very good girl, but that her life is animated by a lofty purpose, which all may have, though they fail to achieve the visible triumphs that rewarded the exertions of the heroine of "Rich and Humble."

The boys will find that Richard Grant was not always a good boy, because his life was not animated by a lofty purpose; but the author hopes, in another volume, to present him in a higher moral aspect, and more worthy the imitation of those who, like him, have wandered from the true path.

"Rich and Humble" is the first of the Woodville Stories, and several of the characters introduced in this book will appear again; but each

story will be complete in itself, and independent of the others.

With a renewed expression of thanks to my young friends for the cordial welcome they extended to the several volumes of the "Library for Young People," I offer them "Rich and Humble," with the hope that it will not only amuse their leisure hours, but will inspire in them that high aim which is the fountain of a pure and true life.

WILLIAM T. ADAMS.

DORCHESTER, Sept. 8, 1863.