

THE LONDON VENTURE

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The London Venture by Michael Arlen

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MICHAEL ARLEN

**THE LONDON
VENTURE**

The London Venture

MICHAEL ARLEN

By MICHAEL ARLEN

These Charming People

The Green Hat

"Piracy"

The London Venture

The Romantic Lady

*The
London Venture*

by
Michael Arlen

With Drawings by
MICHEL SEVIER



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THE LONDON VENTURE

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To
THE SISTER
of
SHELMERDENE



APOLOGIA PRO NOMINE MEO

Out of consideration (in part) to such readers as may read this book I have assumed a name by which they may refer to me (if ever he or she may wish to do so kindly) in the same manner at least twice running—a feat of pronunciation which few of my English acquaintances have performed with my natal name. But there is also another reason, considerate of the author. I have been told that there are writers whose works would have been famous if only their names could have been familiarly pronounced—Polish and Russian writers for the most part, I gather. Since I had already taken every other precaution but this to deserve their more fortunate fate, in changing my name I have, I hope, robbed my readers of their last excuse for my obscurity.

Dikran Kouyoumdjian.

“MICHAEL ARLEN,”