

## Life of Col. David Crockett



This historic book may have numerous typos and missing text. Purchasers can download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. Not indexed. Not illustrated. 1859. Excerpt: ... CHAPTER XXIX. Thimblerig relates the events of his life to the Colonel--Thimblerig courts a planters daughter--Gets a very broad hint to leave--Becomes a play-actor--Refuses to perform the hind legs of the elephant, because it is not a speaking part--Gets discharged--Becomes marker in a gambling house at New Orleans--Quits--Becomes a professional blackleg--Goes to Natchez under the hill--His description of that place--A murder--Punishment of the murderer--Punishment of a gambler for cheating--Arrival of the Colonel at Natchitoches. After my speech, and setting my face against gambling, poor Thimblerig was obliged to break off conjuring for want of customers, and call it half a day. He came and entered into conversation with me, and I found him a good-natured, intelligent fellow, with a keen eye for the main chance. He belonged to that numerous class, that it is perfectly safe to trust as far as a tailor can sling a bull by the tail--but no farther. He told me that he had been brought up a gentleman; that is to say, he was not instructed in any useful pursuit by which he could obtain a livelihood, so that when he found he had to depend upon himself for the necessaries of life, he began to suspect, that dame nature would have conferred a particular favor if she had consigned him to the care of any one else. She had made a very THIMBLEKIG COURTING. 808 injudicious choice when she selected him to sustain the dignity of a gentleman. The first bright idea that occurred to him as a speedy means of bettering his fortune, would be to marry an heiress. Accordingly, he looked about himself pretty sharp, and after glancing from one fair object to another, finally, his

hawk's eye rested upon the young and pretty daughter of a wealthy planter. Thimble-erig run his braze...

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