CHARLES HADDON SPURGEON

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Charles Haddon Spurgeon by James J. Ellis

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JAMES J. ELLIS

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BY

REV. JAMES J. ELLIS,

AUTHOR OF

"MARKED FOR DEATH," "MUSSAGES OF CREIST," ETC. ETC.

"A soul wrapped in its own purposes, and these Divine ones, untouched by that vanity, that fussiness which we so often notice pertaining to men a mind happy and luminous in its own repose—such a mind must always be attractive and beautiful, and very satisfying to look at."—The Vacation of the Preacher.

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PREFACE.

The writing of this biography has been a labour of love with the author, and it is intended as a tribute of esteem and affection to Mr. Spurgeon.

The author was a student in the Pastors' College, and then and afterwards heard from Mr. Spurgeon's own lips many of the incidents that have since appeared in print.

For every opinion advanced in the following pages the writer is alone responsible. Some difficulty was felt in dealing with the great abundance of materials that freely flowed in. Should this publication be met with a favourable reception, the author hopes to issue a larger and more complete work.

He will be thankful if Mr. Spurgeon's many friends will supply him with incidents and facts that may enable him to present a more complete picture of the great preacher and of his work. Many things which have been necessarily omitted here will appear in that book.

The place that Mr. Spurgeon occupies is unique and important; the splendid service that he has rendered to the whole Church of Christ by his sermons, his exposition of the Psalms, and by his magnificent philanthropy, which has overflowed to all who are in need; his marvellous tact as a teacher, and his conscientious adherence to what he believes to be right, all these are claims upon the age, and are lessons to all who will learn.

The recent controversy in which Mr. Spurgeon took part has not, we trust, weakened his hold upon the age; surely it is time for those who differed from him to recognise his magnificent unselfishness and lasting beneficence.

Nothing has been set down in these pages to accentuate any differences, and if at times the writer appears partial, he pleads as an excuse his love for Mr. Spurgeon and his admiration of his talents and life.

It may be well here to say again that Mr. Spurgeon is not responsible for any of the opinions expressed in the following pages, although his son, the Rev. Charles Spurgeon of Greenwich, and Mr. Spurgeon's sister, Mrs. Page, have kindly read the proof-sheets of this book. To them the writer begs to tender his grateful thanks.

The author also desires to thankfully acknowledge the kind assistance that he has received from Mr. Spurgeon himself, Rev. W. Jackson, Rev. J. L. Keys, and many other friends, who have in various ways assisted with facts and suggestions which have been of priceless service.

That God may richly bless Mr. Spurgeon, and make many a life speak out the praise of God through him, is the prayer of many besides the author of the following pages.

12 WOODSIDE TERRACE, WIGHTMAN ROAD, HARRINGAY PARK HORNSEY, N.

CONTENTS.

CHAPTER I.

THE	ELIJAH	OF	11110	AGE
4 44 40	ALLEY YEARS	O.	4110	474174

FAGE

LIKE AN AMEN TO THE BIBLE—"NOT A CAKEY MAN"—IN-STINCT WITH POWER—TEACHING BY A STICK—FIGHT-ING IN EARNEST—GOD AS GOOD AS HIS WORD—THE BOY WHO WOULD BE HEARD—DRY AS DUST—LOOK! LOOK! LOOK! A GREAT REWARD FOR A SMALL SERVICE

CHAPTER II.

THE SAUCIEST DOG THAT EVER BARKED IN A PULPIT.

"I LOST A THOUSAND FEARS"—SUET-PUDDING—THE MAN
WHO WOULD NOT BE DRIVEN AWAY—"THE SAUCIEST
DOG THAT EVER BARKED IN A PULPIT"—COMING TO
LONDON—HIS TACT—GREAT IN PREACHING, BECAUSE
GREAT IN PRAYER

29

CHAPTER III.

THE BAPTISM OF FIRE.

"BE A BRIGHT POKER"—A GIANT FOR WORK—A PURITAN BOUND IN MOROCCO—THE GIFT OF AN ONION—LAUGHED AT, BUT UNHARMED—"HE'S A GOOD SORT"—SURREY GARDENS MISHAP—THE TESTIMONY OF THE ROCKS .

22

CHAPTER IV.

THE LAST OF THE PURITANS.	
"ONLY A NOISE"—THE HUGE TABERNACLE—MAKING AND MENDING SAINTS—"EAT YOUR WAY THROUGH, AND FATTEN AS YOU GO"—"WHAT'S IN A VOICE?"—KNOCK-	
ING THE CANDLE DOWN-DIALOGUE OF DEVILS	82
CHAPTER V.	
"THE TIRSHATHA."	
"DO SOMETHING; DO IT"—EXPECT SUCCESS, AND ATTAIN IT—REPORTS OF THE COLLEGE—"A GOOD DANKER IN- DEED!"—TWO THINGS FOR A MINISTER—PIONEER AND MISSIONARY WORK	103
CHAPTER VI.	
C. II. SPURGEON AS A PHILANTHROPIST.	
FOUNDED IN SACRIFICE AND SUSTAINED BY FAITH—THE LORD WILL PROVIDE WHEN HE IS TRUSTED—THE TABERNACLE HOMES—"PLEASE, SIR, THAT'S ME"—ALMSHOUSES AND COLPORTAGE	133
CHAPTER VII.	
C. H. SPURGEON AS AN AUTHOR.	
THINKING INTO VOLUMES—BOOKS IN BOOTS—"YERY GOOD, OR TRUE IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES"—BOOK AFTER BOOK,	
AND ALL COOK THE SEWORD AND TROWER !!	7.45

CHAPTER VIII.

C.	H.	SPURGEON	AS	HUMOURIST	AND
		CONTRO	VE	RSIALIST.	

PAGE

THE BENEFIT OF HUMOUR—AN AWFUL SIN—"JOHN PLOUGH-MAN"—"SALT FOR MANY A DISH"—A SILENT PROTEST —IN HOT WATER, OR MAKING THE WATER HOT FOR OTHERS—THE DOWN-GRADE CONTROVERSY....

158

CHAPTER IX.

THE FRUIT OF THE LEMON-TREE, OR LOVE THAT WROUGHT IN PAIN.

"LOVE THAT WROUGHT IN PAIN" — WORK THAT GREW
BEYOND HOPE—FOOD FOR THE BODY AS WELL AS THE
MIND—A HAPPY HOME—LETTER TO CHILDREN . . . 172

CHAPTER X.

"THE CONTINUATOR OF A HUNDRED VIRTUES."

CROOKEDER THAN EVER-"CHRIST THE CONQUEROR"FLOWER MISSION-MORTIFYING THE OLD MAN-"THE
ANGELS DID THEIR WORK WELL"-THE OPEN LETTER . 191

191