

# **THE WORLD DECISION**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649311392

The world decision by Robert Herrick

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)

**ROBERT HERRICK**

**THE WORLD  
DECISION**



37611

# THE WORLD DECISION



G. W.

BY  
ROBERT HERRICK



BOSTON AND NEW YORK  
HOUGHTON MIFFLIN COMPANY  
The Riverside Press Cambridge  
1916

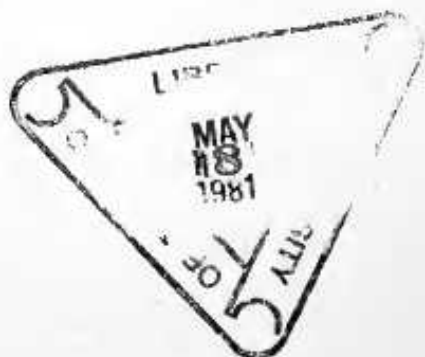


D  
523  
H5

**COPYRIGHT, 1916, BY ROBERT HERRICK**

**ALL RIGHTS RESERVED**

*Published January 1916*



## CONTENTS

### *PART ONE — ITALY*

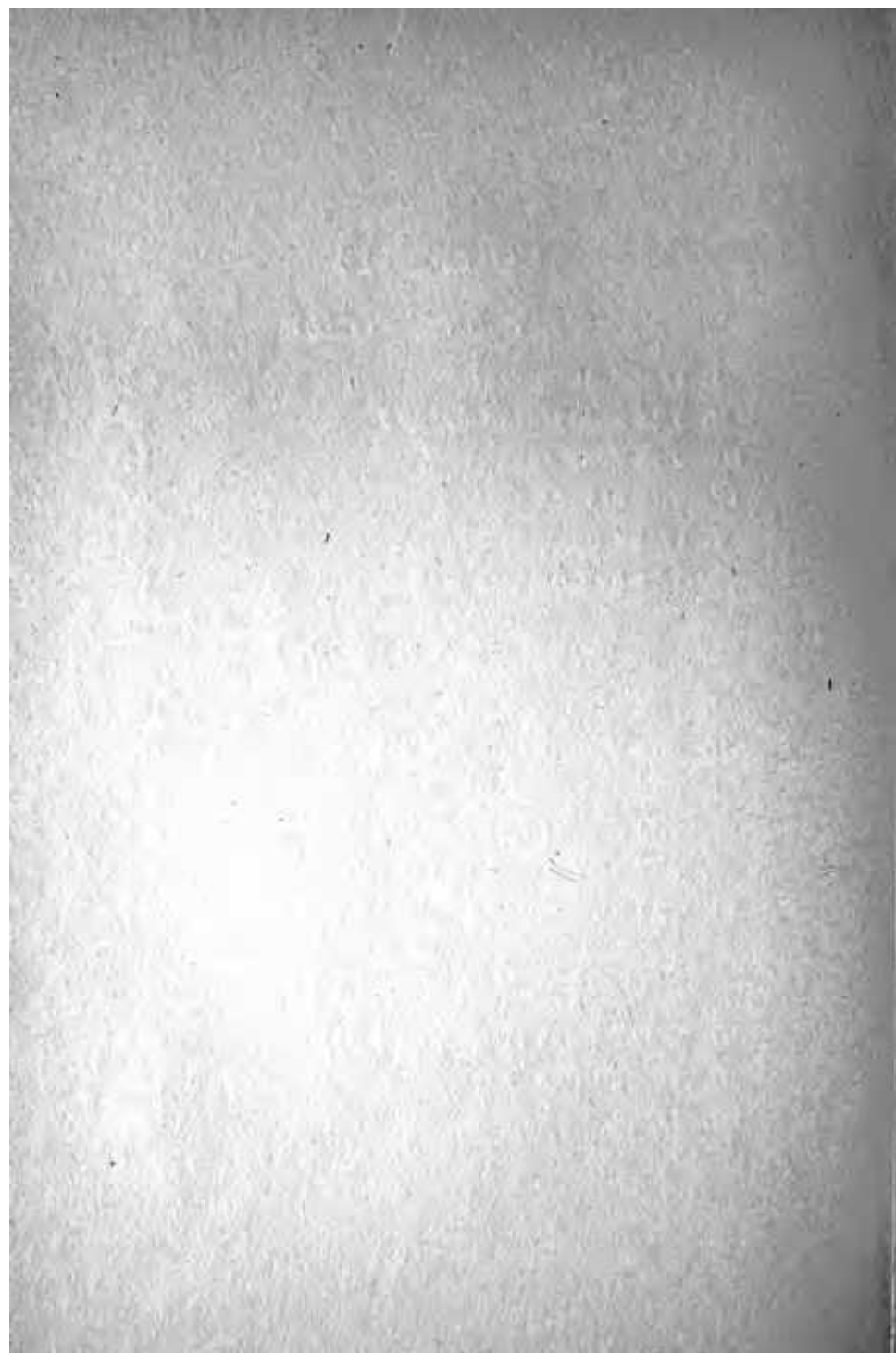
I. ITALY HESITATES	3
II. THE POLITICIAN SPEAKS	36
III. THE POET SPEAKS	55
IV. THE PIAZZA SPEAKS	67
V. ITALY DECIDES	82
VI. THE EVE OF THE WAR	96

### *PART TWO — FRANCE*

I. THE FACE OF PARIS	113
II. THE WOUNDS OF FRANCE	128
III. THE BARRARIAN	147
IV. THE GERMAN LESSON	163
V. THE FAITH OF THE FRENCH	179
VI. THE NEW FRANCE	194

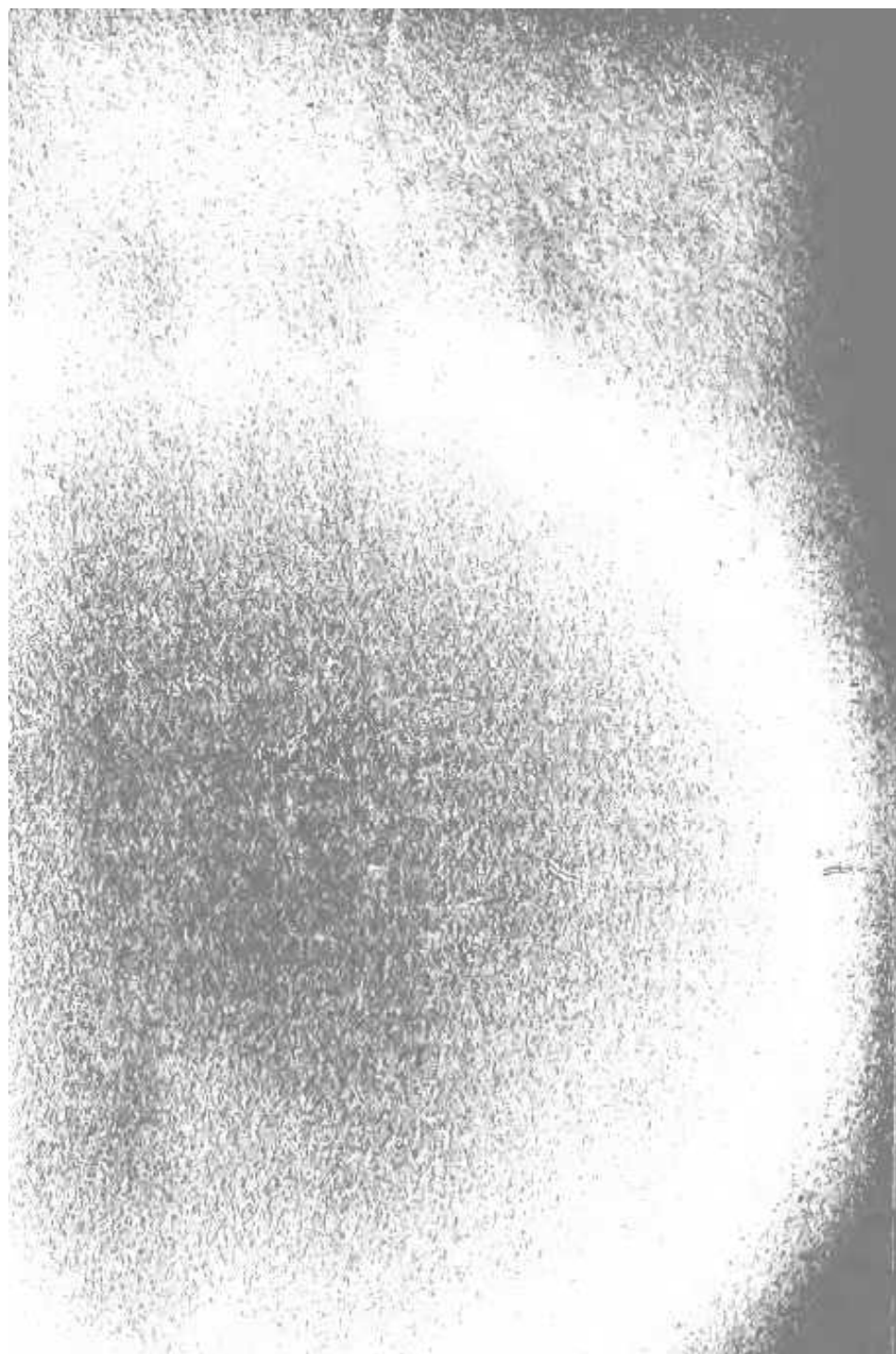
### *PART THREE — AMERICA*

I. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO US?	213
II. THE CHOICE	228
III. PEACE	238





THE WORLD DECISION  
PART ONE . . ITALY



# THE WORLD DECISION

## PART ONE — ITALY

### I

#### *Italy Hesitates*

LAST April, when I left New York for Europe, Italy was "on the verge" of entering the great war. According to the meager reports that a strict censorship permitted to reach the world, Italy had been hesitating for many months between a continuance of her precarious neutrality and joining with the Allies, with an intermittent war fever in her pulses. It was known that she was buying supplies for her ill-equipped army — boots and food and arms. Nevertheless, American opinion had come to the somewhat cynical belief that Italy would never get further than the verge of war; that her Austrian ally would be induced by the pressure of necessity to concede enough of those "national aspirations," of which we had heard much, to keep her southern neighbor at least lukewarmly neutral until the conclusion of the war. An American diplomat in Italy, with the best opportunity for close observation, said, as late as the middle of May: "I shall believe that Italy will go into the war only when I see it!"