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PLAUTUS

THE ROPE AND OTHER PLAYS



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TRANSLATED BY
E. F. WATLING

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The plays of Plautus (c. 254-184 B.C.) are the earliest complete works of Latin literature we possess. Plautus adapted for the amusement of Roman audiences the Greek New Comedy of the fourth century. His wit is clever and satirical and his entertaining portrayal of slaves firmly set the style for the 'low' characters of Elizabethan comedy, of Molière, and many others. In this new translation E. F. Watling presents, in a form suitable for the modern stage, *The Ghost (Mossellaria)*, *The Rope (Rudens)*, possibly the best of the plays, *A Three-Dollar Day (Trinummus)*, and *Amphitryon*, a cheerful story involving the gods.

The cover shows an ivory of a Roman actress, first century B.C., Petit Palais, Paris.