

FOUR ASPECTS OF CIVIC DUTY

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Four Aspects of Civic Duty by William Howard Taft

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WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT

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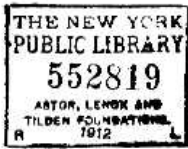
SECRETARY OF WAR

FIRST CIVIL GOVERNOR OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

NEW YORK
CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS

1908

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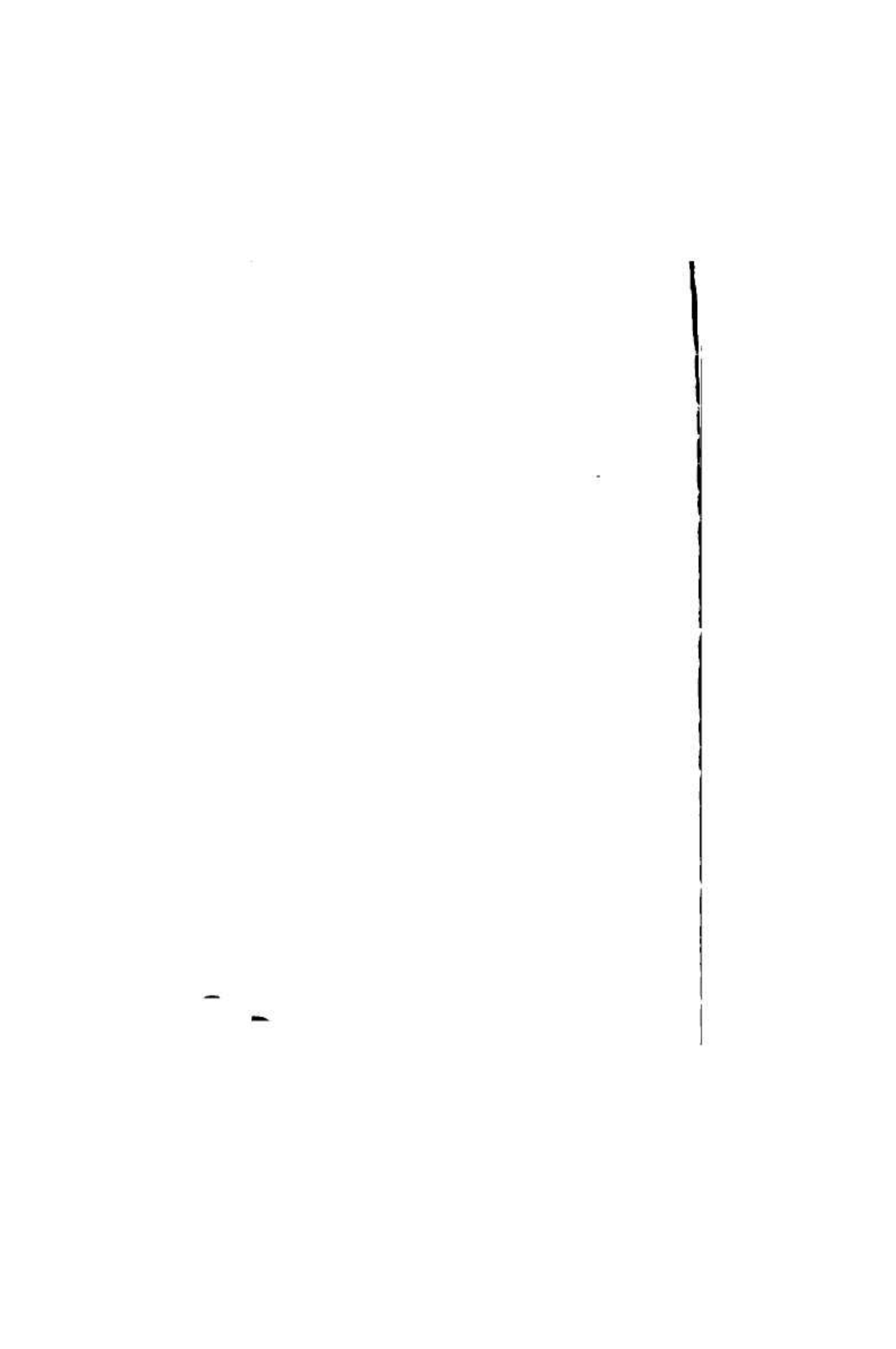


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FOUR ASPECTS OF CIVIC DUTY

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I

THE DUTIES OF CITIZENSHIP VIEWED FROM THE STANDPOINT OF A RECENT GRADUATE OF A UNIVERSITY

MR. PRESIDENT, AND GENTLEMEN OF YALE:

My occupations within the last month have been so numerous, various, and absorbing that it has been very difficult for me to give thought and proper time of preparation for the series of lectures which, more than a year ago, I was invited to deliver on the Dodge foundation by your alluring secretary—Mr. Stokes. Knowing as I did that it was foolish for me to accept Mr. Stokes's invitation, and knowing that whenever the time came for me to perform my promise it would certainly be the most inconvenient time in the year, I nevertheless yielded weakly, and agreed to come and say something about the duties of citizenship. Of course I could not anticipate that an earthquake would throw additional responsibilities on the