TAKE CARE OF NUMBER ONE; OR, GOOD TO ME INCLUDES GOOD TO THEE

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Take Care of Number One; Or, Good to Me Includes Good to Thee by S. G. Goodrich

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S. G. GOODRICH

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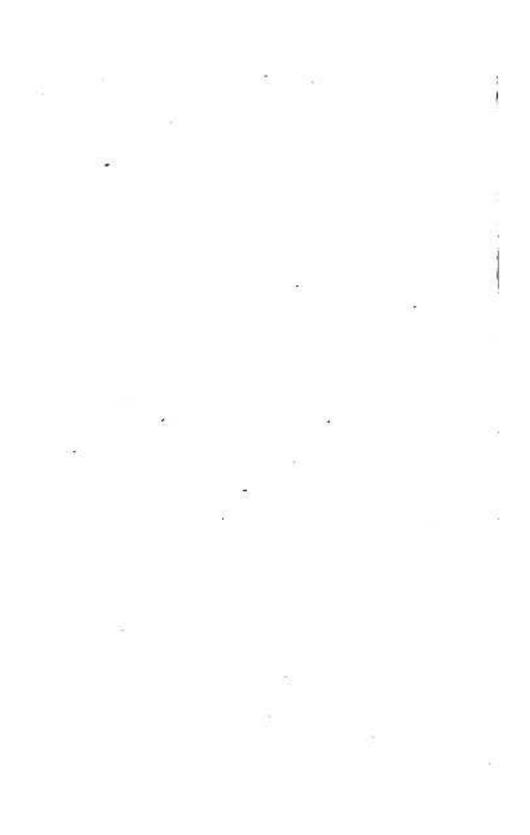


Take Care of Number One

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PREFACE.

My intention in the following pages has been to exemplify and to place in a strong light the folly, as well as the sin, of that maxim which holds such fearful sway over the hearts of men, "Take care of Number One." I have endeavoured to show that selfishness is not more opposed to the divine law, "Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself," than it is to the true interest of the individual man in whom it exists.

It will, however, be seen that the maxim is capable of being understood in a good and true sense. It is in this broader, better meaning of the words, that I desire my young readers to "Take care of Number One," while I would have them keep as far as possible from the selfishness that never fails, sooner or later, to overreach itself.

My hero, Jacob Karl, was led astray, but not wholly debased. The kind of discipline which is most calculated to reclaim such a youth is exemplified in the latter part of this book, in a manner that I earnestly hope may prove useful.

S. G. G.