

**THE  
AUTOBIOGRAPHY  
OF METHUSELAH**

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The autobiography of Methuselah by John Kendrick Bangs

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**JOHN KENDRICK BANGS**

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**JOHN KENDRICK BANGS**



Methuselah's stationery

The  
Autobiography  
of Methuselah

EDITED BY  
JOHN KENDRICK BANGS

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F. G. COOPER



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## FOREWORD

HAVING recently passed into what my great-grandson Shem calls my Anecdote, it has occurred to me that perhaps some of the recollections of a more or less extended existence upon this globular\* mass of dust and water that we are pleased to call the earth, may prove of interest to posterity, and I have accordingly, at the earnest solicitation of my

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\*It is quite interesting, in the light of the contentions of history as to man's earliest realization that the earth is round, to find Methuselah speaking in this fashion. It would seem from this that the real facts had dawned upon the Patriarch's mind even at this early period, and one is therefore disposed to regard as less apochryphal the anecdote recorded in Volume III, Chapter 38, of "The Life and Voyages of Noah," wherein Adam, after being ejected from the Garden of Eden, asked by Cain if he believes the world to be round like an orange, replies:

*"I used to think so, my son, but under prevailing conditions I am forced into a more or less definite suspicion that it is elliptical, like a lemon."*—EDITOR.