

EXPLANATORY

THE author is pleased to put a preface to this book, for the reason that he will be permitted to refrain from using "Foreword." A great many people who abhor slang pay to have their own books published so that they may indulge in "Foreword"—which is hereby designated as the musk perfumery of literature.

The studies in American vernacular which comprise this volume first appeared in the *Cosmopolitan* magazine. The editors of the magazine have consented to a reprinting and are now publicly thanked by the author.

Although the period in which these fables appeared enveloped the Great War and lapped over on the Great Unrest, the author has proceeded upon the theory that old Human Nature continues to do business, even during a cataclysm.

GEORGE ADE.

Hazelden Farm, Brook, Indiana
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