

LYRE AND LANCET: A STORY IN SCENES

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Lyre and Lancet: A Story in Scenes by F. Anstey

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F. ANSTEY

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A STORY IN SCENES**

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A STORY IN SCENES

BY

F. ANSTEY,

AUTHOR OF

"VICE VERSA," "THE GIANT'S ROSE," "VOCES POPULI," ETC.

New York

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AND LONDON

1896

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CHARACTERS

GALFRID UNDERSHELL (*a minor poet*).
JAMES SPURRELL, M.R.C.V.S.
THE COUNTESS OF CANTIRE.
LADY MAISIE MULL (*her daughter*).
SIR RUPERT CULVERIN.
LADY CULVERIN.
LADY RHODA COKAYNE.
MRS. BROOKE-CHATTERIS.
MISS SPELWANE.
THE BISHOP OF BIRCHESTER.
LORD LULLINGTON.
LADY LULLINGTON.
MRS. EARWAKER.
THE HONOURABLE BERTIE PILLINER.
CAPTAIN THICKNESSE.
ARCHIE BEARPARK.
MR. SHORTHORN.
DRYSDALE (*a journalist*).
TANRAKE (*a job-master*).
EMMA PHILLIPSON (*maid to LADY CANTIRE*).
MRS. POMFRET (*housekeeper at Wyvern Court*).

- MISS STICKLER (*maid to LADY CULVERIN*).
MISS DOLMAN (*maid to LADY RHODA COKAYNE*).
MLLE. CHIFFON (*maid to MISS SPELWANE*).
M. RIDEVOS (*chef at Wyvern*).
TREDWELL (*butler at Wyvern*).
STEPTOE (*valet to SIR RUPERT CULVERIN*).
THOMAS (*a footman*).
ADAMS (*stud-groom*).
CHECKLEY (*head coachman*).
Steward's Room Boy, etc.

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PART I

SHADOWS CAST BEFORE

In Sir RUPERT CULVERIN'S Study at Wyvern Court.

It is a rainy Saturday morning in February.

SIR RUPERT is at his writing-table, as Lady CULVERIN enters with a deprecatory air.

Lady Culverin. So *here* you are, Rupert! Not very busy, are you? I won't keep you a moment. (*She goes to a window.*) Such a nuisance its turning out wet, with all these people in the house, isn't it?

Sir Rupert. Well, I was thinking that, as there's nothing doing out of doors, I might get a chance to knock off some of these confounded accounts, but—(*resignedly*)—if you think I ought to go and look after —