IN QUEST OF PROSPERITY, NO. 8

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649194322

In quest of prosperity, No. 8 by Henry Rawie

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

HENRY RAWIE

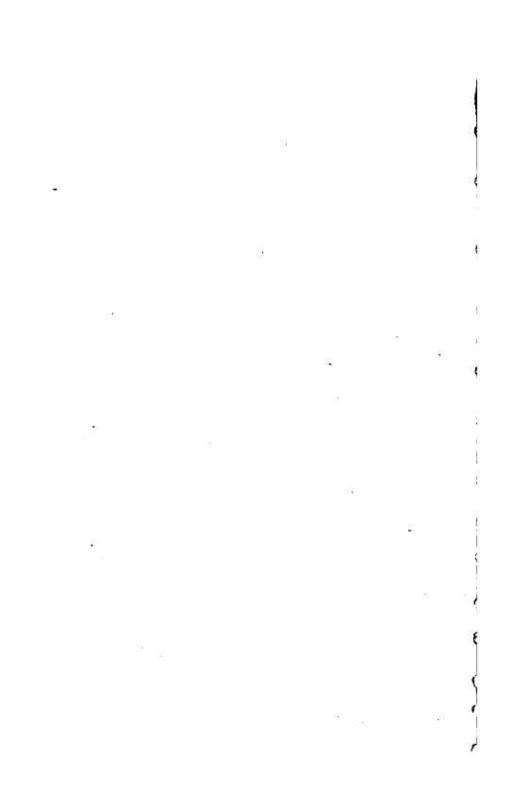
IN QUEST OF PROSPERITY, NO. 8



IN QUEST OF PROSPERITY

BY HENRY RAWIE

Copyright secured by Henry Rawie, 1910
THE DISTRIBUTION LEAGUE



In Quest of Prosperity.

CHAPTER I.

In spite of the great number of unsolved problems which now distress humanity Professor William James has not hesitated to add a new one. He wants to know "Where we are to find a moral equivalent in times of peace for the heroic virtues developed by war." "The horrors of war," he says, "is a cheap price to pay for a rescue from a world of clerks and teachers, coeducation and zoophily, of consumers leagues and associated charities of industrialism unlimited and feminism unabashed. No scorn, no hardness, no valor any more? Fie upon such a cattleyard of a planet."

It may be true, from the standpoint of Pragmatism that heroism has departed from the rich and has therefore departed from the world, but to many people "the cattle yard of a planet" does not appear so conspicuously. Among the common folk who retain a faith in God and who give to truth and love important places in the eternal fitness of things, the world is full of poetry, is of surpassing beauty and is not devoid of heroism.

Commercialism depresses the imagination it is true, and it stimulates the lower sensual desires, but there are many who unite to battle for better things and among whom there is no lack of valor, scorn, hardness, or heroic virtues. The sordid pursuit of wealth has its sad and melancholy aspect for it opens up no paths leading to glory and it creates no soul stirring ambitions, but this fault is found among the rich for there is much unselfish devotion and heroism among the common people.

The struggle for great and greater wealth in order to feed greedy and more greedy appetites is not a struggle calculated to win favor with the immortal gods who inspire the world with heroism, and who link earth and heaven together in poetry and romance.

Professor James, however, will have pragmatic heroes at any cost, he will have them by force, and provide them by conscription; listen:

"If now, and this is my idea, there were, instead of military conscription, a conscription of the whole youthful population to enlist against nature. The military ideals of hardihood and discipline would be wrought into the growing fibre of our people; no one would remain blind as the luxurious classes are now blind to man's real relations to the globe he lives on. To coal and iron mines, to freight trains, to fishing fleets in December, to dish washing, clothes washing, window washing and to the frames of sky-scrapers would our gilded youth be drafted off."

This seems to me to be advocating a wholesale slaughter of the luxurious innocents to provide a Roman holiday for the entertainment of the horny handed sons of toil.

I may agree with the pragmatic theory of justice which excuses a man for profiting from the degradation of women and children if there is no other escape from degradation for his own children. I may acquiesce in the theory which allows one man to become master while his neighbors and friends become slaves, if such is the only escape from slavery. But I will not be so base as to contend that the masters are the fittest to survive because they become masters in a system where masters are as much of an institution as are slaves.

The blind worship of wealth is responsible for the baseness of its followers whom a lucky chance has permitted to escape poverty and who unconsciously band together to glorify themselves and to defame the rest of the human family. A man may be justified in enslaving other men if he has no other choice in thus escaping slavery, but he should be everlastingly damned for defending a system of oppression because he has been able to escape its present consequences.

There are few heroes among the rich because of the baseness of men who uphold a system of plunder and who are too cowardly to denounce the source of their own success. The ruling class not only tramples upon

í

{

4

5

the poor and denies them all opportunity to prosper but they lash them with whips of scorpions in church and state, telling them to rise while holding them down and making them believe that the sins of their oppressors are the sins of their own. This world is sadly in need of heroes, and no one will deny, but we do not suffer the need of the cheap heroics developed by war but suffer for great men to battle for the true religion and for humanity.

We pray for a return of the heroes of ancient Greece for Hercules to perform his twelve labors, to fight the Nemean lion who is destroying prosperity and driving the people from work, to slaughter the Hydra Graft with nine heads when one is cut off two new ones grow to replace it; to clean the Augean Stables of politics, to recover the golden apples of Hesperides, to help conquer Antaeus or we perish, for this landlord son of Terre is driving the people from the soil and is crushing them with poverty, vice and crime. We pray for the return of Thesius to destroy the ogre Procrustes and his iron bed of precedent and privilege. Procrustes has an iron bed in which travellers are tied who fall into his hands. If they are shorter than the bed they are stretched to fit and if they are longer a part is lopped off. We need Thesius to relieve the country from the annual tribute of youths and maidens paid to Minos the King of Greed who are sent each year to be devoured by the Minotaur who feeds on human victims.

The times call for Jason and his band of hero followers Hercules, Theseus, Orpheus and Nestor, to organize a new expedition of Argonauts to go in search of the golden fleece of prosperity.