

THE BLACK POODLE AND OTHER TALES

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The Black Poodle and Other Tales by F. Anstey

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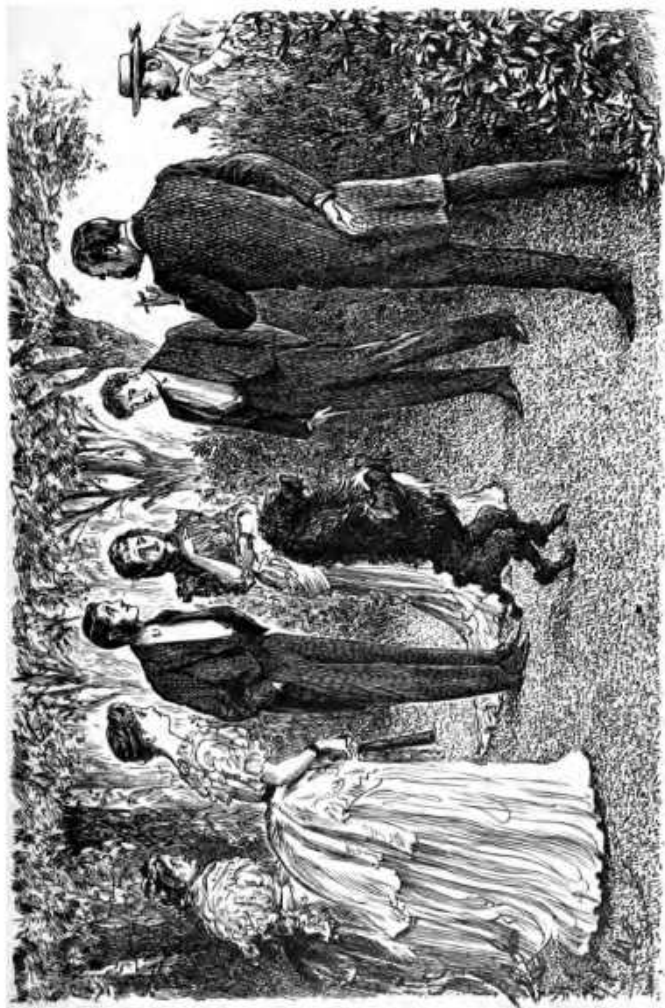
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F. ANSTEY

**THE BLACK POODLE
AND OTHER TALES**



'IT'S MY BINGO, FOR ALL THAT!'

THE BLACK POODLE

AND OTHER TALES

BY

F. ANSTEY

AUTHOR OF 'VICE VERSA' ETC.



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PREFACE.

THE AUTHOR begs to state that the stories which are collected in this volume made their first appearance in 'Belgravia,' the 'Cornhill Magazine,' the 'Graphic,' 'Longman's Magazine,' 'Mirth,' and 'Temple Bar,' respectively, and he takes this opportunity of expressing his thanks to those Editors to whose courtesy he is indebted for permission to reprint them.

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FRONTISPIECE

'IT'S MY BINGO, FOR ALL THAT!'

THE BLACK POODLE.



I HAVE set myself the task of relating in the course of this story, without suppressing or altering a single detail, the most painful and humiliating episode in my life.

I do this, not because it will give me the least pleasure, but simply because it affords me an opportunity of extenuating myself which has hitherto been wholly denied to me.