## RIDERS OF THE STARS: A BOOK OF WESTERN VERSE

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Riders of the Stars: A Book of Western Verse by Henry Herbert Knibbs

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### **HENRY HERBERT KNIBBS**

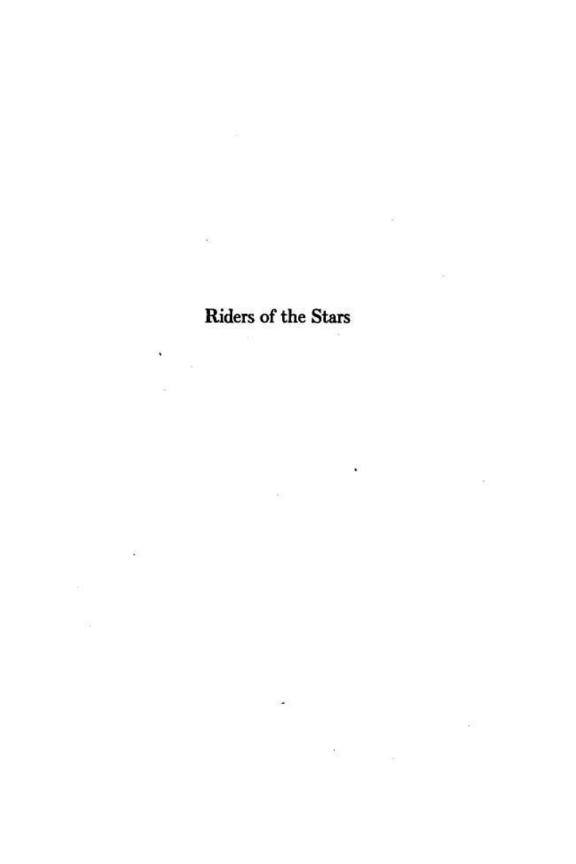
# RIDERS OF THE STARS: A BOOK OF WESTERN VERSE



#### By þ. þ. Knibbs

RIDERS OF THE STARS.
SUNDOWN SLIM. Illustrated.
SONGS OF THE OUTLANDS. Tales of the
Hoboes and Other Verse.
OVERLAND RED. A Tale of the Moonatone
Cadoo Trail. Illustrated in Color.
STEPHEN MARCH'S WAY. Illustrated.
LOST FARM CAMP. Illustrated.

HOUGHTON MIFFLIN COMPANY BOSTON AND NEW YORK



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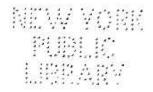
A BOOK OF WESTERN VERSE

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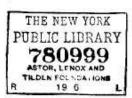


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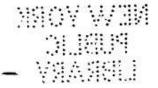
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Published October 1916



#### TO R. F.

Men know him for sterling worth,
For vigor and pride and wit;
He who girdled the glowing earth
And fashioned a song of it.
Men know him of many things
Master, in hall and mart,
But I, yea, I know the voice that sings
Deep in his steadfast heart.

His shield to the world I know,
And his toil-worn coat of mail,
The clear, keen eye with the battle glow
When hazard or wrong assail;
Proud is my heart that I
See more than the passing see
In his love for the magic western sky
And the mountains' wizardry;

Rifle and rope and spur,

Trail and the wayside fire;

Soul of the true adventurer

Singing his heart's desire

E'en while the great wheels roll

Ceaseless and grim and slow;

-42

#### To R. F.

But the gods of gold may not grind his soul Into the dust below.

Fetters that bind his hands
He snaps with a magic word,
As fearless, frank, and immune he stands
Singing of trail and herd,
Night, and the Southern stars,
Dawn and a land of gold!
Leading souls through their prison-bars,
Bidding their eyes behold!

Men know him for sterling worth,
For vigor and pride and wit
To challenge tears or the leap of mirth
As he strikes to the soul of it.
Men know him for many things;
I, standing alone, apart,
Know that an unknown poet sings
Deep in his steadfast heart.