# THOMAS ALVA EDISON

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Thomas Alva Edison by Francis Rolt-Wheeler

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## FRANCIS ROLT-WHEELER

# THOMAS ALVA EDISON



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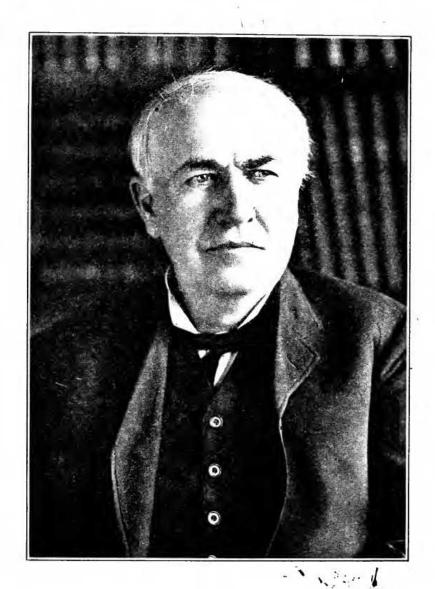
## THOMAS ALVA EDISON



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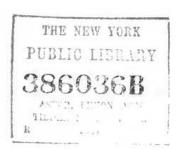
#### BY

### FRANCIS ROLT-WHEELER

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### PREFACE

There is a great deal of satisfaction in writing a biography of a man who is not yet dead. Thomas Alva Edison is alive, very much so, and it is hoped that some measure of his vitality vibrates in these pages. To him, to his friends, and to former biographers—especially Messrs. Dyer & Martin, Francis A. Jones, W. K. L. & A. Dickson, and two anonymous writers—the author of this book acknowledges his indebtedness.

A personality such as that of Edison lends itself to many presentments. To use a simile, it is a gem on which many facets may be cut. This biography of "the Wizard," however, has one end in view—to show Edison as a Great American. That his life is a splendid stimulus to every American boy and girl, to every American man and woman, is the writer's belief, and to fling before the youth of the United States the heroic figure of America's greatest inventor in its most clarion appeal is the aim and purpose of

THE AUTHOR.

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