

**CHICAGO IN
PICTURE
AND POETRY**

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Chicago in Picture and Poetry by Horace Spencer Fiske

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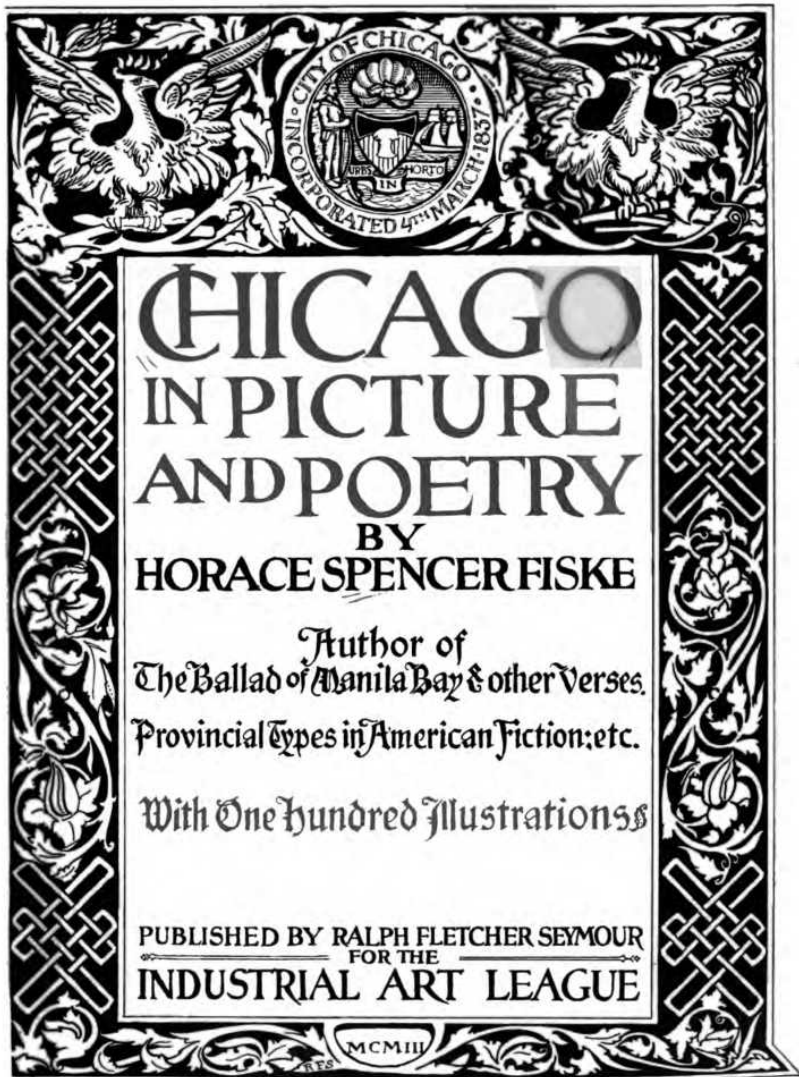
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HORACE SPENCER FISKE

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IN PICTURE
AND POETRY
BY
HORACE SPENCER FISKE

Author of
The Ballad of Manila Bay & other Verses.
Provincial Types in American Fiction: etc.

With One Hundred Illustrations

PUBLISHED BY RALPH FLETCHER SEYMOUR
FOR THE
INDUSTRIAL ART LEAGUE

MCMIII

TO
PRESIDENT WILLIAM R. HARPER
OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

AS A SLIGHT RECOGNITION OF HIS GREAT SERVICE IN SHAPING THE
HIGH IDEALS OF THE CITY

INTRODUCTION



IF it were possible to make each man, woman and child in Chicago proud of the city and eager to serve it, a great step would be taken toward the development of that higher civic life which is the dream of every thoughtful and loving citizen—a life out of which would spring, as naturally as the corn from the seed, the city beautiful and true and just and pure.

Such a book as the present must do something—and if every person in the city would read and study it, it would do much—to secure this end: for its effect must be to quicken the civic pride and affection of every one who examines it.

A study of its pages will be a revelation to every person who has not taken the pains to look upon the city from this point of view. He will be surprised at the natural beauty which lies all unsuspected or unnoticed about him. He will be still more surprised, perhaps, to note how little, after all, man has defaced

the natural beauty of lake and sky and river and woods, or how, strange to say, some of his ugliest creations seem to increase and heighten their very beauty. He will be even more surprised, possibly, at the progress which has been made toward the city beautiful in our parks, our streets, our buildings—in the monuments of art and architecture which are beginning to rise on every hand; and most surprised of all at the strange beauty and sublimity—open, it is true, only to the discerning eye—which lurks everywhere under the smoke and dirt of our city life, a life which seems to the darkened vision of a supercilious aesthete only sordid and mean.

It is fortunate for us to have among us a man who has the good taste which qualifies him to select what is most characteristic and artistic in the life of the city for reproduction here, and the good-will to spend weeks and months in patient labor to picture it all at its best.

Doubly fortunate we are, too, that he can not only himself see the deep beauty and the deeper meanings that lie in all those things, but that he can put these meanings into charming verse which, in the contemplation of this beauty, brings an added pleasure to every sensitive and thoughtful soul. Many of his lines will be linked forever in our memory with the landscapes or buildings or statues which inspired his song. The

touch of fancy was sorely needed to explain those grotesque forms over the Hull Gateway; but once thus touched they remain forever full of life and meaning.

Let this book go into every Chicago home, into all our school libraries, into the hands of all our children, and every good cause in this city will feel the beneficent results of its influence in stirring the pride and quickening the spirit of service in all our people.

EDMUND J. JAMES
President Northwestern University





PREFACE



PICTURES are often the truest expression of poetic suggestion and feeling, it has seemed best to let them take the chief place in the book; and it is hoped that they will tend to dissipate the impression so widely held that Chicago is utterly lacking in the things that make an appeal to the imagination and the sense of beauty.

Chicago is so commonly identified in the public mind with the limits of Cook County that it seemed appropriate to include a few pictures taken from the immediate environs of the city. Typical illustrations of the city's great industrial life have also been included.

The division of "The Ballad of Manila Bay and Other Verses" devoted to Chicago themes has been incorporated in the present volume; and, among the various phases of the city's life that have been touched upon in the verse, something of its sport was naturally suggested, as a people's sport is in some aspects a people's poetry.