

**THE OLD
GENTLEMAN OF
THE BLACK STOCK**

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The old gentleman of the black stock by Thomas Nelson Page

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THOMAS NELSON PAGE

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BLACK STOCK**

BY
THOMAS NELSON PAGE

ILLUSTRATED BY
HOWARD CHANDLER CHRISTY



**NEW YORK
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1902

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TO MY DAUGHTERS
MINNA FIELD
AND
FLORENCE FIELD
MY TWO MOST CONSTANT
AND
INDULGENT READERS

PREFACE

AT the suggestion of friends who have expressed a wish to know more of the history of Elizabeth Dale than has been told, I have availed myself of the opportunity offered by the publication of this new edition of "*The Old Gentleman of the Black Stock*," illustrated by Mr. Christy's gifted pencil, to enlarge the story.

I hope those who have done me the honor to accept the *Old Gentleman of the Black Stock* and *Elizabeth Dale* among their friends will feel that I have tried to add to their history in more ways than one.

It has been a grateful task. For the old section of that Ancient Town through which the *Old Gentleman of the Black Stock* moved gravely in the years when the lover-scarred

PREFACE

Beech shaded his tangled yard, and which Elizabeth Dale lighted with her presence, has quite passed away.

Cinderella's Coach comes along only in the Fairy-time of Youth.

T. N. P.

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