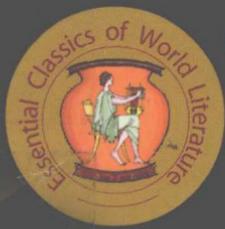


Mark Twain



The Adventures
of Tom Sawyer



中央编译出版社
Central Compilation & Translation Press

Essential Classics of World Literature

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*Circa 1900: American writer and humourist Samuel Langhorne Clemens (1835 – 1910) whose pseudonym Mark Twain means two fathoms deep. His most famous work is *The Adventures Of Huckleberry Finn* (1884).*



Whether or not they've ever read MT's novel, most Americans already have some idea of what "Tom Sawyer" looks like. From the work of numerous artists, film makers, cartoonists, advertising designers and so on, images of playing hookey or whitewashing the fence or getting lost in the cave have become parts of our cultural consciousness. In MT's time, people "saw" Tom and the story as True Williams depicted them. Williams, who had worked on each of the MT books previously published by the American Publishing Company, did 160 of the novel's 162 illustrations.





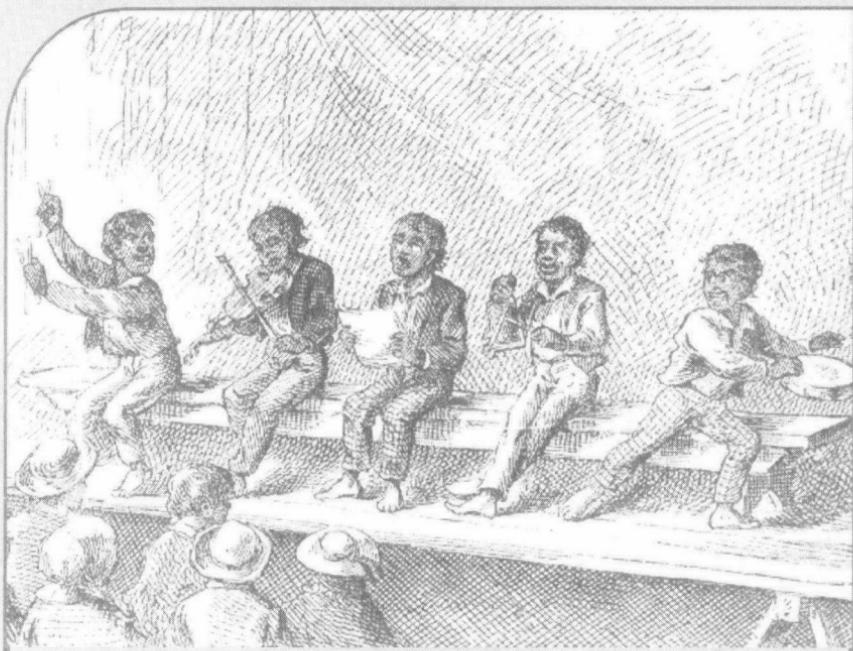
















PREFACE

*H*OST of the adventures recorded in this book really occurred; one or two were experiences of my own, the rest those of boys who were schoolmates of mine. Huck Finn is drawn from life; Tom Sawyer also, but not from an individual: he is a combination of the characteristics of three boys whom I knew, and therefore belongs to the composite order of architecture.

The odd superstitions touched upon were all prevalent among children and slaves in the West at the period of this story; that is to say, thirty or forty years ago.

Although my book is intended mainly for the entertainment of boys and girls, I hope it will not be shunned by men and women on that account, for part of my plan has been to try pleasantly to remind adults of what they once were themselves, and of how they felt and thought and talked, and what queer enterprises they sometimes engaged in.

THE AUTHOR
HARTFORD, 1876.

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