

**IN OLE VIRGINIA;
OR, MARSE CHAN,
AND OTHER STORIES**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649214983

In ole Virginia; or, Marse Chan, and other stories by Thomas Nelson Page

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

THOMAS NELSON PAGE

**IN OLE VIRGINIA;
OR, MARSE CHAN,
AND OTHER STORIES**

IN OLE VIRGINIA

OR

MARSE CHAN AND OTHER STORIES

BY

THOMAS NELSON PAGE

NEW YORK

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS

1887

COPYRIGHT, 1887, BY
CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS

Press of J. J. Little & Co.
Astor Place, New York.

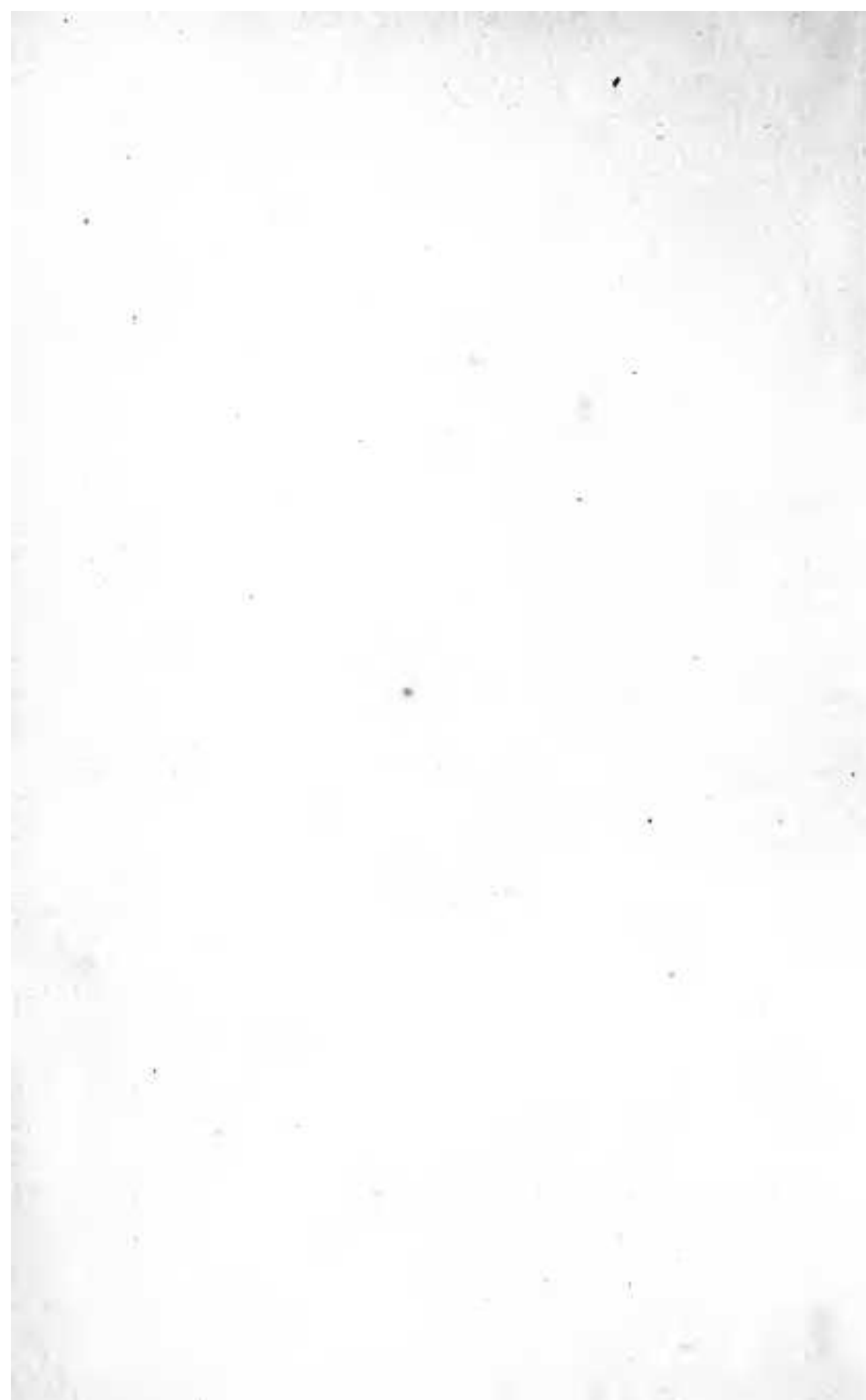
To

MY PEOPLE

THIS FRAGMENTARY RECORD

OF THEIR LIFE

IS DEDICATED



CONTENTS.

MARSE CHAN. A TALE OF OLD VIRGINIA . . .	I
"UNC' EDINBURG'S DROWNDIN'." A PLANTATION ECHO	39
MEH LADY: A STORY OF THE WAR	78
OLE 'STRACTED	140
"NO HAIT PAWN"	162
POLLY: A CHRISTMAS RECOLLECTION	187

NOTE.

THE dialect of the negroes of Eastern Virginia differs totally from that of the Southern negroes, and in some material points from that of those located farther west.

The elision is so constant that it is impossible to produce the exact sound, and in some cases it has been found necessary to subordinate the phonetic arrangement to intelligibility.

The following rules may, however, aid the reader :

The final consonant is rarely sounded. Adverbs, prepositions, and short words are frequently slighted, as is the possessive. The letter *r* is not usually rolled except when used as a substitute for *th*, but is pronounced *ah*.

For instance, the following is a fair representation of the peculiarities cited :

The sentence, "It was curious, he said, he wanted to go into the other army," would sound : "'Twuz cu-yus, he say, he wan'(t) (to) go in(to) 'turr ah-my."

MARSE CHAN.

A TALE OF OLD VIRGINIA.

ONE afternoon, in the autumn of 1872, I was riding leisurely down the sandy road that winds along the top of the water-shed between two of the smaller rivers of eastern Virginia. The road I was travelling, following "the ridge" for miles, had just struck me as most significant of the character of the race whose only avenue of communication with the outside world it had formerly been. Their once splendid mansions, now fast falling to decay, appeared to view from time to time, set back far from the road, in proud seclusion, among groves of oak and hickory, now scarlet and gold with the early frost. Distance was nothing to this people; time was of no consequence to them. They desired but a level path in life, and that they had, though the way was longer, and the outer world strode by them as they dreamed.

I was aroused from my reflections by hearing some one ahead of me calling, "Heah!—heah—whoo-oo, heah!"

Turning the curve in the road, I saw just before me a negro standing, with a hoe and a watering-pot