THE KING'S BANNER: OR, AÏMÈZ LOYAUTÉ, AN ORIGINAL, SEMI-HISTORICAL DRAMA, IN FOUR ACTS, AND SEVERAL TABLEAUX. PERIOD -THE CIVIL WAR FROM 1648 TO 1660

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MRS. GEORGE CRESSWELL

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THE KING'S BANNER;

OR,

AIMÈZ LOYAUTÉ:

In Original, Semi-Historical grama,

IN FOUR ACTS, AND SEVERAL TABLEAUX.

PERIOD_THE CIVIL WAR FROM 1648 TO 1660

BY

MRS. GEORGE CRESSWELL

With Five Illustrations by CAPTAIN CRESSWELL.

LONDON:-HENRY S. KING & CO., 65, CORNHILL, AND 12, PATERNOSTER ROW. 1875. FINISHED COMPLETE IN FIVE ACTS, JULY, 1869. REDUCED TO FOUR, AND ENTERED AT STATIONERS' HALL, MAY, 1870.

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Co

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE GENERAL LORD STRATHNAIRN,

G.C.B., G.C.S.I., D.C.L., P.C.,

LATE COMMANDER OF THE FORCES IN IRELAND,

This Wolume is Dedicated by Abe Authoress,

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TOKEN OF RESPECT AND GRATITUDE

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PREFACE.

SEVERAL Plays of the Cavalier and Roundhead period having been lately produced on the stage, the Authoress of the present Drama begs respectfully to introduce it to the Public, on the ground that, as it was written between 1866 and 1869, it was, perhaps, the first of the series, and completed before they were known.

In writing it, the Authoress, like others, has availed herself of certain well-known historical incidents—namely, the defence of Latham House by the Countess of Derby, and the escape of Charles II. after the battle of Worcester; but in all other respects she believes it to be entirely original. The construction of the Play was at first in Five Acts, but in this form being considered too long for dramatic representation, it was reduced to Four—not, however, without considerable sacrifice of the unities of time.

The Authoress now trusted it might be available for acting; being again, however, disappointed in this respect, she pleads the example of Colonel A. B. Richards' noble play of Cromwell, and offers it for public opinion solely on its own merits, relying upon that impartial reception and consideration which every author, however previously unknown, is sure to receive at the hands of a fair-play-loving British Public.

I. S. CRESSWELL.

THE ROYAL HOSPITAL, KILMAINHAM, DUBLIN, November 13th, 1873.

(*) * Î .

DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.

KING CHARLES II. SIE RALPH NEVILLE, A stanch old Cavalier Nobleman. Lord of Raven-stone, Lady Laura's father. LORD EUSTACE ST. CLAIR, . . . Lady Laura's lover and affianced husband. SIR WALTER DE LACY,) First as Sir Walter, Lady Eleanor's lover, and afterwards as Maurice Jackson, a pretender to Lady Laura's hand. MAURICE JACKSON, Officer of Cromwell's Army, Afterwards possessed of Recentions by conflecation. GENERAL JACKSON, A Puritan-Roundhead Lawyer. JEREMIAH PIKE, . . URIAH KILLJOY, . 77 1911 19 A fanatical Dissenting Preacher, using strong argumente. CHAPLAIN, The Rev. Joseph Lane, confidential friend and protector of Lady Laura. SIR LIONEL DE VERE, . . Lady Eleanor's father. The wicked Uncle, and villain _of the Piece. 10 MILLER, . . 1st Act only. 1st Scene. 12 . (a) (a) (Last Act only. 1st Scene. A Roundhead Colonel. Lady Eleanor is forced to marry him, at her father's command. COLONEL PRIDE.) GENERAL MONK, . A faithful old servant. ANDREW. . . . HUMPHREY. A forester. Margery and Andrew's son. ENOCH AND MESSENGER, . . LADY LAURA NEVILLE. 19413 LADY ELEANOR DE VERE, . . A haughty brunetts and coquette. Goes mad with jealousy and remorse. BARBARA, Lady Eleanor's maid. An arch mischievous girl. MARGERY, Lady Laura's old nurse and foster-mother. DAME TABITHA, A suppositious character played by Lady Laura. PATIENCE, Lady Lawra's maid. LADY MAUD'S GHOST, . . . Also played by Lady Laura.

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