

**THE VOW OF  
POVERTY, AND  
OTHER ESSAYS**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649341122

The Vow of Poverty, and Other Essays by Jasper Niemand

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**JASPER NIEMAND**

**THE VOW OF  
POVERTY, AND  
OTHER ESSAYS**





HIERONYMUS

ANDOVER-HARVARD  
THEOLOGICAL LIBRARY

THE  
VOW OF POVERTY

AND OTHER ESSAYS

BY

↳ JASPER NIEMAND, *professor*

*Keightley sub a chair*

---

LONDON:  
THOS. GREEN  
1904



198  
K28 v  
1904

To

**William Q. Judge,**

*Teacher and Martyr.*

**'THE BLOOD OF THE MARTYRS HAS WATERED THE GROUND,  
AND THAT THE CRY 'LORD, GIVE US EVERMORE OF THIS  
BREAD,' MAY NEVER GO UNANSWERED, WE MUST BE  
PLOUGHING AND SOWING FOR HARVESTS YET TO BE.'**

---

*The ancient fable of the Dragon's Blood is true to-day as ever. Where that Blood was spilled, earth opened to receive it; a warrior struck the sacred spot and armed men sprang forth conquering the World.*

*So with the Blood of the Martyrs. It waters the earth, and from that consecration new human harvests and fresh fruits of Wisdom spring. For the Dragon typifies that Wisdom to which the Martyrs bear witness, and those who have seen with the spiritual sight—as those who, following after, hear the tale with the ear of the spirit—these arise, warriors of the Soul, to war with and to subdue the earth; in themselves first, in the ever widening human field thereafter.*

*In the heart of man is that hallowed ground which receives the creative essence of the Dragon's Blood. Witnesses of the doing to death of the Martyrs in many an era, such comprehending hearts breathe a deep vow, and in each future effort towards the True, they are sustained and nourished by the Life Blood of the Dragons of Wisdom. They bow themselves to The Law, and whispering each to each that "Word at low breath" which is the Mystery-Name of the Martyrs, they work on expectant of harvests yet to be.*

JASPER NIEMAND.

London,  
13th April, 1904.





## THE VOW OF POVERTY.

---

*"Blessed are the poor in spirit : for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
Blessed are the meek : for they shall inherit the earth."*

*Matthew V., 3 and 5.*

WHEN first the disciple creates himself and is recognised, it is because his heart is vowed to Poverty. This Vow, rightly understood, constitutes his discipleship.

Who is the disciple? What is the Poverty to which he is dedicate? For we are dealing now with realities, not with words which so often obscure realities, and we must be careful interpreters.

The disciple is the Soul. That man, that human mind which has so aspired to the life and the service of the Soul that he has cast all personal desire aside and has begun at least to "live the life," he is the outward vehicle of the Disciple-Soul.

And the Vow of Poverty? Is it a thing which drives a man to quit his place in the outward life, to change conditions and to violate all his natural

surroundings and inheritance of whatever order? Surely not. Surely this were to court disaster. He who has so ardently aspired towards the diviner life; he who has glimpsed the Soul in himself, he knows well that he must *evolve out* from all the conditions which surround him as a human being and that all which binds him, as all that fetters and weakens the humanity of which he forms a part, is of his and their own weaving; it is a net spread by men for their own feet and it must be undone slowly and with pains unwoven; to break it violently asunder would benefit no one and would harm and delay many: the disciple knows he must patiently endure the net he has woven until he has evolved beyond it: then the Lords of Karma themselves release him: let him not usurp the functions of his Lords.

So also with the mystic recognition which constitutes the seal of discipleship. It is not had upon outward planes. Persons do not bestow or receive it. The heart evolves it: the Law accepts it. When the Soul is self-conscious and knows itself to be, then, then only the Vow is made in truth: then the human being must complete it: he must hearken to the silver voices of the Soul, putting aside in his turn all the wealth of personal desire, of personal expectation, of individual mentality; he must renounce upon earth as the Soul has already renounced in the heavens: he comes to long for