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THE PROPHET:

A TRAGEDY.

BY

BAYARD TAYLOR,

AUTHOR OF "LARS," "THE MASQUE OF THE GODS," ETC., ETC.



BOSTON:

JAMES R. OSGOOD AND COMPANY,

(LATE TICKNOR & FIELDS, AND FIELDS, OSGOOD, & Co.)

1874.

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RAND, AVERY, AND COMPANY, BOSTON.

THE PROPHECY.

DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.

DAVID STARR	<i>The Prophet</i>
ELKANAH	<i>His Father</i>
HANNAH	<i>His Mother</i>
RHODA	<i>Afterwards his Wife</i>
NIMROD KRAFT	<i>Afterwards High Priest</i>
LIVIA ROMNEY	<i>A Woman of the World</i>
SIMEON	} <i>Members of the Council of Twelve</i>
MORDECAI	
HUGH	
JONAS	
SARAH	<i>Wife of Jonas</i>
PETER	<i>An Orphan, the Prophet's Serving-Man</i>
COLONEL HYDE	<i>Sheriff</i>
HIRAM	<i>A Member of the Church</i>

A Preacher. People of David's neighborhood. Members of the church. Women. Colonel Hyde's followers.

Time, 18—.

The scene of Act I. is a New-England State; of the four following Acts, a Western State.

Between Acts I. and II. there is an interval of two years; between Acts II. and III., an interval of one year.

THE PROPHET.

ACT I.

SCENE I.

The porch, front-yard, and garden of a farm-house. Late afternoon.

ELKANAH

'Tis a good ending of the harvest. Now
We may be sure that every sheaf is stacked
Ere rain can spoil it. "One load more, I think,"
Said David. But the farther side is low,
A deeper soil, bears well: he may be wrong,
If on the right side of the estimate.
I always counted less than likely seemed;
Tried to surprise myself, as it might be,