

**LACONICS**

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Laconics by Hanford Lennox Gordon

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**HANFORD LENNOX GORDON**

**LACONICS**



# Laconics

(Revised Edition)

HANFORD LENNOX GORDON



UNIVERSITY OF  
CALIFORNIA

THE SHAKESPEARE PRESS

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1913

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### PREFACE.

For years I have made a practice of keeping notes of such thoughts and laconic expressions as I deemed worth preserving. Out of the mass I have now sifted and arranged the contents of this volume.

There are not many thoughts in this book that have not been expressed by others in some form. I have aimed to prune and improve, and have perhaps produced a few hybrids.

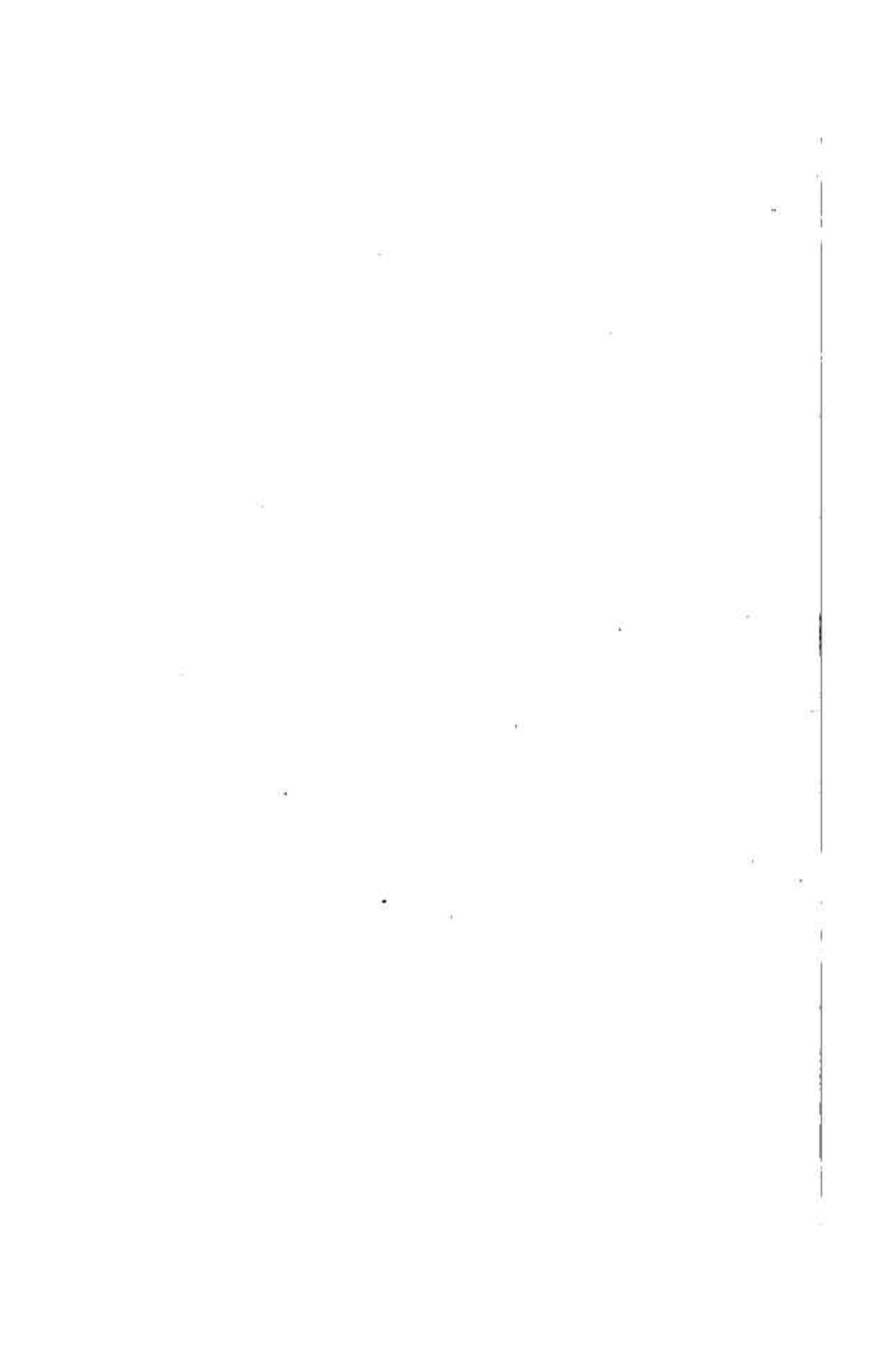
"Though old the thought and oft expressed,  
'Tis his at last who says it best!"—*Lowell*.

I have followed the advice of Horace—"Miscæ stultiam consiliis brevem."

I have quoted often—perhaps too freely—from my "*Indian Legends and Other Poems*."

*Hanford Lennox Gordon.*

LOS ANGELES, CAL.  
December 30, 1911.





## WITH THE COMPLIMENTS OF THE AUTHOR

HANFORD L. GORDON

### **ERRATA.**

To the Reader:

With much regret I call your attention to the more important **errata** in this revised edition of *Laconics*. My main reason for issuing this edition was to correct the typographical errors and omissions in the first edition. There are many more in this.

Under my contract of January 4, 1912, with Charles H. Cochrane (who styles himself "Proprietor of The Shakespeare Press"—114-116 East Twenty-eighth street, New York City) this revised edition of 1500 copies was finally issued in October, 1912. Said contract provided (among other things) as follows: "The proof sheets of said book shall be carefully read and correctly revised by said Cochrane and no typographical errors shall be allowed therein. Correctly revised duplicate proof sheets of all matter of said book shall be mailed to said Gordon before such matter is put into page form, for the purpose of allowing said Gordon to make small changes in the text without extra charge, but he shall not be responsible for typographical errors." I insisted on this because I have always found it difficult to critically proof-read my own productions. Large advance payments were made.

When a copy of this book was finally received by me from said Cochrane, I found nearly one hundred typographical errors, omissions and deviations from copy in it. Some of these are in misspelled words, faulty punctuation and spacing, all contrary to copy. I ask the reader to note and correct in the text the following more important

### **ERRATA**

- Page 4—Line 22, read "The virtues of" instead of "virtus of."
- Page 6—Line 2, strike out *the* and insert *a*.
- Page 7—Line 13, strike out *a* before "few words."
- Page 27—Line 13, strike out *a* before "crime."
- Page 28—Line 2, from bottom read "lousy" instead of "lowey."
- Page 28—Last line, change "shud'nt" to "shudn't."
- Page 31—Line 3, read "struttin'" instead of "walkin'."
- Page 31—Line 4 from bottom, after "fool" add —Bronco Bill.
- Page 32—Lines 18, 20, 21 and 22 (and wherever same error occurs), make "common sense" one word.
- Page 34—Line 12, change "Alus" to "Allus."
- Page 46—Line 11 from bottom, read "gone te" instead of "gone to."

Page 51—Line 12 from bottom, strike out "own" before "doxy."  
 Page 70—Line 2, insert \* after "ze night."  
 Page 97—Line 19, read fools' instead of fools.  
 Page 114—Under marriage strike out the misplaced line, "The cheapest labor is the dearest."  
 Page 119—Line 9, read "Bronco Bill" instead of "Broncho Bill."  
 Page 119—Line 11 from bottom, read "nor" instead of "or."  
 Page 127—Line 3 from bottom, insert a comma after "No."  
 Page 134—Line 13, strike out "kind of" before "poverty."  
 Page 137—Line 8 from bottom, read "And cuts a gem," etc.  
 Page 142—Strike out line 4 from bottom (misplaced).  
 Page 143—Line 11 from bottom, read "intu" instead of "inter."  
 Page 157—Line 13 from bottom, "Since" mis-spelled "Sinsc."  
 Page 160—Line 13 from bottom, strike o out of "religion."  
 Page 161—Line 3 from bottom, insert "and demagogues" after "thieves."  
 Page 162—Line 4 from bottom, strike out the word "all" before "bitters."  
 Page 164—Line 8 from bottom, read "ain't" instead of "aint."  
 Page 166—Line 8, strike out last word "in" and insert "out."  
 Page 167—Line 13, strike out the h in "Broncho."  
 Page 174—Line 1, strike out the word "most."  
 Page 175—Line 4 from bottom, insert "bis" in lieu of "dis."  
 Page 175—Line 11 from bottom, insert "bis" in lieu of "dis."  
 Page 175—Line 11 from bottom, read "sordid gold."  
 Page 178—Line 10 from bottom, second "death" should be in italics.  
 Page 181—Line 17, strike out the hyphen after "Oft."  
 Page 182—Line 6, read "ontu" instead of "onter."  
 Page 184—Line 11 from bottom, read "breeds" instead of "breed."  
 Page 190—Line 2, strike out ? and insert ! —  
 Page 208—Line 14 from bottom, read "load of bullion" instead of "loaf of bullion."  
 Page 211—Line 15, read "see the animals run wild."  
 Page 212—Line 20, insert a hyphen between spread and eagle.  
 Page 227—Line 18, correct "did'nt."  
 Page 228—Line 16, insert "the" before "B'yne."  
 Page 234—Line 6 from bottom, read "fraquently" instead of "frequently."

Notice: By paying to said Cochrane fifty dollars extra over the contract price for manufacturing (without typographical errors) 1500 copies of this book, I have finally gotten out of his hands (as I am informed by my agent in New York) all of the copies (1500) manufactured by said Cochrane, and he has no right to print, publish, issue, sell, or offer for sale, any copy or copies of my said book. This book is not for sale, but will be distributed gratis among my friends and to such persons and libraries as I may direct.

HANFORD L. GORDON.

208 South Broadway, Los Angeles, Cal.

October 30, 1912.

## LACONICS

### A

**Abuse.** Our appetites are for use, not for abuse.  
Everything has its use and abuse.

**Acknowledgment.** If you have done a wrong thing, do a manly thing—acknowledge it.

**Adjectives.** He is loaded with adjectives—mostly superlatives.

**Adversity.** Only in adversity do we come to know ourselves.

Adversity leads the wise to prosperity.

The winds of adversity blow egotism out of us.

Adversity winnows out the chaff and the chaff;  
the wheat remains.

In adversity—calm; in prosperity—calm.

They that sow in adversity may reap in prosperity.

The courage of the brave grows in adversity.

In prosperity beware of your friends; in adversity they will beware of you.

**Advice.** Be careful whom you advise, lest he pursue the adviser instead of the advice.

All can give advice; few profit by it.

"It is more blessed to receive" advice than to give advice.

Seek advice rather than praise.

It is easy to give advice after it is done.

Take a few drops of your own advice.

Nobody charges for advice but the lawyer and the doctor; and the less you buy of them the better.

Don't feed advice to a fool: he can't digest it.