

# **PENGUIN PERSONS & PEPPERMINTS**

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Penguin persons & peppermints by Walter Prichard Eaton

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**WALTER PRICHARD EATON**

**PENGUIN PERSONS  
& PEPPERMINTS**



# PENGUIN PERSONS & PEPPERMINTS

UNIV. OF  
CALIFORNIA

BY

WALTER PRICHARD EATON

AUTHOR OF

*Green Trails & Upland Pastures, Plays & Players,  
The Idyl of Twin Fires, &c.*



W. A. WILDE COMPANY  
BOSTON - - CHICAGO

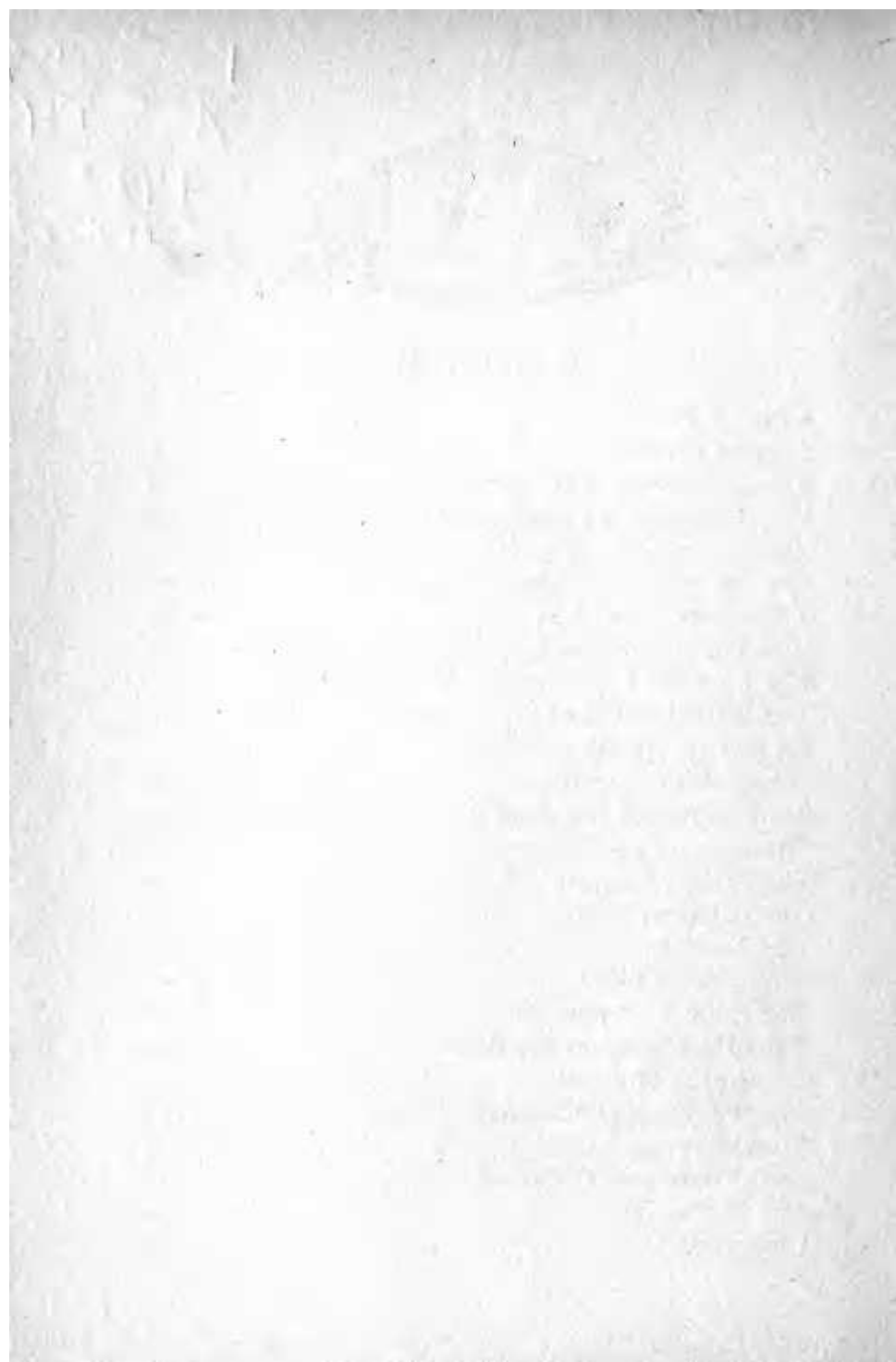
TO WHOM  
IT MAY COME

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Penguin Persons and Peppermints

PS350  
A85 P4  
1922  
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To  
My Little Sister  
who was born just in time  
to know the old, quiet ways of life  
in their gentle decline—to  
know and to love  
them

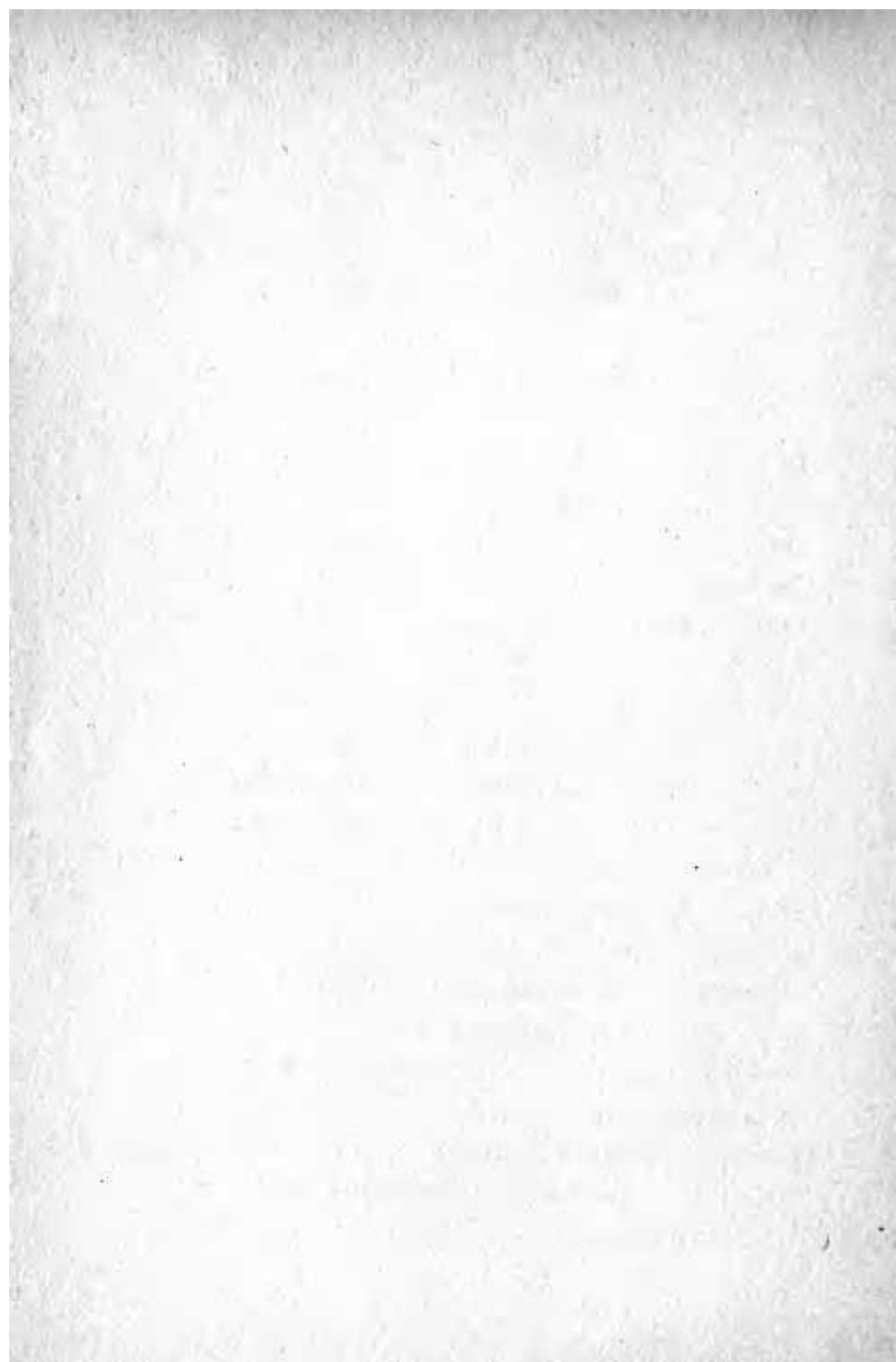






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## *Author's Foreword*

IT IS not a little unfortunate that no one can attempt the essay form nowadays, more especially that type of essay which is personal, reminiscent, "an open letter to whom it may concern," without being accused of trying to write like Charles Lamb. Of course, if we were ever accused of succeeding, that would be another story! There is, to be sure, no doubt that the gentle Elia impressed his form and method on all English writers who followed him, and still reaches out across a century to threaten with his high standards those who still venture into this pleasant and now so neglected field. Such are the rigors of triumphant gentleness. Still—and he would have been the first to recognize the fact—it is rather unfair to demand of every essayist the revelation of a personality like Lamb's. Fundamentally, all literature, even naturalistic drama, is the revelation of a personality, a point of view. But it is the peculiar flavor of the essay that it reveals