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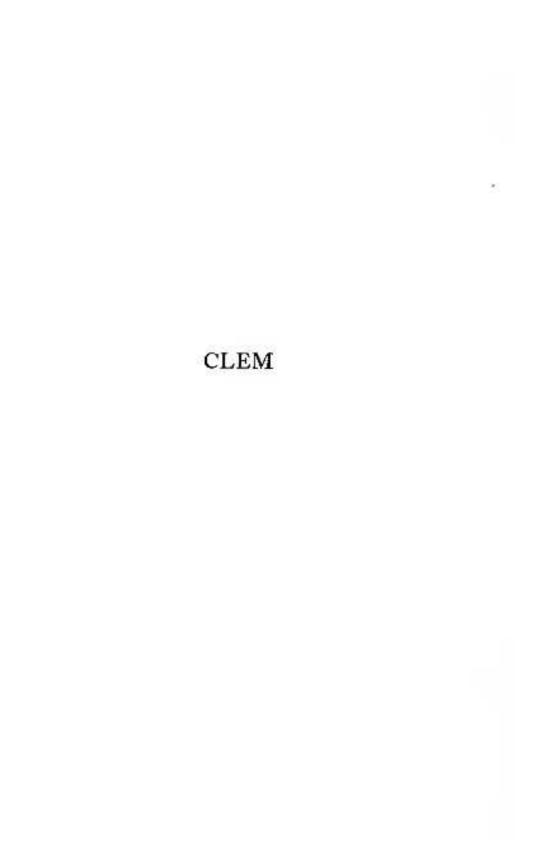
AUTHOR OF "WHAT MANNER OF MAN"



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TO MY MOTHER



Ι

THE little group sitting on a small, retired veranda bent forward interestedly as the sudden clatter of heavy, plated harness and the click of horses' hoofs broke out on the driveway just below. As the hotel groom released the horses' heads at an imperious order from the trap's single occupant, a blonde and beautiful young woman, and the bright red equipage leaped forward with renewed din, the specially interested onlookers sank back into their chairs with amicable smiles as signs of recognized truce before the interrupted discussion of this same young woman broke out again.

"Just for instance!" remarked Farda Grantham disdainfully, with a gesture toward the crowded beach driveway down