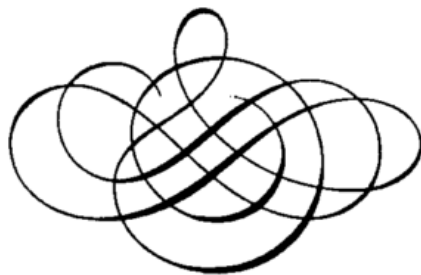


THE REALISM OF  
WILLIAM DEAN HOWELLS  
1889-1920



GEORGE N. BENNETT

1973  
VANDERBILT  
UNIVERSITY PRESS  
*Nashville*



## CONTENTS

PREFACE	ix
I INTRODUCTION: CONTEXTUAL NOTATIONS	3
II HAZARDS AT ECONOMICS	22
Socialistic Fiction	22
Christian Socialism: <i>Annie Kilburn</i>	28
Economic Education: <i>A Hazard of New Fortunes</i>	35
Economic Accusation: <i>The Quality of Mercy</i>	44
Economic Impasse: <i>The World of Chance</i>	49
III THE REALISTIC CENTER	62
More Contexts	62
Shadows and Illuminations: <i>The Shadow of a Dream</i> and <i>An Imperative Duty</i>	79
Art and Life: <i>The Coast of Bohemia</i> and <i>The Story of a Play</i>	105
IV REALISTIC VARIATIONS	122
Minor Realities: <i>The Day of Their Wedding</i> and <i>An Open-         Eyed Conspiracy</i>	122
The American Dream Re-examined: <i>The Landlord at Lion's         Head</i>	129
Cinderella Redivivus: <i>Ragged Lady</i>	153
V "POOR, REAL LIFE"	163
More Contexts	163
More Matings and Marryings: <i>Their Silver Wedding Journey,         The Kentons, and Letters Home</i>	176

VI	PSYCHOLOGICAL VARIATIONS	197
	The “Long Breath” of the Past: <i>The Son of Royal Langbrith</i>	197
	Love and Marriage: <i>Miss Bellard’s Inspiration</i>	212
	The War of the Sexes: <i>Fennel and Rue</i>	219
	Religion and Life: <i>The Leatherwood God</i>	224
VII	CODA	234
	Idyllic Ironies: <i>The Vacation of the Kelwyns</i>	234
	Final Contextual Comment	243
	INDEX	251