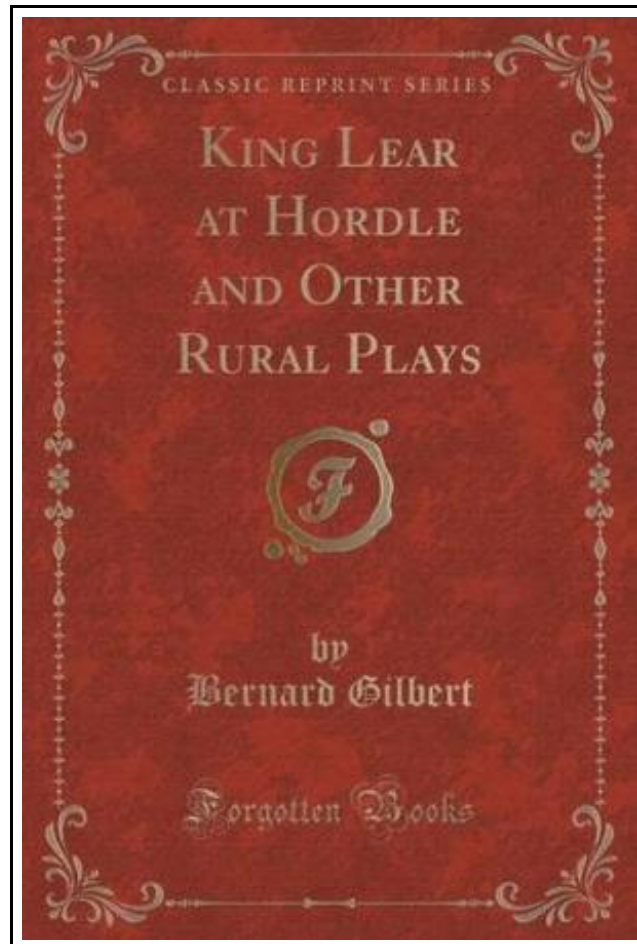


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Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Excerpt from King Lear at Hordle and Other Rural Plays The first thirty years of my life were spent in a village, and in that period I heard no music later than Mendelssohn, saw no plays more intellectual than Gilbert and Sullivan, and met only one man who had the slightest interest in literature. The entertainments which were given to us on winter evenings can only be described as vapid. Drama was always popular, and probably the peasant can receive art in this manner more easily than in any other. When Goethe was asked how the German language and art might be fostered in Poland, he answered, Not so much by schools and books, but by travelling companies that will give homely little plays to interest the villagers. My early experiences were sad. We asked for bread and were given stones; the only plays supplied being insipid stories about the squire s son and the vicar s daughter, with a chorus of mythically respectful peasantry. This was very disheartening, because we required entertainment in the long winter evenings as a set off against the activities of the chapels, which ran prayer meetings, guilds, lantern shows, and missionary lectures without end. The public-houses, of course, catered for their own company, and there were the nightly gatherings in the shops of the cobbler and barber; but these, however delightful, were somewhat restricted. Now and again choral societies would be started, but these exhausted themselves in ambitious attempts to perform sugary cantatas. About the Publisher Forgotten Books publishes hundreds of thousands of rare and classic books. Find more at This book is a reproduction of an important historical work. Forgotten...



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