

THE POMPS OF SATAN

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The poms of Satan by Edgar Saltus

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EDGAR SALTUS

**THE POMPS
OF SATAN**

BY EDGAR SALTUS

IMPERIAL PURPLE

MARY OF MAGDALA

THE PACE THAT KILLS

THE PHILOSOPHY OF DISENCHANTMENT

THE ANATOMY OF NEGATION

PURPLE AND FINE WOMEN

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EDGAR SALTUS

"Ce livre se moque de vous."—MALHERBE



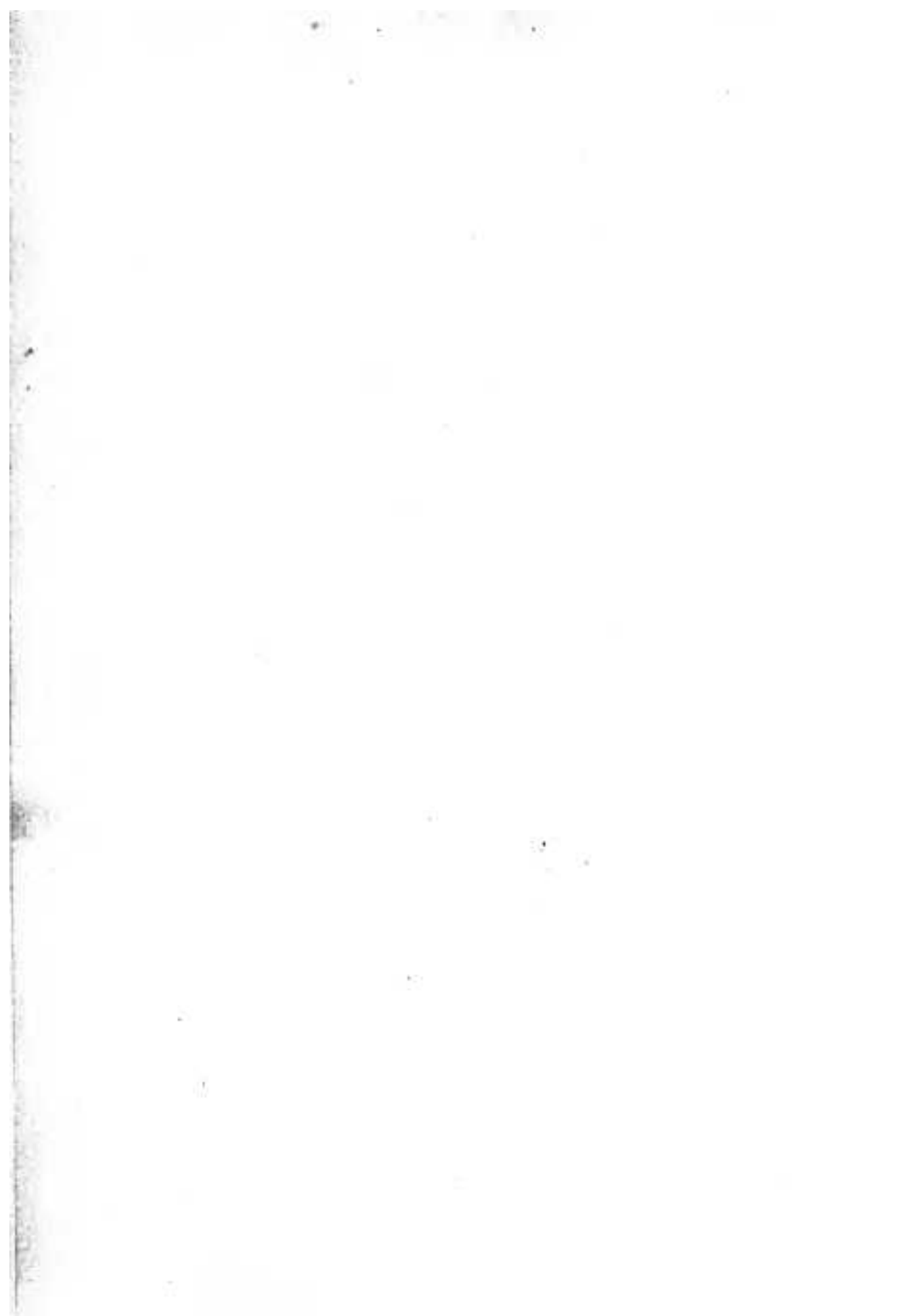
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THE POMPS OF SATAN

I

VANITY SQUARE

"WE authors," Disraeli is rumoured to have remarked in the course of a conversation with V. R.; and though the plural was singular, it is rumoured, too, that with it he flattered her basely. It is rumoured also that nothing ever flattered her more except when he made her Empress of India. These rumours are repeated for what they are worth. One of them relates to an incident that occurred a long time ago, and may not have occurred at all. Even so, and even otherwise a point remains. Titles appeal to women. They are highly decorative, very becoming, serviceable in more ways than one. They may not perhaps lessen the length of the ears, but the attendant tiaras conceal it. *C'est déjà beaucoup*. The taste is not limited to women either. There are men who would not know how to get along without them. They