ALL AND SUNDRY

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All and Sundry by E. T. Raymond

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E. T. RAYMOND

ALL AND SUNDRY



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BY

E. & RAYMOND Thompson

" UNCENSORED CELEBRITIES"



NEW YORK
HENRY HOLT AND COMPANY
1920

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TO MINU AMAGRIJAS

PREFACE

Shortly after the appearance of my former volume, "Uncensored Celebrities," I received a letter from a lady who earnestly advised me to quit the part of a "sort of malicious Debrett," and go in for genuine fiction, for which, she was kind enough to say, I seemed eminently qualified.

I should have suspected satire but for one fact. In their kindly and indeed generous references to my work, the public critics seemed to convey the same impression of detecting a deliberately depreciative intention on the part of the author. Now every man has his vulnerable point. Unlike Mr. Pott, I could bear being called an ungrammatical twaddler; I should reflect that English grammar is a very uncertain thing, and that twaddle is largely a matter of individual fancy. I am not in the least concerned when a very learned critic accuses me of misquoting Mr. Lorrimer; if I did so, it was with as little consciousness as M. Jourdain talked prose. But I should not like to be thought malicious.

Let me, therefore, hasten to explain that if I have examined with some coolness considerable figures in politics and letters, it is with quite

other motives than the satisfaction of a desire to deal caustically or irreverently with established reputations. What I do feel is that in this country the excessive reverence paid to the "accredited hero" is not a good but a bad thing. It means that the politician once arrived, can do much as he chooses, which is bad for the country and not good for the politician. It means that our merchants of ideas, once well established on the bookstalls, can sell us pretty well what they like. It means that a "name," however obtained, exerts the influence that should only attach to a reality. It means, finally, that the public does not get the best out of its older men (since their second best is readily accepted), while the younger talent has a hard task in getting recognition, or even a living. And it is young talent, above all, of which the country stands most in need.

Of the sketches assembled in this volume, a number appeared in *Everyman*, and others in *The Outlook*.

CONTENTS

							PAGE
THE PRINCE OF WALES	*2		€0.		1.6	·	9
MARSHAL FOCH AND MAR	SHA	L WI	LSON				17
PRESIDENT WILSON .				0.00			23
VISCOUNT HARCOURT .	:	•	(a)	•			31
THE BISHOP OF LONDON	*0						40
SIR ALFRED MORITZ MOND	1045	25		80			47
GEORGES CLEMENCEAU	80	5%			25		55
MR. JOHN BURNS .	20			34	(£		61
MR. G. K. CHESTERTON		90	250) (2		67
LORD SYDENHAM OF COM	BE				-		76
SIR ERIC GEDDES .	\$	•	•				84
MR. FRANK BRANGWYN, I	R.A.		59				91
DEAN INGE			840	175	-		98
SIR JOHN SIMON .	. *	S*2	500				105
SIR ALBERT STANLEY .	*	*	20	5.8			114
MR. F. S. OLIVER .			•	(Per		:: *	123
MR. T. P. O'CONNOR .			200		74	9	133
SIR HENRY DALZIEL .	3	•	•	36	•	5	142
MR, HILAIRE BELLOC	• 2	**		70 * 00			153
THE DUKE OF SOMERSET			22	17.	791		162
SIR THOMAS BEECHAM	0.00				38		168
MR. RUDYARD KIPLING							177
VISCOUNT CHAPLIN .	S	.5		%			186

viii	CONTENTS

SIR ARTHUR CONAN	DO	YLE		•		1.0		194
MR. ROBERT SMILLIE			0.40		:Q	4		201
MR, J. R. CLYNES ANI) S(ME	OTHERS					208
VISCOUNT CAVE								217
MR, LEO MAXSE .								222
MR. HERBERT SAMUE								230
MR. HAROLD BEGBIE								237
VISCOUNT ESHER				,	2.0			245
LORD ERNLE .					-		4	252
SIR DONALD MACLEAN	T A	ND N	IR, ADA	MS	NO			259
LORD ROBERT CECIL								265
MR. SPEAKER .								271
THE GERMAN IN PEA				200	102			278

GMINE OF CALIFORNIA

ALL AND SUNDRY

THE PRINCE OF WALES

"During those four years I found my manhood." This remark of the Prince of Wales on a recent ceremonial occasion was the subject of much obvious comment. Regarded in one light, it was a sufficiently obvious remark. The Prince went into the war a stripling; he has emerged from it a man: even to-day we consider five-and-twenty grown up. In 1914 little was known by the general public of the shy, fair-haired lad who seemed to have very little inclination to show himself to his father's lieges. In 1919 the handsome, well-set-up young Prince bears himself with a dignity and self-possession, and withal a shrewd understanding of his audience, that impress even the least impressible. It is the bearing of a man who has learned his own trade, and, therefore, can think justly of men of other trades, neither paying them too much respect nor too little. Four years spent in close touch with the sternest realities of life and death and duty count for more in the education of a Prince than years of study or even of peace soldiering and sailoring. It was