



# Peace, War, and Adventure An Autobiographical Memoir of George Laval Chesterton Volume 2

George Laval Chesterton



This historic book may have numerous typos and missing text. Purchasers can usually download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. Not indexed. Not illustrated. 1853 edition. Excerpt: ... 126 Chap. xn. EMBARKED ON THE ORINOCO. A TREE BEARING STRANGE FRUIT. THE TOWN OF GUYANA. ANGOSTURA INTERDICTION TO QUIT THE COUNTRT. UNUSUAL HOSPITALITY. SEIZED WITH YELLOW FEVER.-- A MEDICAL SAMARITAN. RECOVERY. POSSESSION OF A PASSPORT. ARRIVAL OF BOLIVAR HIS RECEPTION. DISMISSAL OF ARISMENDI. ENTERTAINMENT TO BOLIVAR A CHALLENGE, AND A DILEMMA. AN EXPEDITION. APPOINTMENT TO THE STAFF, AND PROMOTION. THE HONOUR DECLINED. A PASSAGE SECURED. Fob official purposes Colonel Sucre had brought me by a circuitous route, and thus I had the advantage to traverse an extended range of country. However, we embarked at Barancas in a neat schooner, and found on board two young married women of respectable condition, and other persons, whose lively conversation beguiled this otherwise tedious passage. In ascending the river, the dangers to its navigation were numerous it was consequently the custom to seek out at evening a secure spot, and there make fast the vessel for the night, most generally by passing hawsers round some gigantic tree. Such was the case on our first days embarkation and as the cabin was intolerable, owing to the flights of mosquitoes which infested it (and those of the VITAL FRUIT. 127 Orinoco are unusually famed for the length of their fangs, and the venom of their sting), I determined to pass the night on deck, and for my couch selected a hen-coop. I needed no covering, merely putting a handkerchief over my face, and thrusting my hands into my pockets to shield them from our restless tormentors. My bed, none of the softest, did not encourage prolonged sleep, and I awoke very early in the morning. As day faintly began to dawn, my attention was attracted to the tree to which our craft was made fast, and the more I watched it, ..

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