SOCIETY AND SOLITUDE: TWELVE CHAPTERS

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Society and Solitude: twelve chapters by Ralph Waldo Emerson

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RALPH WALDO EMERSON

SOCIETY AND SOLITUDE: TWELVE CHAPTERS



WORKS OF RALPH WALDO EMERSON.

"Such is the beauty of his speech, such the majesty of his ideas, such the power of the moral sentiment in men, and such the impression which his whole character makes on them, that they lend him, everywhere, their ears, and thousands bless his manly thoughts." — Massachusetts Quarter (y-Ecrope).

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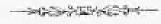
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Twelve Chapters.

BY

RALPH WALDO EMERSON.



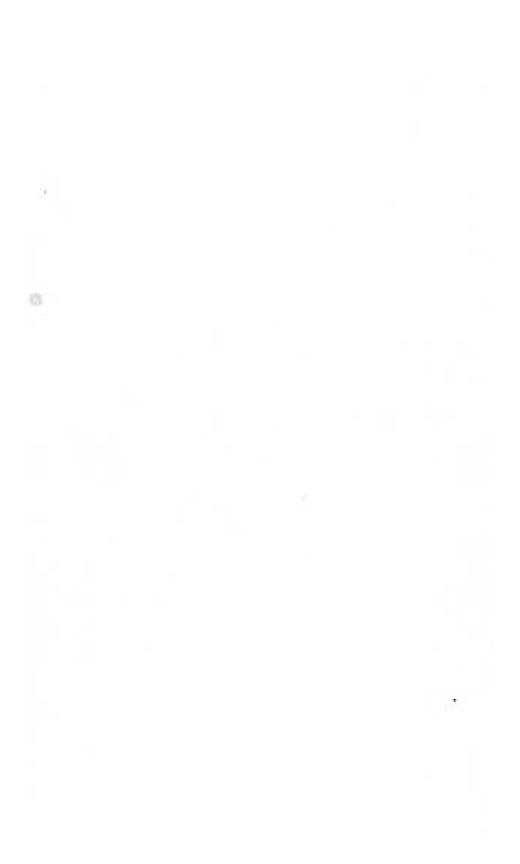
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SOCIETY AND SOLITUDE.

I FELL in with a humorist, on my travels, who had in his chamber a east of the Rombariai Mediasa, and who assured me that the name which that fine work of art bore in the catalogues was a misnomer, as he was convinced that the sculptor who carved it intended it for Memory, the mother of the Muses. In the conversation that followed, my new friend made some extraordinary confessions. "Do you not see," he said, "the penalty of learning, and that each of these scholars whom you have met at 8-, though he were to be the last man, would, like the executioner in Hood's peem, guillotine the last but one?" He added many lively remarks, but his evident earnestness engaged my attention, and, in the weeks that followed, we became better acquainted. He had good abilities, a genial temper, and no vices; but he had one defect, - he could not speak in the tone of the people. There was some paralysis on his will, such that, when he met men on common terms, he spoke weakly, and from the point, like a flighty girl. His consciousness of the fault made it worse. He envird every drover and lumberman in the tayern their manly speech. He coveted Mirabeau's don terrible de la familiarité, believing that he whose sympathy goes lowest is the man from whom