SLANDER AND DEFAMATION OF CHARACTER: THE GREAT CRIMES OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY

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Slander and Defamation of Character: The Great Crimes of the Nineteenth Century by Thomas D. Worrall

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THOMAS D. WORRALL

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Trieste

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BY

THOMAS D. WORRALL.

Malo mori quam fœdari.

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DEDICATION.

To the numerous throng of good men and women, throughout the world, who have unjustly suffered from slander and defamation of character, this work is dedicated by their fellow sufferer,

THOMAS D. WORRALL.

WASHINGTON, D. C., 1884.

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PREFACE.

"Dicam sine cunctatione quod sentio."

Believing, as we firmly do, that more sorrow, suffering, undeserved disgrace and ruin, are caused by slander, than by all other crimes put together, we have written a book on the subject. We have used no mild language, in thus writing; indeed, we fail to find words sufficiently expressive to paint the slanderer as black as we find him.

If we have proved that slander causes more misery than theft, more than arson, and sometimes, even more than murder, then we are justified in saying that the slanderer is worse than a thief, worse than an incendinary, bad as a murderer.

Our readers will belong to two classes, those who have suffered from slander, those who have not. To the former, the nervous language we have used in the following chapters will be deemed none too severe, indeed, many, like ourself, will deem it richly deserved. This class of readers will be among the most intelligent, learned, honorable and useful of their race; men with sufficient honesty of purpose to speak the truth, regardless of consequences; men whose commanding position, personal worth and successes in life have been sufficient to excite the envy and jealousy of their contemporaries.

The purest and best of men, in all ages, have been those who have suffered most at the hands of the defamer and slanderer.

The second class of readers; men who have never been slandered; who know not what it is to writhe in pain over a bleeding reputation; men who know not