**THE DISPOSSESSED**

**By**

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Peace was yours, Australian man,

With tribal laws you made,

Till white Colonials stole your peace

With rape and murder raid;

They shot and poisoned and enslaved

Until, a scattered few,

Only a remnant now remain,

And the heart dies in you.

The white man claimed your hunting groups

And you could not remain

They made you work as menials

For greedy private gain

Your tribes are broken vagrants now

Whenever whites abide,

And justice o of the white man

Means justice to you denied.

They brought you Bibles and disease,

The liquor and the gun.

With Christian culture such as these

The white command was won.

A dying race you linger on,

Degraded and oppressed,

Outcasts in your own native land

You are the dispossessed.

When Churches mean a way of life,

As Christians proudly claim,

And when hypocrisy is scorned

And hate is counted shame,

Then only shall intolerance die

And old injustice cease,

And white and dark as brothers find

Equality and peace.

But oh, so long the wait has been

So slow the justice due,

Courage decay for want of hope,

And the heart dies in you.