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Pointing the way by Sutton E. Griggs

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SUTTON E. GRIGGS

POINTING THE WAY

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DEDICATION.

AFFECTIONATELY DEDICATED TO

MY WIFE,

IN THE HOPE THAT SHE MAY FIND HEREIN SOMEWHAT OF AN EXPLANATION OF THAT OCCASIONAL FAR-AWAY LOOK IN THE EYES, OF WHICH, IN HER WIFELY SOLICITUDE, SHE HAS FROM TIME TO TIME QUITE PROPERLY MADE COMPLAINT.

THE AUTHOR.

"OVERSHADOWED" "UNFETTERED" "THE HINDERED HAND" "THE ONE GREAT QUESTION" "POINTING THE WAY"

BOOKS BY SUTTON E. GRIGGS:

"IMPERIUM IN IMPERIO"

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CHAPTER I.

A FACE OF MYSTERY.

"NY HY, dear, what on earth-"

The question thus begun was never finished. As to why the questioner felt impelled to begin the query only to drop it unceremoniously in its unfinished state it will presently appear.

It was midday, and a midsummer sun of the Southern skies was beating down fiercely upon that loveliest of all Southern cities, Belrose, the very mention of whose name recalls to those who have seen it, visions of a cleanly, hustling business center, well-regulated streets, beautiful but not ostentatious suburban homes, an amplitude of trees with rich green foliage, rows of magnolias, testifying by leaf and flower to the exuberance of the gifts of soil and air; recalls that air of serenity that pervades the city at eventide as the hum of business grows less, as night begins to deftly weave her robe of gloom, as the glare of the electric lights comes forth to aid a shirking moon and the timid stars.

But we must get back to the hot, sultry day, and not be tempted from our recital by the physical charms of the city of Belrose. The extreme heat of the day was indicated by swiftly moving fans and upraised parasols in the hands of the