THE DRAMA LEAGUE SERIES OF PLAYS, VOL. VIII: MARTA OF THE LOWLANDS (TERRA BAIXA); A PLAY IN THREE ACTS

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649511990

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ANGEL GUIMERÁ

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Trieste

MARTA OF THE LOWLANDS

Catalan: Terra Baixa Spanish: Tierra Baja



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VOLUME VIII The Drama League Series of Plays

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MARTA OF THE LOWLANDS (Terra Baixa)

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A Play in Three Acts

ANGEL GUIMERÁ



TRANSLATED INTO SPANISH BY JOSÉ ECHEGARAY

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AND INTO ENGLISH BY WALLACE GILLPATRICK

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY JOHN GARRETT UNDERHILL

GARDEN CITY NEW YORK DOUBLEDAY, PAGE & COMPANY 1914

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INTRODUCTION

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If he is to appear in a proper perspective, Angel Guimerá must be considered in a double aspect first, as the chief and best-known modern representative of a literature by no means at all well known, and, secondly, as one of the most forceful, most resourceful, and most masterful of the dramatists of our time.

The Catalan language is one of the Romance family to which the neighbouring French and Spanish also belong. Like them it derives from the Latin, but its closest affinity is with the Provençal. The mediæval troubadours overran Catalonia and Valencia quite as they did their own Provence, and Catalan attained its greatest development shortly afterward, during the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, at the hands of Ramón Lull and Ausies March. The union of the Spanish Kingdoms under Ferdinand and Isabella and the House of Hapsburg, reduced the language to a position little better than that of a dialect by the beginning of the last century. Its status in [v]

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