

**THE BENDING OF THE  
BOUGH; A COMEDY  
IN FIVE ACTS**

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The bending of the bough; a comedy in five acts by George Moore

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**GEORGE MOORE**

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BOUGH; A COMEDY  
IN FIVE ACTS**



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The Bending of the Bough



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*The*  
Bending of the Bough

A COMEDY IN FIVE ACTS

BY  
GEORGE MOORE

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## LIST OF CHARACTERS



JOSEPH TENCH, *the Mayor.*

JASPER DEAN,

DANIEL LAWRENCE,

THOMAS FERGUSON,

VALENTINE FOLEY,

RALPH KIRWAN,

JAMES POLLOCK,

MICHAEL LEECH,

} *Aldermen of the  
Corporation.*

JOHN CLORAN, *the Town Clerk.*

MACNEE, *Caretaker of the Town Hall.*

GEORGE HARDMAN, *Lord Mayor of Southhaven.*

MISS MILLICENT FELL, *his Neice, engaged to  
marry ALDERMAN DEAN.*

MISS CAROLINE DEAN, } *Maiden Aunts of*

MISS ARABELLA DEAN, } *ALDERMAN DEAN.*

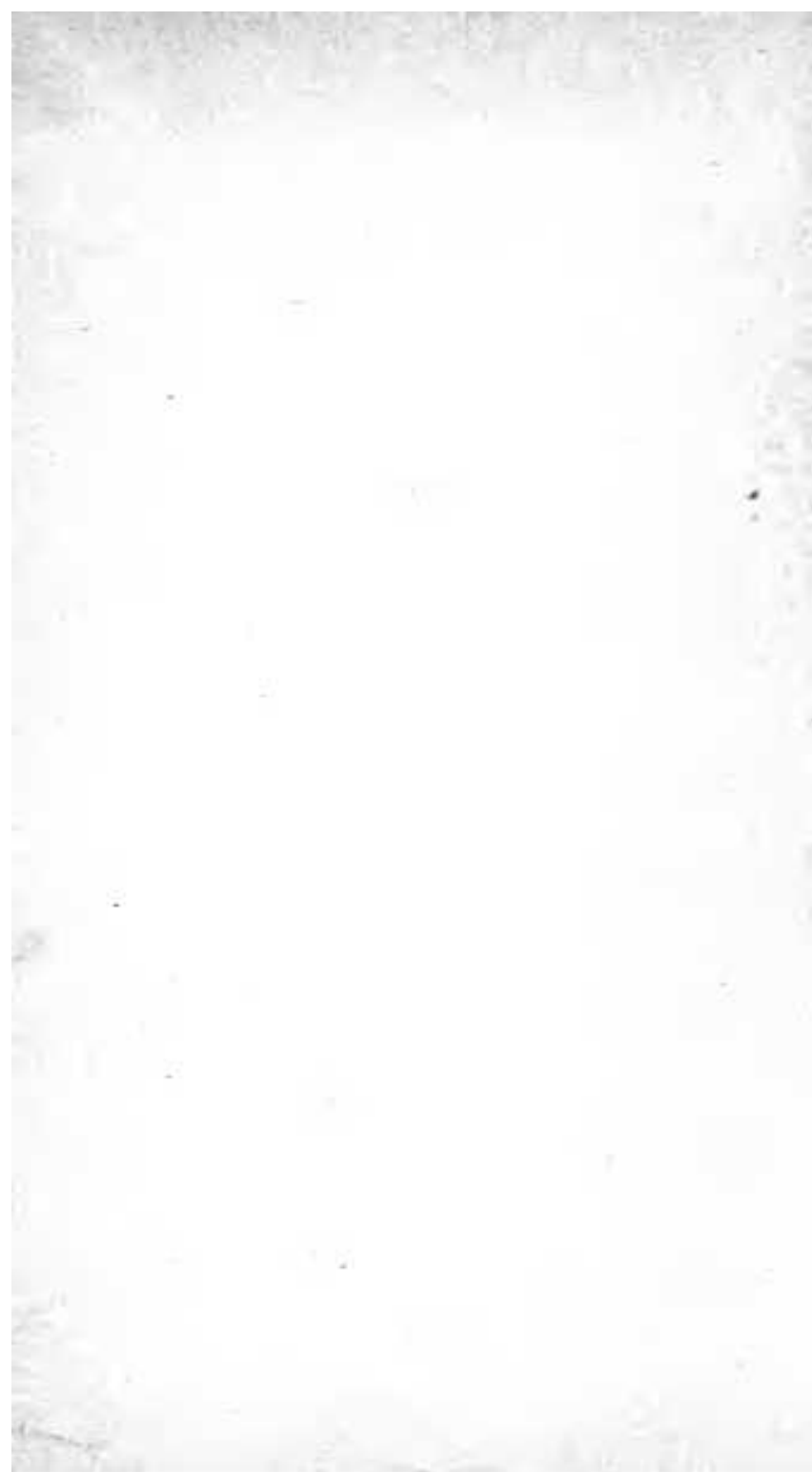
MRS. BESSIE POLLOCK, *Wife and First Cousin of  
ALDERMAN POLLOCK, Sister of ALDERMAN  
LEECH, and Cousin of the DEANS.*

MRS. SARAH LEECH, *Wife and First Cousin of  
ALDERMAN LEECH, Sister of ALDERMAN  
POLLOCK, and also Cousin of the DEANS.*

A PARLOURMAID *at ALDERMAN DEAN'S House.*

A WAITER *at the Hotel.*

*Several Town Councillors, People, &c.*



## PREFACE

FOR some time the necessity of explaining the intentions of the Irish Literary Theatre has been pressing upon us. So I take advantage of the publication of my play, "The Tale of a Town," here called "The Bending of the Bough," to explain why Mr. Martyn, Mr. Yeats, and myself prefer to have our plays produced in Dublin rather than in London. It must seem singular to many that we should choose to produce plays in Dublin, where there are few people and very little money, rather than in London, where the audience is unlimited, and the purse, too, which is always forthcoming when amusements are for sale. Well, it is because we believe London to be too large, too old, and too wealthy to permit of any new artistic movement, and this belief rests upon knowledge of the art history of the world, and some experience of London theatrical conditions.