

**THE CITY OF TOIL
AND
DREAMS: VERSE**

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The City of Toil and Dreams: Verse by Jr. Sanger

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JR. SANGER

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DREAMS: VERSE**

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THE CITY OF TOIL AND DREAMS

VERSE

BY
WM. CARY SANGER, JR.
AUTHOR OF
"TIDES OF COMMERCE"

NEW YORK
PUBLIC
LIBRARY

NEW YORK
COUNTRY LIFE PRESS
1916

11/11/11

This book is dedicated
to
MY FATHER AND MOTHER

★ PUBLISHERS' WEEKLY.

"The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that he will send forth laborers into His harvest."

Preface

The verses in this volume were written while the author was at school and in college, some having been originally published in the *Vindex* of St. Mark's School during the years 1910-1912, and others in the *Harvard Advocate* from 1913-1916. The date at the end of each poem indicates the year when it was written. A few of the verses in this volume have not previously appeared in print. "Tides of Commerce," by the same author, contains additional verses written while at school and in college.

The writer wishes to thank those friends who have helped him by their criticisms, comments, and suggestions.

W. C. S., JR.

New York City,
April, 1916.

**THE CITY OF
TOIL AND DREAMS**

Introduction—1912

The cities of the world, with their intense concentration of active human life, offer the greatest field for the study and improvement of mankind.

In the past, living conditions in cities have been unwholesome and unsanitary beyond description. At certain times plagues swept away life from whole city blocks and entire urban districts, and even during the most favorable seasons the mortality was high. But as the centuries passed, cities began to improve; and gradually a decided spirit of awakened civic interest commenced to make itself felt. Men began to see clearly, and they realized that things not only could, but must, be improved, and as a result the living conditions in tenement districts were bettered; provision was made for more parks and playgrounds, public schools were remodeled, employment offices opened and, in short, a whole series of active and useful alterations were commenced.

Although conditions have been considerably bettered, the good work is by no means finished. In fact, it has only just begun, for in countless homes of the poorer quarters of the city, poverty, disease, degeneracy, and wretchedness still hold their piti-

Introduction

less sway. Innumerable indeed are the unrecorded "legions of the damned."

One thing, however, is encouraging: the tide has already turned and the cities are slowly becoming better. Nor should it be thought that cities are necessarily harmful to health. Cities are a natural economic development, and when properly planned and managed are certain to make wholesome, comfortable and attractive places in which to live. Moreover, cities are capable of contributing marked benefits upon humanity which can be secured in no other way. The concentration of the many varied interests in cities makes it possible for the individual to obtain knowledge of any subject or group of subjects in a way which would be absolutely impossible outside of a city. Whether his interest be painting, music, architecture, writing, medicine, law, engineering, or any other line of activity, the individual will find in the cities the most abundant opportunities for the study of his field of interest—among a host of kindred people who are specializing in the same subject, and in addition will find a large number of critics and masters who are the guiding spirits in their particular line.

And so it is with every one and with each field of interest. The city is the means—and the only means—of giving to humanity certain privileges and blessings which go far towards ennobling and enrich-