

AUSTRALIA IN PEACE AND WAR

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Australia in peace and war by W. M. Fleming

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W. M. FLEMING

**AUSTRALIA IN
PEACE AND WAR**



W. M. Henry

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**AUSTRALIA IN PEACE
AND WAR**

BY
W. M. FLEMING,

WITH AN INTRODUCTION

BY
**Sir JOHN FORREST, P.C., G.C.M.G.,
LL.D., M.H.R., etc.**

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CONTENTS

	PAGE
TO MY READERS	3
OUR FATHER'S TRUST	5
THE WAY OF MAN	9
FOR SAKE OF A KISS	11
BOATING SONG	13
MATED	15
NATURE	17
THE STRENGTH OF LIFE	19
GROUNDED	21
THE STOCKMAN'S YARN	24
THE DROVER	29
WHEN DEATH IS UP	31
THE HORSEMAN	33
PIONEERS	36
THE BRUMBY KING	38
WON	45
WHEN THE WOOL IS GATHERED IN	48
THE SONG OF THE PLAINS	50
THE WIDER WAYS	53
CLEANSKINS	55
IN DAYS OF DROUGHT	57
"WOOL AWAY!"	61

1382991

	PAGE
THE DREAMERS	63
THE BUSHMAN	66
A SONG OF FREEDOM	69
THE PHANTOM MOB	71
BACK O' BEYOND	74
THE WAY TO MAT McCRAE'S	76
FABLE NO. 1—PRODUCER AND THE PARASITE..	79
FABLE NO. 2—POWER LOOM	83
FABLE NO. 3—THE PADDOCK AND THE WHEAT- FIELD	87
FABLE NO. 4—THE WALKING DELEGATE	90
CLARISSA'S CALL	94
WHEN THE SHADES GROW LONG	96
FONDNESS	97
CUPID'S ARROWS	99
THE BREAKING OF THE FLAG	101
A DREAM OF SPAIN	102
LINES BY A SWAGMAN	103
GOD'S PATH	105
WHEN THE SUN GOES DOWN ON THE SEA ..	107
THE LOVER	108
THE LAST PATH	110
WAVERLEY CEMETERY	112
LAUGHTER OR TEARS	114
THE HARVESTER	116
LIFE TRIUMPHANT	118
DUMBARTON CASTLE	119
LORD ROBERTS	120

CONTENTS

vii

	PAGE
THE TEARS OF SPRING	121
ARMAGEDDON	122
LIGHT HORSE	123
THE MOTHER-CALL	124
THE ANSWER	126
THE CHALLENGE	127
WHEN ENGLAND CALLS	128
THE FLAG OF OLD ENGLAND	132
TUE TEST	133
WE OF THE BLOOD	135
MARCHING SONG	137
THE FALLEN	139
ATONEMENT	142
THE WINNOWING	144
SHALL SHE BE SHAMED?	146
UNTO SEVENTY TIMES SEVEN	147
AUSTRALIA'S SHAME	148
BETRAYED	149
OUR CADETS	151
AUSTRALIA, PLAY THE GAME	153

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INTRODUCTION

It is pleasant to know that in the midst of a strenuous life, added to by responsible Legislative duties, the Author has found time to give us some of his inner thoughts in verse, and has thus, I think without intending to do so, allowed us a peep into his own ideals and aspirations.

The prevailing sentiment to be found in these fitful outbursts, which have been to me very pleasant reading, is the love of Nature and the forest primeval, indicative of a contemplative mind.

In small insular countries like the Motherland, "the call of the wild" is necessarily to the sea, while in Australia, with its immense area of several million of square miles, the call of the wild is to the "Backblocks," the little-known interior, "that wild dreamland termed the bush," far away from conventionalities and even from civilization.

This feeling has no doubt often influenced Australian writers and poets to found their scenes and incidents far away from the usual haunts of men. The bush is attractive to the young Australian, who longs to see the land as it was before the transforming hand of the white man had done its materialistic

work. Our author evidences that feeling with fine effect, as he takes us "Away out west where the stations lie," and "Glories to ride in the boundless west," and, finally, he inspires us with good hope for "The noble days that are to be."

JOHN FORREST.

The Bungalow,
Perth, West Australia, 1916.