

**THE LAND HUNGER; LIFE UNDER
MONOPOLY. DESCRIPTIVE
LETTERS AND OTHER
TESTIMONIES FROM THOSE WHO
HAVE SUFFERED**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649216352

The land hunger; life under monopoly. Descriptive letters and other testimonies from those who have suffered by Cobden Unwin & Brougham Villiers

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

COBDEN UNWIN & BROUGHAM VILLIERS

**THE LAND HUNGER; LIFE UNDER
MONOPOLY. DESCRIPTIVE
LETTERS AND OTHER
TESTIMONIES FROM THOSE WHO
HAVE SUFFERED**

THE LAND HUNGER

Ec. H
L 2567

THE LAND HUNGER

"
LIFE UNDER MONOPOLY

DESCRIPTIVE LETTERS AND
OTHER TESTIMONIES FROM
THOSE WHO HAVE SUFFERED

WITH AN INTRODUCTION
BY MRS COBDEN UNWIN
AND AN ESSAY BY
BROUGHAM VILLIERS

[The re-making
of England]

468810
2.12.47

T. FISHER UNWIN
LONDON: ADELPHI TERRACE
LEIPSIC: INSELSTRASSE 20

[1913]

TO THE MEMORY OF
RICHARD COBDEN,
WHO LOVED HIS NATIVE LAND,
THESE PAGES ARE DEDICATED
BY HIS DAUGHTER,
IN THE HOPE THAT HIS DESIRE—
"FREE TRADE IN LAND"—
MAY BE FULFILLED.

CONTENTS

	PAGE
INTRODUCTION BY MRS COBDEN UNWIN	13

CHAPTER I

SCHOOLS OF LAND REFORM

Free Trade in land—"Three acres and a cow"—Revolt in the Highlands—Mr Chamberlain in Glasgow—Crofters M.P.'s—Schools of Land Reform—"Look at Germany"—A substitute for rates—The Single Taxers—Two pioneers—Deer forests—A drastic proposal	33-58
---	-------

CHAPTER II

ENGLISH LETTERS—CRITICAL (I.)

Robbing the leaseholder—Dilapidations—An eviction—Cost of transfer—"All work and no play"—Death fines—A contented farmer—Cramping bye-laws—Robbery of the Commons—A revival of Unionism—A rural worker's programme—Mr George Edwards—A labourers' budget—Low wages	59-87
--	-------

CHAPTER III

ENGLISH LETTERS—CRITICAL (II.)

Tyranny of a "good" landlord—And of a bad one—Expensive allotments—English letters—critical (II.)—Difficulties of the	
---	--

Contents

	PAGE
labourer—Low wages—Land Hunger on the Border—Game, not butler, wanted—"Where men decay"—Neglected opportunities —Land going "back to rushes"—Another eviction	88-112

CHAPTER IV

THE LAND QUESTION IN SCOTLAND

(I) THE HIGHLANDS

Ruthless clearances—Forced labour—The tragedy of the Highlands— Sheep breeders and land speculators—The Crofters' Act— Demand for land—Cardinal Manning's opinion—Larger holdings needed—Evils of great estates—Hovels for homes—In praise of Free Trade	113-136
--	---------

CHAPTER V

THE LAND QUESTION IN SCOTLAND

(II) THE LOWLANDS

An underground tea-room—Landlord tyranny—Naboth's vineyard— An unpromising start—A broken pledge—Small farms and large —High farming in Scotland—A great farmer—Crushing an industry—A modest programme	137-158
--	---------

CHAPTER VI

ENGLISH LETTERS—CONSTRUCTIVE

Tampering with Time—Against land taxes—Unequal rates—Rates <i>versus</i> taxes—A practical crank—Living on half an acre—Land for the People—Small holdings—Twenty acres enough—An interesting experiment—Deep cultivation—The foundation of life—Seven shillings a week—Cheaper houses—Speculators' Profit—A Trade Unionist's opinion—A hopeful experiment— Five-acre holdings—Training small holders	159-198
---	---------

Contents

CHAPTER VII

PAGE

THE RE-MAKING OF ENGLAND. BY BROUGHAM VILLIERS

Social statics " and the squire—A symbol—Toryism of the squires—
Tragic misunderstanding—Contented farmers—The man with
the hoe—The Small Holding Act—A prediction fulfilled—The
small holder's market—The sugar convention—Hodge on the
Council—The problem of towns—The use of the wastes—
Obstructive Reformers—Single Tax and reaction—Not doctrines
but freedom 199-232

INDEX 233

INTRODUCTION

IN the summer of last year the following letter appeared in some hundreds of newspapers throughout England and Scotland:—

“OATSCROFT, HEYSHOTT,
MIDHURST, SUSSEX.
15th June 1912.

“THE LAND HUNGER

“Eight years ago we wrote an open letter to the Press inviting readers to send letters and documents describing their memories and experiences of life in rural England under Protection. We received a large and remarkable response from the whole country, with the result that the volume now known as ‘The Hungry Forties’ was prepared and published. This volume was made up almost entirely of information voluntarily supplied by men and women who knew the difficulty of living in a time when Protection (Tariff Reform) and the Corn Tax still robbed the people.