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JOSE ECHEGARAY

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AUTHOR'S DEDICATION

TO SOCIETY

I dedicate this drama, because it is to the good will of everyone, and not to my own merits, that I

owe the result obtained.

To everyone, indeed: to the PUBLIC, which with a profound instinct and a high moral sense, grasped from the very first the idea of my work, and took it tenderly under its protection; to the PRESS, which has acted to nobly and generously toward me, and which has given me proofs of its sympathy which I shall never forget; to the ACTORS, who have given life on the stage to the characters in my work, now with a splendid talent and highest inspiration, now with exquisite delicacy and profound feeling, sometimes with honorable and magnificent energy, at others, with a dramatic inflection worthy of the great masters of the art of Declamation; and always with perfect discretion and tact, when there were dangers to avoid.

To all I owe, and to all I give, in these disorderly phrases, the humble but sincere proof of my pro-

found gratitude.



PROFESSOR MARTIN W. SAMPSON
OF CORNELL UNIVERSITY
AND HIS CLASS IN DRAMATIC
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