

**PRIZE ESSAYS ON CIVIL SERVICE
REFORM: WRITTEN
FOR THE BOSTON CIVIL
SERVICE REFORM ASSOCIATION**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649274116

Prize Essays on Civil Service Reform: Written for the Boston Civil Service Reform Association
by Walter Allen Smith

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WALTER ALLEN SMITH

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CIVIL SERVICE REFORM.

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ON
CIVIL SERVICE REFORM.

WRITTEN FOR THE BOSTON CIVIL SERVICE
REFORM ASSOCIATION.

By George D. Briggs, and Edward L. Briggs.

BOSTON:
PRESS OF GEO. H. ELLIS, 141 FRANKLIN STREET.
1882.

U. S. 480.9
~~9384.50~~

1883, March 26.
Hill
Hon. S. M. Hall

OFFER OF PRIZES.

THE Civil Service Reform Association of Boston, desiring to encourage the study of the subject of Civil Service Reform, offers two prizes, of one hundred dollars and of fifty dollars, for short essays upon that subject. Competition is open to undergraduates of this date of any college in Massachusetts, and to residents of Massachusetts who are now either students or graduates of not more than five years' standing of any college. Essays are to be sent in by November 1, 1881. It is expected that they will be examined by President Seelye of Amherst College, Professor Dunbar of Harvard College, and Hamilton A. Hill, Esq., of Boston. The successful essays and others of decided merit will be printed. The following regulations should be observed:—

1. The length of the essays must not be less nor more than ten pages of the *North American Review*.
2. The whole subject or any branch thereof may be treated; and writers will not be required to support the views of this Association, but may treat the subject as they please.
3. Essays are to be sent before November 1, 1881, to Arthur Hobart, Secretary, P.O. Box 1158, Boston, indorsed with a fictitious name. The real name and address and facts necessary to entitle the writer to compete, and also the name signed to the essay, must be sent, in a sealed envelope, to the above address, by the same date.

Boston, June, 1881.

NOTE.

THE two essays published herewith were adjudged by the committee of examination, Messrs. Seelye, Dunbar, and Hill, to be entitled to the prizes offered by the Boston Association in the foregoing announcement. To WALTER ALLEN SMITH, of Boston, author of the essay, "Reform in the Government Service," was awarded the first prize of one hundred dollars; and to EDWARD COLE HOWLAND, of Springfield, author of the essay, "The Spoils System: its Origin and Cure," the second prize of fifty dollars.

The motive of the Association in offering these prizes was, as suggested in the announcement, to interest young men in the study of the subject rather than to obtain from them new or valuable light upon it. And, conformably to the terms of competition, which did not require writers to support the views of this Association, the Committee awarded the first prize to the essay which they judged to be the most meritorious, but which, as will be noticed by the reader, does not wholly agree with the views of this Association nor with those of many eminent advocates of Civil Service Reform.

WALTER ALLEN SMITH graduated at Harvard University in 1880, and afterward studied in the Universities of Heidelberg, Berlin, and Paris, devoting particular attention to the study of political science. It is much to be regretted that Mr. Smith died in London, April 8, 1882, at the age of twenty-two years.

EDWARD COLE HOWLAND is a graduate of Cornell University of 1879.



PRIZE ESSAY:

Reform in the Government Service.

BY

WALTER ALLEN SMITH.

Since the days of our fathers have we been in a great trespass unto this day. For our iniquities are increased over our head, and our trespass is grown up unto the heavens.—
EZRA ix.

But the desire of the righteous shall be granted.—*PROVERBS* x.

For our transgressions are with us; and as for our iniquities, we know them.—
ISAIAH lix.