

**THE HAPPY TREE  
AND OTHER POEMS**

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The happy tree and other poems by Gerald Gould

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**GERALD GOULD**

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# THE HAPPY TREE

AND OTHER POEMS

BY

GERALD GOULD



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OXFORD

B. H. BLACKWELL, BROAD STREET

1919

BY THE SAME AUTHOR

LYRICS

AN ESSAY ON THE NATURE OF LYRIC

POEMS

MY LADY'S BOOK

MONOGAMY

THE HELPING HAND

*To the Memory of Friends fallen in the War.*

## AUTHOR'S NOTE

MOST of the pieces in this volume have already appeared in periodicals (I have to thank the Editors of the *New Statesman*, the *Cambridge Magazine*, the *Herald* and the *Daily Mirror* for permission to reprint). No. III was written after a visit to some hospitals in France, and was called *Base-Hospital*: it was subsequently published as *A Prayer for Peace*, but is given here under its original title.



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## PRELUDE OF FAITH AND LOVE

JUDGE not of me by my own deeds : the light  
That has illumined my terrestrial night  
Is stronger than my weaknesses are weak,  
And that clear utterance has a thing to speak  
Which not the silence of deep earth or sea  
Can drown from them whose love is loved by me.  
Cradled in sudden peace—as distant swings  
An eagle in the cradle of its wings,  
Golden 'mid golden air—I hear below  
The winds of peace according as they flow,  
And peaceful winds about me, and above  
The music of the moving winds of love.  
—Never again, perhaps, my sense shall seize  
Such hopes, such ardours, or such dreams as these :  
Lost, it may be, in griefs of my own mind  
And the self-torturing madness of mankind,  
I shall forget—but ah, forget not, you  
Whose eyes have shone on truth and found it true !  
You comrades, you free fighters, you whose spirits  
Each generation from the last inherits  
As the sole substance of its forward dream :  
You whose linked hands, across the senseless stream  
Of the material ocean, still sustain  
A world of mangled body and sick brain :  
You, for whose golden thought the future delves