

**THE SPRINGS OF
JOY: AND
OTHER SERMONS**

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The Springs of Joy: And Other Sermons by Robert F. Horton

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ROBERT F. HORTON

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The Springs of Joy

And Other Sermons

By
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PREFACE

I CAN offer no apology for publishing this little book, except that Mr. Meyer, Secretary of the Free Church Council, wished it. He wanted me to give some of the fruits of my current ministry to a wider congregation than my own. Though I have endeavoured to recast and cut down the diffuseness of pulpit utterances, the reader will at once perceive that he is listening to preaching in print. My object is not literary reputation but spiritual fruit. If the Spirit was in the words uttered, the same power may work in them printed.

With a humble desire to serve and to help men, therefore, I launch this little bark on the tumultuous waters of our present-day life, hoping that it may convey or even rescue some troubled and anxious lives, and transfer them to a larger and more powerful craft before its course is run, and it is itself submerged in the waves.

ROBERT F. HORTON.

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THE SPRINGS OF JOY,

“ Rejoice in the Lord always: again
I will say Rejoice.”—*Philippians*
iv., 4.

Perpetual joy, and the praise which comes out of it, is enjoined by our religion; and, therefore, we must suppose that it is possible; but frankly it seems to be impossible. Our keenest pleasures, we are told by psychologists, are the release or the reaction from pain; and it seems, therefore, as if joy unbroken would be joy unfelt. But these injunctions of our religion, if we are attentive to them, open our eyes to a possibility which is far above and beyond the ordinary experience of human life. Observe the commandment is, “ Rejoice in the *Lord.*” It is not suggested that joy