

**CUPID AND
COMMONSENSE; A
PLAY IN FOUR ACTS**

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Cupid and commonsense; a play in four acts by Arnold Bennett

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ARNOLD BENNETT

**CUPID AND
COMMONSENSE; A
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CUPID AND COMMONSENSE

BY ARNOLD BENNETT

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CU P I D A N D
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A PLAY IN FOUR ACTS

WITH A PREFACE ON
THE CRISIS IN THE THEATRE

By
ARNOLD BENNETT

HODDER & STOUGHTON
NEW YORK
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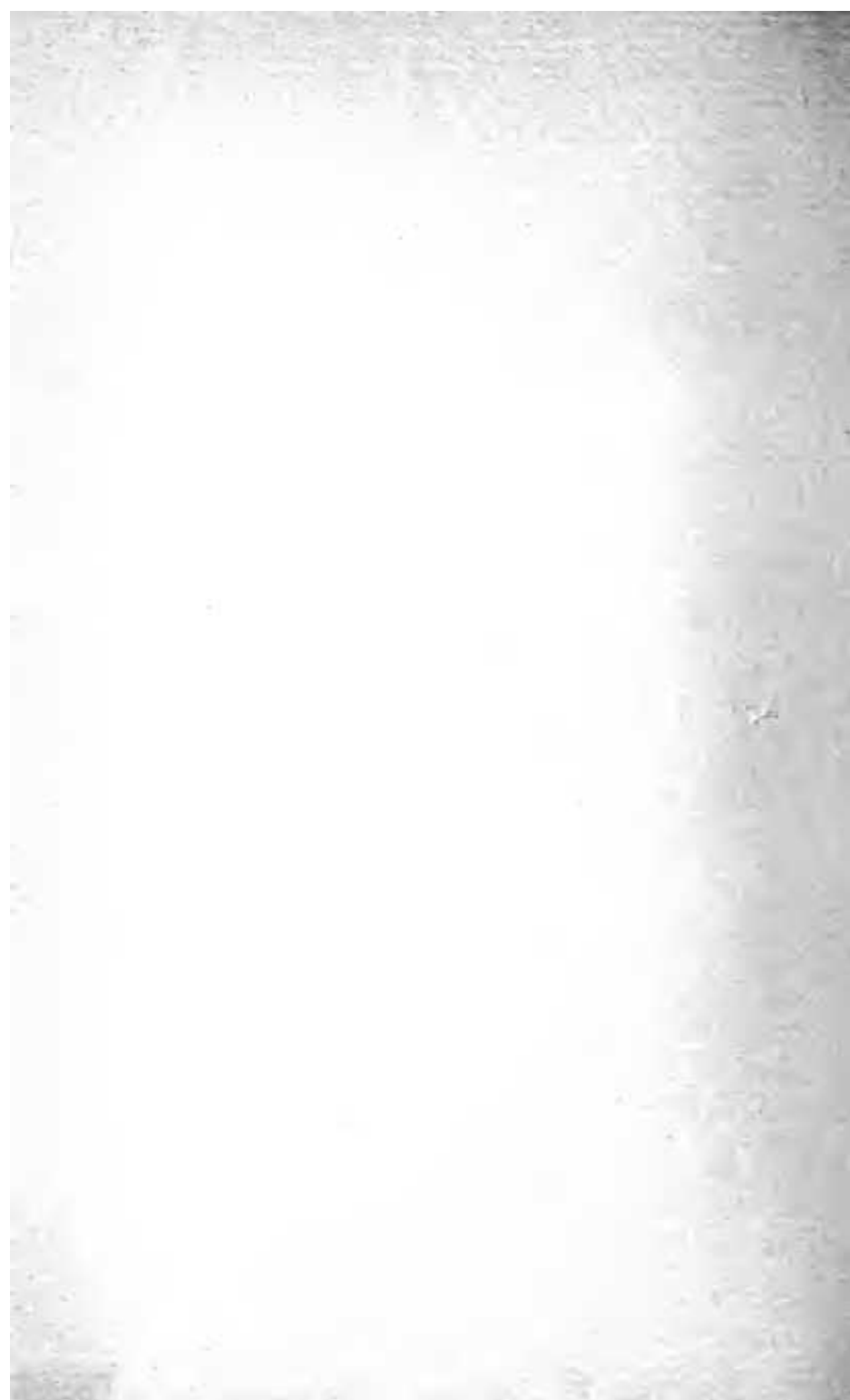
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To

WILLIAM LEE-MATHEWS

FRIEND



PREFACE

THE CRISIS IN THE THEATRE

At the outset I must ask permission to give a few personal details in order to indicate clearly the standpoint from which I write. Before launching myself in the profession of letters, I was engaged for some ten years in various business offices, during which time I received a fairly complete training in business methods ; I have conducted a business. For five years I was dramatic critic for several London papers in turn, and in this capacity I attended nearly every first night from 1895 to 1900. I count several West End theatrical managers and leading actors among my friends, and I have talked at great length with them under circumstances in which they would not be likely to talk as though to an interviewer. I have written, or collaborated in, about a dozen plays, five of which I have sold to West End managers and received money for, and two of which were commissioned. None of these plays has ever been performed ; my sole representations in a London theatre have owed nothing to the reckless daring of any manager. In 1900 I