

**ANARCHISM: ITS  
PHILOSOPHY AND SCIENTIFIC  
BASIS AS DEFINED BY  
SOME OF ITS APOSTLES**

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Anarchism: its philosophy and scientific basis as defined by some of its apostles by A. R. Parsons

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**A. R. PARSONS**

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PHILOSOPHY AND SCIENTIFIC  
BASIS AS DEFINED BY  
SOME OF ITS APOSTLES**



# ANARCHISM:

Its Philosophy and Scientific Basis

AS DEFINED BY SOME OF ITS APOSTLES.

"If the people are silent under oppression, it is lethargy,—the forerunner of  
Death to Public Liberty."—*Thomas Jefferson.*

BY

A. R. PARSONS.

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HX 44

P3

THE  
MUSEUM

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BY

MRS. A. R. PARSONS.

## \* THE REFORMER.

All grim and soiled and brown with tan,  
I saw a Strong One, in his wrath,  
Smiting the godless shrines of man  
Along his path.

The Church beneath her trembling dome  
Essayed in vain her ghostly charm:  
Wealth shook within his gilded home  
With strange alarm.

Fraud from his secret chambers fled  
Before the sunlight bursting in:  
Sloth drew her pillow o'er her head  
To drown the din.

"Spare," Art implored, "yon holy pife;  
That grand, old time-worn turret, spire;"  
Meek Reverence kneeling in the aisle  
Cried out "Forbear!"

Gray-bearded Use, who, deaf and blind,  
Groped for his old accustomed stone,  
Leaned on his staff, and wept to find  
His seat o'erthrown.

Young Romance raised his dreamy eyes,  
O'erhung with paly looks of gold,—  
"Why smite," he asked in sad surprise,  
"The fair, the old?"

Yet louder rang the Strong One's stroke,  
Yet nearer flashed the axe's gleam:  
Shuddering and sick of heart I woke  
As from a dream.

I looked: Aside the cloud-dust rolled—  
The Waster seemed the Builder too;  
Up springing from the ruined Old  
I saw the New.

'Twas but the ruin of the bad,—  
The wasting of the wrong and ill;  
Whate'er of good the old time had  
Was living still.

Calm grew the brows of him I feared;  
The frown which awoke me passed away;  
And left behind a smile which cheered  
Like breaking day.

The grain grew green on battle plains,  
O'er swarded war-mounds grazed the cow,  
The slave stood forging from his chains  
The spade and plow.

Where frowned the fort, pavillions gay,  
And cottage windows, flower-entwined,  
Looked out upon the peaceful bay  
And hills behind.

Through vine-wreathed cups with wine once red  
The lights on brimming crystal fell,  
Drawn, sparkling, from the rivulet head  
And mossy well.

Through prison walls, like heaven-sent hope,  
Fresh breezes blew, and sunbeams strayed,  
And with the idle gallows rope  
The young child played.

Where the doomed victim in his cell  
Had counted o'er the weary hours,  
The school girls, answering to the bells  
Came crowned with flowers.

Grown wiser for the lessons given,  
I fear no longer, for I know  
That, where the share is deepest driven,  
The best fruits grow.

The out-worn rite, the old abuse  
The pious fraud transparent grown,  
The good held captive in the use  
Of wrong alone,—

These wait their doom, from that great law  
Which makes the past time serve to-day;  
And fresher life the world shall draw  
From their decay.

Oh backward looking son of time!  
The new is old, the old is new,  
The cycle of a change sublime  
Still sweeping through.

So wisely taught the Indian seer:  
Destroying Seva, forming Brahm,  
Who wake by turns, earth's love and fear  
Are one, the same.

Idly, as thou, in that old day  
Thou mournest, did thy sire repine;  
So in his time, thy child grown gray  
Shall sigh for thine.

But life shall on and upward go;  
Th' eternal step of Progress beats  
To that great anthem, calm and slow,  
Which God repeats.

Take heart!—The Waster builds again—  
A charmed life old Goodness hath;  
The tares may perish,—but the grain  
Is not for death.

God works in all things; all obey  
His first propulsion from the night;  
Wake thou and watch!—the world is gray  
With morning light!

—WHITTIER.

\* This poem had long been a favorite with Mr. Parsons, and was recited by him to the jailers and the reporters but a short time before his death.

## DEDICATED

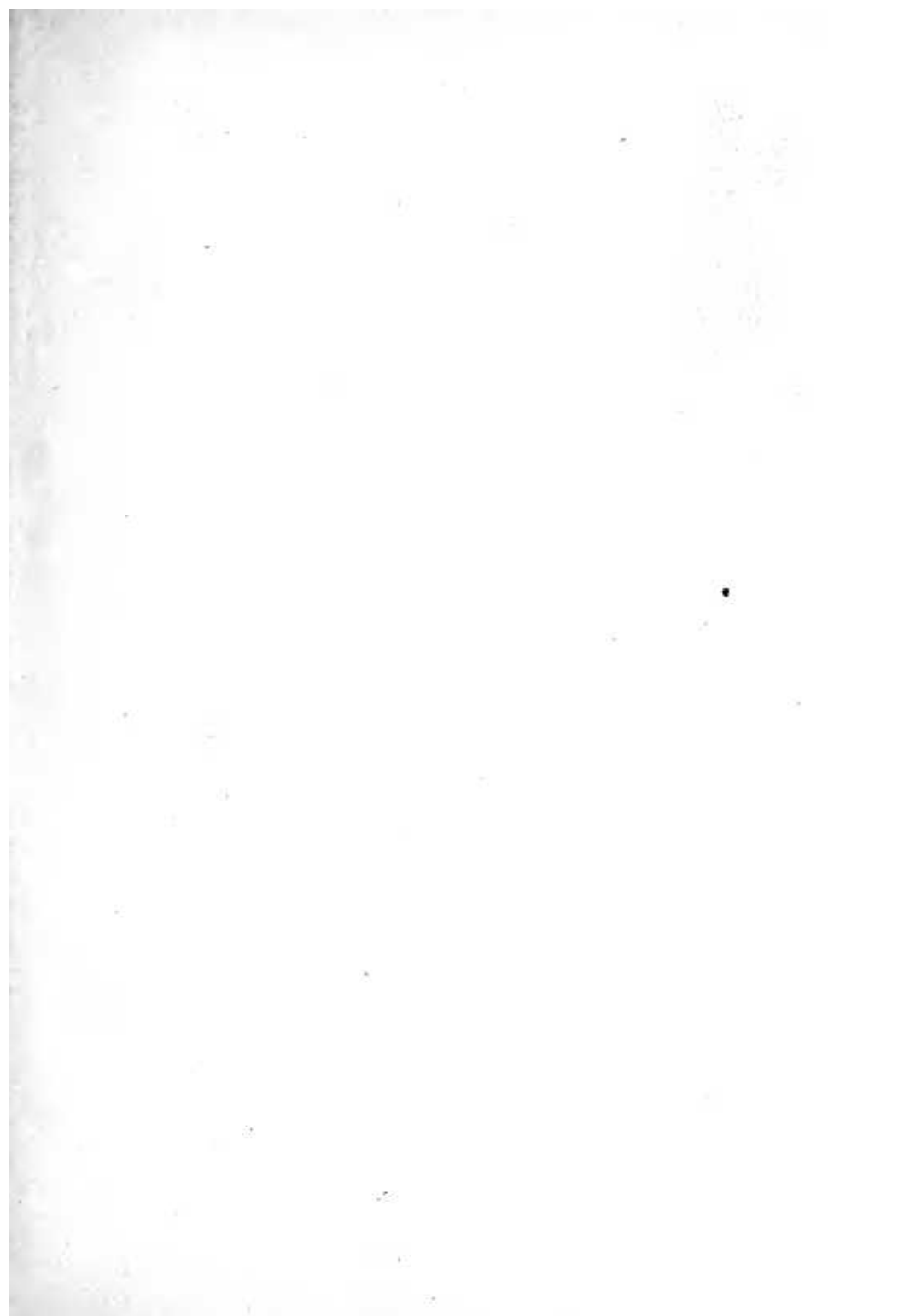
To the toiling masses in every land, striving for their

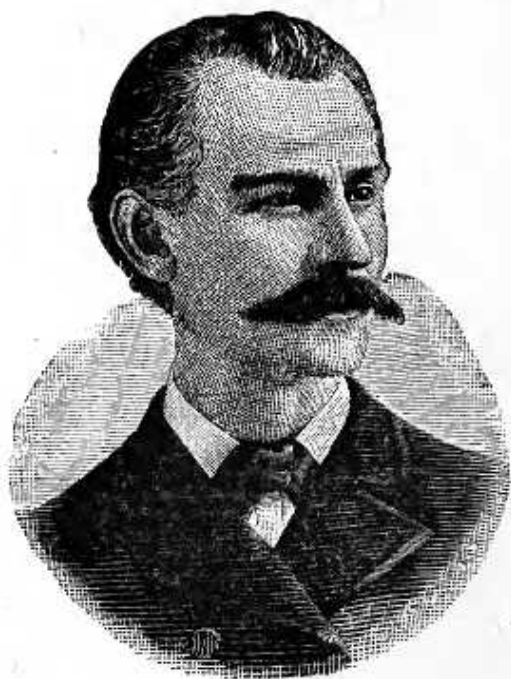
ECONOMIC EMANCIPATION,

not the least of whom is my beloved wife,

LUCY E. PARSONS.







*Chas. Parsons*

"Let the voice of the people be heard! O—"

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