

**THE DEVIL'S DISCIPLE:
A MELODRAMA IN
THREE ACTS**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649764792

The devil's disciple: a melodrama in three acts by Bernard Shaw

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

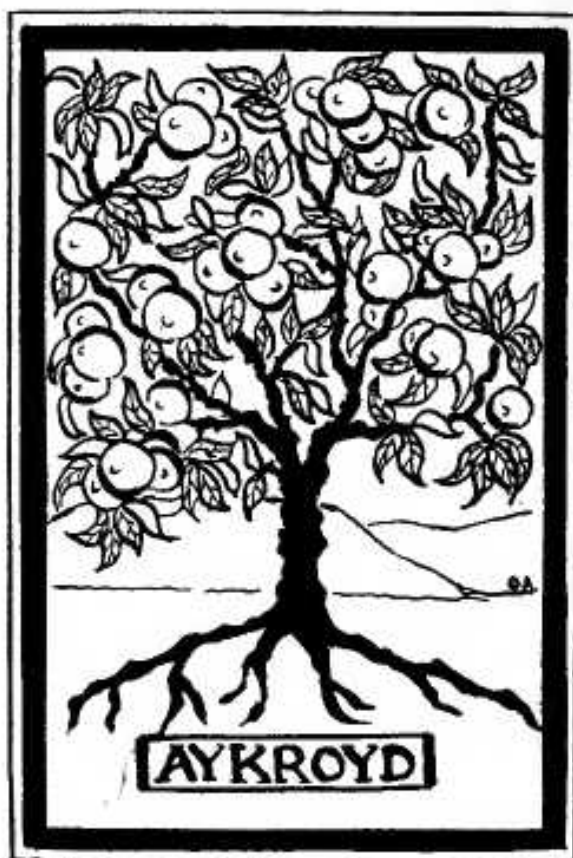
Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

BERNARD SHAW

**THE DEVIL'S DISCIPLE:
A MELODRAMA IN
THREE ACTS**



THE DEVIL'S DISCIPLE

The Devil's Disciple:
A Melodrama in Three
Acts. By Bernard
Shaw.

Constable and Company
Ltd. London: 1920.

[This play has been publicly performed within the United Kingdom. It is entered at Stationers' Hall and the Library of Congress, U.S.A. All rights reserved.]

Printed by R. & R. CLARK, LIMITED, Edinburgh.

5th AVENUE THEATRE,
NEW YORK, 3rd October
1897.

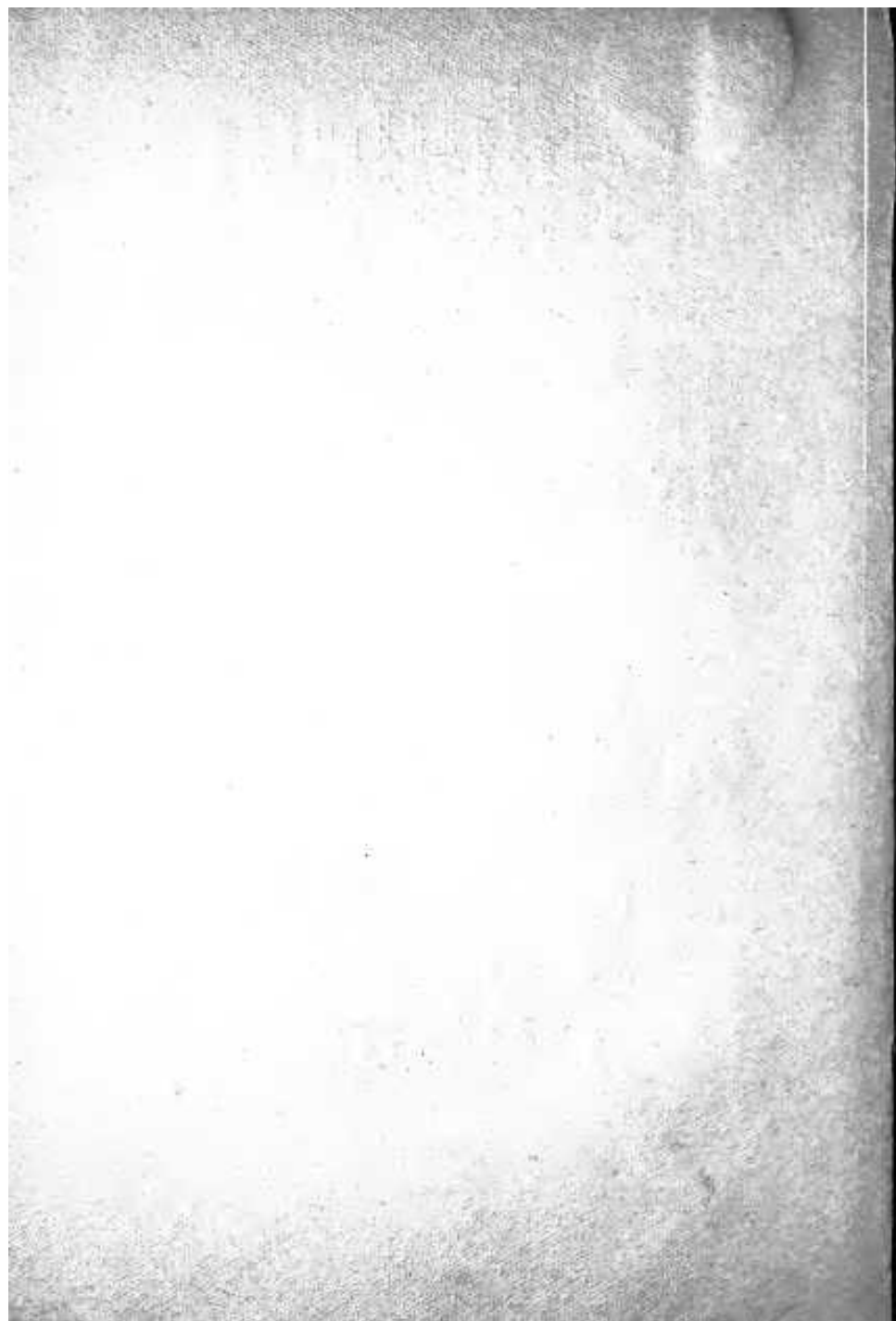
Anthony Anderson . . . Benjamin Johnson
Judith Anderson . . . Beatrice Cameron
Mrs Dudgeon . . . Minnie Monk
Richard Dudgeon . . . Richard Mansfield
Christopher Dudgeon . . . A. G. Andrews
Uncle William . . . W. N. Griffiths
Uncle Titus . . . J. Lefevre
Essie . . . Lottie Briscoe
Lawyer Hawkins . . . Thomas N. Hunter
Major Swinden . . . Joseph W. Weaver
Chaplain Bradenell . . . William Courtenay
The Sergeant . . . Francis Kingdon
General Burgoyne . . . Arthur Forrest

PRINCESS OF WALES
THEATRE, KENNINGTON,
28th September 1899.

F. H. Macklin
Grace Warner
Elsie Chester
Murray Carson
John Willes
Lesly Thomson
Edward Lennox
Bessie Hatton
J. J. Bartlett
George Hippisley
Creagh Henry
Eardley Turner
Luigi Lablache

Ashton Tonge
Gertrude Elliott
Kate Bishop
Forbes Robertson
E. W. Garden
Leopold Profeit
Ernest Cosham
Aimée de Bourgh
Percy Anstey
Sydney Warden
William Sauter
Graham Browne
Ian Robertson

MR FORBES ROBERTSON'S
TOUR, 1900-1901.



THE DEVIL'S DISCIPLE

ACT I

At the most wretched hour between a black night and a wintry morning in the year 1777, Mrs Dudgeon, of New Hampshire, is sitting up in the kitchen and general dwelling room of her farm house on the outskirts of the town of Websterbridge. She is not a prepossessing woman. No woman looks her best after sitting up all night; and Mrs Dudgeon's face, even at its best, is grimly trenched by the channels into which the barren forms and observances of a dead Puritanism can pen a bitter temper and a fierce pride. She is an elderly matron who has worked hard and got nothing by it except dominion and detestation in her sordid home, and an unquestioned reputation for piety and respectability among her neighbors, to whom drink and debauchery are still so much more tempting than religion and rectitude, that they conceive goodness simply as self-denial. This conception is easily extended to other-denial, and finally generalized as covering anything disagreeable. So Mrs Dudgeon, being exceedingly disagreeable, is held to be exceedingly good. Short of flat felony, she enjoys complete license except for amiable weaknesses of any sort, and is consequently, without knowing it, the most licentious woman in the parish on the strength of never having broken the seventh commandment or missed a Sunday at the Presbyterian church.

The year 1777 is the one in which the passions roused by the