

**MEL. B. SPURR: HIS  
LIFE, WORK, WRITINGS,  
AND RECITATIONS**

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Mel. B. Spurr: his life, work, writings, and recitations by Harry A. Spurr

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**HARRY A. SPURR**

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AND RECITATIONS**



MEL. B. SPURR.



*From a Photo by*

*Sarony, Christchurch, N.Z.*

M. B. SPURR.

[THE LAST PORTRAIT RECEIVED FROM HIM. INSCRIBED  
"TO BRER HARRY, WITH EVERY GOOD AND BROTHERLY  
WISH." ]

# MEL. B. SPURR :

HIS LIFE, WORK, WRITINGS,  
AND RECITATIONS.

BY

HARRY A. SPURR,

*Author of "A Cockney in Arcadia," "Bachelor Ballads," &c.*



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AND AT HULL AND YORK.



To

THOSE THOUSANDS OF HIS FRIENDS IN  
ENGLAND, AFRICA, AND AUSTRALASIA,

WHO,

DURING TWENTY YEARS,

LAUGHED WITH HIM AND CRIED WITH HIM,

AND SO FILLED HIM WITH THE BREATH OF LIFE,

MAKING HIS YEARS PASS AS SWIFTLY AS

AN EVENING WITH HIMSELF.

IN OTHER WORDS,

TO

HIS AUDIENCES,

THIS BRIEF RECORD OF MY BROTHER'S LIFE

IS GRATEFULLY INSCRIBED.



## NOTE.

SOME of the illustrations in this book have already appeared in various Australian journals, and have been lent for use by Mr. Herbert Flemming. The two "Sprouts" recitations in Appendix B are reproduced by kind permission of Mr. Richard Whiteing and Messrs. Chatto & Windus, and Miss Sarah Doudney has kindly allowed the use of her poem "The Water-Mill." Mr. J. L. Toole declined to permit any version of "Trying a Magistrate" to be inserted under any conditions whatever. Last, but not least, Mr. John Hassall has generously and voluntarily supplied the cover design gratis as his personal contribution to the memory of his friend.

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