

THE MUSIC-LOVER

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The music-lover by Henry Van Dyke

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HENRY VAN DYKE

**THE
MUSIC-LOVER**



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From a painting by Sigismund de Ivanowski

THE MUSIC-LOVER

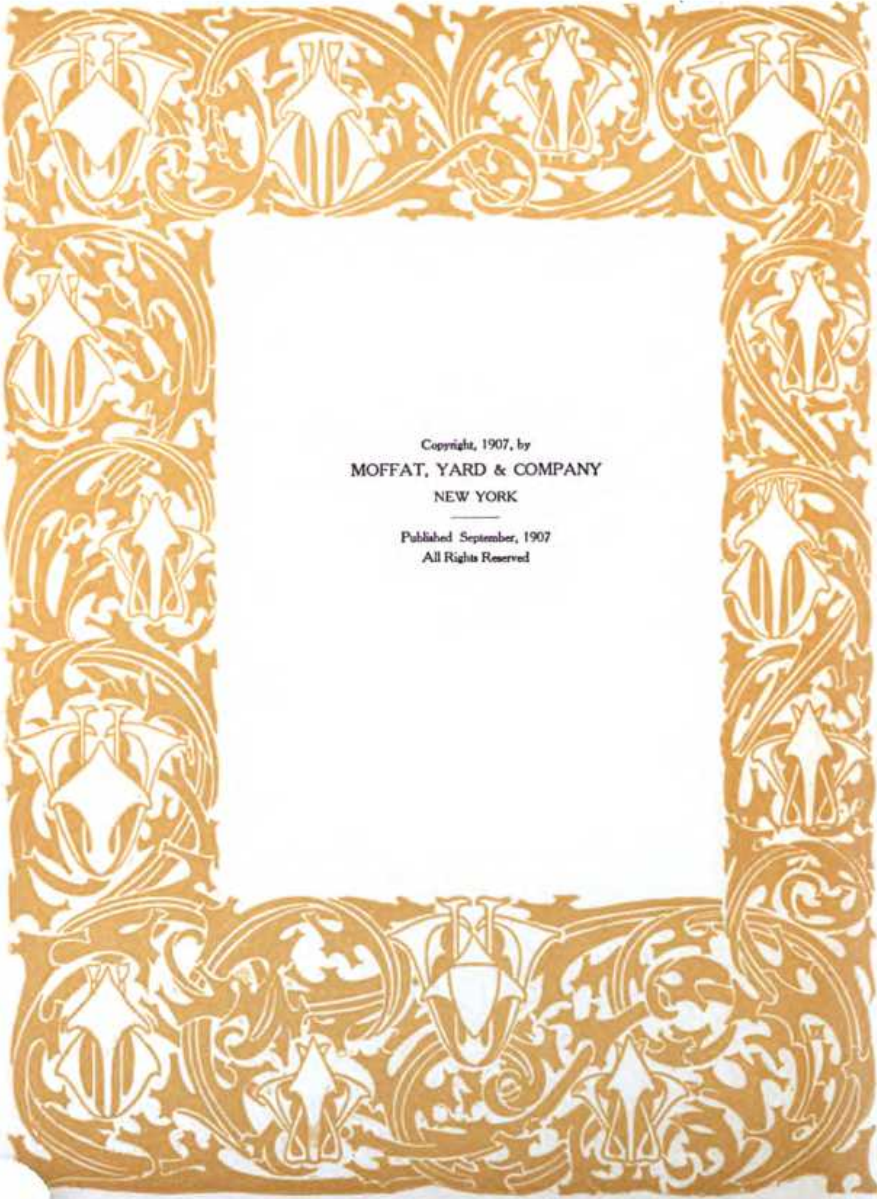


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BY
HENRY VAN DYKE

With Frontispiece by
SIGISMOND DE IVANOWSKI

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THE Lover of Music had come to his favorite seat. It was in the front row of the balcony, just where the curve reaches its outermost point, and, like a rounded headland, meets the unbroken flow of the long-rolling, invisible waves of rhythmical sound.

The value of that chosen place did not seem to be known to the world, else there would have been a higher price demanded for the privilege of occupying it. People were willing to



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pay far more to get into the boxes, or even to have a chair reserved on the crowded level of the parquet.

But the Lover of Music cared little for fashion, and had long ago ceased to reckon the worth of things by the prices asked for them in the market. He knew that his coign of vantage, by some secret confluence of architectural lines, gave him the very best of the delight of hearing that the vast hall contained. It was for that delight that he was thirsting, and he surrendered himself to it confidently and entirely.