THE LAND

Scene 1

A large room in Mr. Haszard's house, which is called the library. It is the room of a rich man who has himself no taste but has sense enough to employ men who have, when taste is required. The room was designed by one expert, built by men who gave value in their work, and furnished by another who was guided, probably against his will, by the principle of durability and use. A single rug covers the floor. Low book-cases of mahogany wood are built against the three walls which are adorned with green cloth. The book-cases are provided with glass doors of small lozenge-shaped panes, showing the backs of elaborately bound "sets" of books. At the centre of the back is a cumbersome fireplace in marble, brilliant with brass; above it a capacious shelf with over-mantel The middle of the room is occupied and mirror. by a piece of furniture which has the appearance of an office desk rather than of a library table. couch stands in front, a chair behind, and another at the right. All these articles of furniture are finished in dark leather. Beside the fireplace is a white screen and a small table covered with a white cloth, such as may be found in an invalid's room. the mantel shelf is a "ticker" and a telephone; and above it a practicable clock. Traditional busts in marble and bronze are on the book-case; and on the