

**MEMORIES OF
NEW ZEALAND LIFE**

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Memories of New Zealand Life by Edwin Hodder

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BY

EDWIN HODDER.

LONDON:

LONGMAN, GREEN, LONGMAN & ROBERTS.

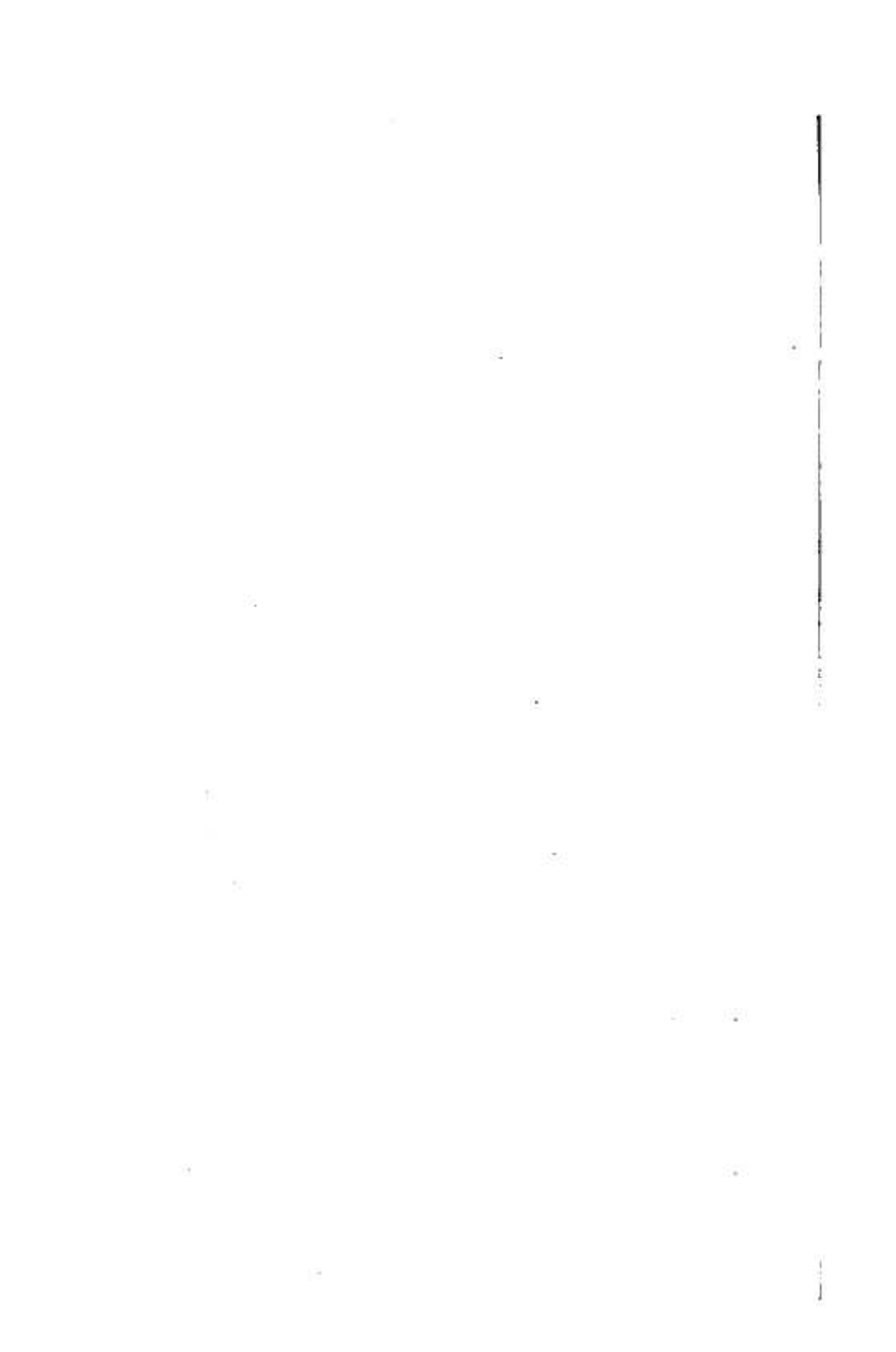
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PREFACE.

ALTHOUGH so many volumes have been written upon New Zealand, there are very few which give a homely account of the place and people suited to general readers. Nearly all relate to the history of its colonization, the natives, statistics, instructions to emigrants, and other kindred subjects.

The design of the present volume is not so much to instruct in practical matters, as to give a glimpse at the social life and simple unsophisticated pleasures enjoyed by the settlers in the far-off land; to describe some of the ways in which leisure time may be occupied in recreation, and the adventures incidental to travelling.

In pages 137—191, some of the events did not occur consecutively as they are narrated, but took place during several pedestrian journeys over the

same ground, and are recorded, for convenience, as if they had all happened in one tour.

The writer has endeavoured to tell a plain tale of everyday-life in a plain way, suited to everyday-folk, and trusts that, in recalling these "Memories" of four years' residence in New Zealand—years full of sunshine and enjoyment—he has not totally failed in his aim to portray social life in the colony as it really is.

Brixton, *February*, 1862.

Memories of New Zealand Life.

FOUR MONTHS AT SEA.

Most people who go abroad seem to start with the fixed determination to bore themselves and the world at large with unreadable and prolix details of their voyages, just as if anybody cared to know that the steam-tug "William" or "Mary" took the vessel out of dock, or that on a certain day, at a given hour, the pilot went ashore.

Then they will persist in recording the exact latitude and longitude in which events happened, as if the whole world had resolved to doubt the accuracy of any statement unless backed by figures which they were determined in every instance to prove. It is not a matter of deep moment to the general reader whether a ship travelled at eight or eleven knots an hour, or whether the wind blew from the N.E. or S.W. Ask one of these travellers, a month after he has been