EDWARD LOOMIS DAVENPORT; A BIOGRAPHY

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Edward Loomis Davenport; a biography by Edwin Francis Edgett

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EDWIN FRANCIS EDGETT

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To John Craip With The Condial regards of Eccioin F. Edgett

24 January 1913

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A Biography

EDWIN FRANCIS EDGETT

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NEW-YORK THE DUNLAP SOCIETY 1901

PREFACE

THE basis of this brief biography of Edward Loomis Davenport is a manuscript that has been in existence twenty years or more. It was discovered among the papers of the late Fanny Davenport, and had evidently been secured by her from its writer with the intention of revision and publication. When it came into the hands of the editor of this volume, it was hoped that it could be prepared for the press with but slight excision and alteration. A careful examination, however, showed that its matter and manner made it impossible of publication in anything approaching the original form. It was therefore used simply as a storehouse of biographical material, and was drawn upon only when absolutely necessary. Some of the facts in this volume, a number of newspaper extracts, and a few anecdotes are taken from the manuscript; for the rest of his material, the present editor has searched elsewhere. His chief regret is that he has discovered so little, and that as a whole he has done scant justice to his disting guished subject. The result of his work is more in the nature of a biographical sketch than of a

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completed biography. But whatever its shortcomings, it brings into collected form, for the first time, the principal events in the career of an actor whose work has too long remained unrecorded. Some day an exhaustive critical account of his life may be written upon the foundation of the following pages. For the present this attempt at a biography must suffice.

EDITORIAL ROOMS OF BOSTON EVENING TRANSCRIPT, September 21, 1901.

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