

**MILTON NOBLES' "SHOP TALK."
STAGE STORIES, ANECDOTES OF
THE THEATRE, REMINISCENCES,
DIALOGUES AND CHARACTER
SKETCHES**

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Milton Nobles' "Shop talk." Stage stories, anecdotes of the theatre, reminiscences, dialogues and character sketches by Milton Nobles

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MILTON NOBLES

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• • Stage Stories, • •
Anecdotes of the Theatre,
• • Reminiscences, • •
• Dialogues and Character •
• • • Sketches. • • •

Milton Nobles'



“Shop Talk.”

AUTHOR OF THE PLAYS OF:

. . . “Love and Law,” . . .
. . . “The Phoenix,” . . .
“A Man of the People,”
. . . “Interviews,” . . .
. . . “From Sire to Son.” . . .

AUTHOR'S PREFACE.

I am just in receipt of a letter from my publisher, calling attention to the fact that I had failed to write a preface. It is singular that I should have overlooked this important prefix, since the preface affords an author his best opportunity to apologize for his temerity and offer the extenuating circumstances, should any exist. Some months ago, when I conceived the idea of perpetuating this volume, I met on Fulton street, Brooklyn, an old acquaintance, an ex-actor, manager and playwright, now a politician and local statesman. I mentioned to him, incidentally, that I thought of getting out a book. "What for?" he asked, promptly. The incisive bluntness of the question dazed me for a moment. After pulling myself together carefully I replied, apologetically: "For fifty cents in paper covers, a dollar in cloth." He

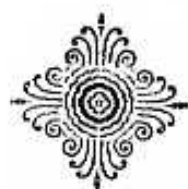
looked at me thoughtfully for a time, and replied: "That's different, of course." As my reply seemed, in a measure, to satisfy my cynical friend, I have determined to let it go to the public as my only justification for what follows.

THE AUTHOR.



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THE PALMY DAY TRAGEDIAN.

FIRST PAPER.

HE DISCOURSES UPON THE DECADENCE OF HIS ART,
AND RECALLS SOME INCIDENTS AMUSING AND
OTHERWISE--A REMINISCENCE OF FORREST IN
1857--HE TALKS ABOUT THE FUND MEETING.

“**A**CTORS!” sneered the palmy day tragedian, as he posed gracefully against his favorite awning post and passed his thin fingers through his suspiciously black