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TIRSO DE MOLINA  
LA VENGANZA DE  
TAMAR

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## PREFACE

Students of Spanish seventeenth-century drama are usually acquainted at an early stage with *El burlador de Sevilla* and *El condenado por desconfiado*, two plays by Tirso de Molina that are rightly given an important place in his own theatre and in the *comedia* as a whole. This edition of *La venganza de Tamar* offers a further example from Tirso's considerable dramatic output. The text, for long confined to inaccessible and often inaccurate volumes of complete works, has been based on the *Parte tercera* of 1634, and where this has proved at fault three other sources have been consulted and put to use. The Notes elucidate constructions and references that could be expected to cause difficulty. I hope to have given a reliable text and some help to those students who wish to explore beyond the familiar ground of Tirso's two masterpieces and discover something of the thoughtful, imaginative theatre that lies there. In the Introduction I virtually omit mention of *El burlador de Sevilla* and *El condenado por desconfiado*, since both have their due share of attention elsewhere; my aim has been to situate *La venganza de Tamar* within the recurring themes of Tirso's work, to suggest other plays that could profitably be read and to trace out lines of thought worth pursuing within this play itself.

For his advice and tactful correction I am especially indebted to Professor E. M. Wilson.

A. K. G. P.