

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

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649592784

The Georgia Bequest: Manolia; Or The Vale of Tallulah by Georgia Huntsman

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Cover @ 2017

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GEORGIA HUNTSMAN

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Manolie at Tallulah Falls.

THE GEORGIA BEQUEST.

MANOLIA;

OR,

THE VALE OF TALLULAN.

BY A

GEORGIA HUNTSMAN.

W. H. Hunt

AUGUSTA:

McKINNE & HALL,

1854.

DAM

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DEDICATION.

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)

MANOLIA;

OR,

THE VALE OF TALLULAH.

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