

POLITICAL ESSAYS

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649676392

Political Essays by Vere Henry Hobart

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VERE HENRY HOBART

**POLITICAL
ESSAYS**

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BY

LORD HOBART.

London and Cambridge:

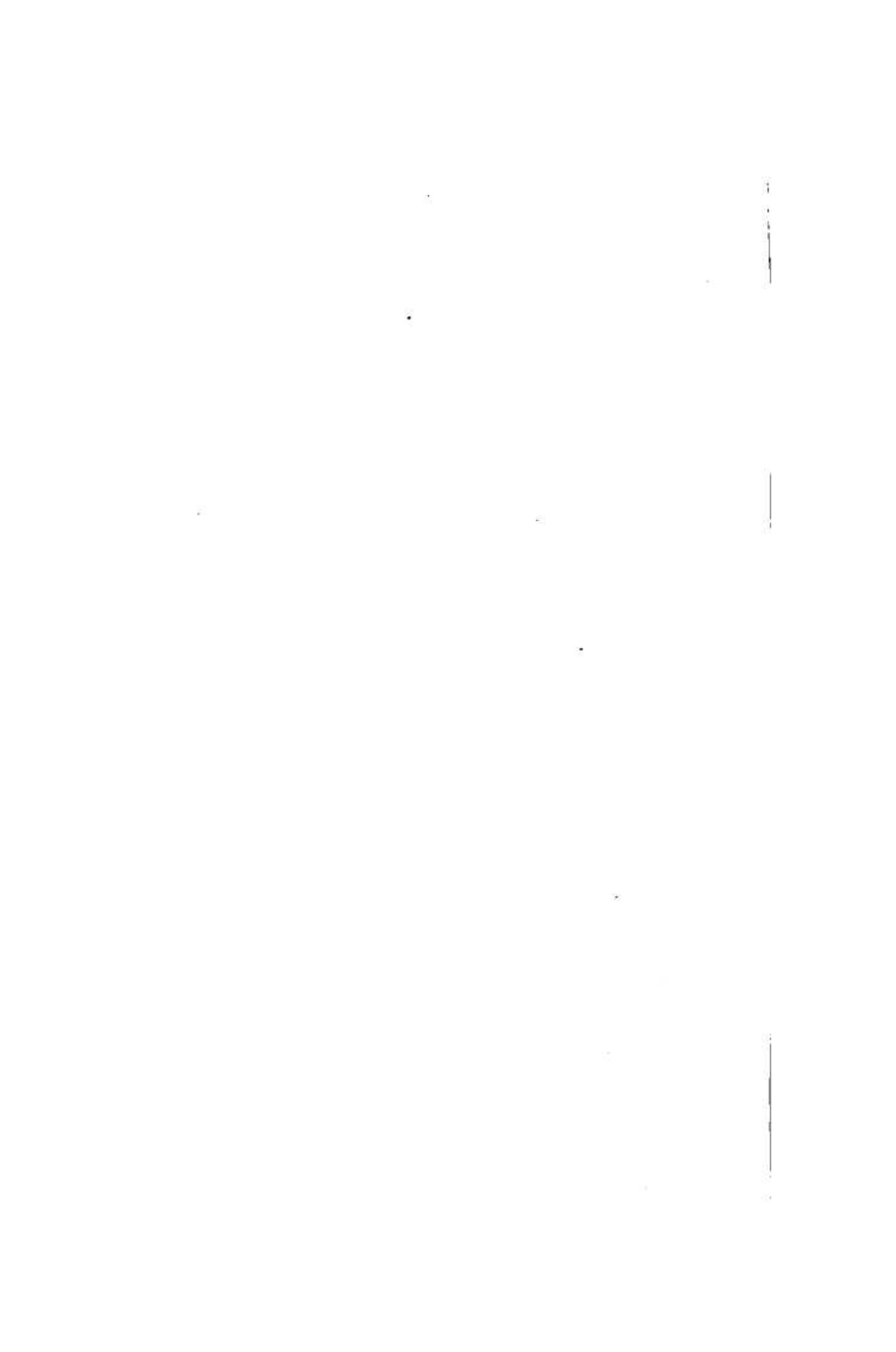
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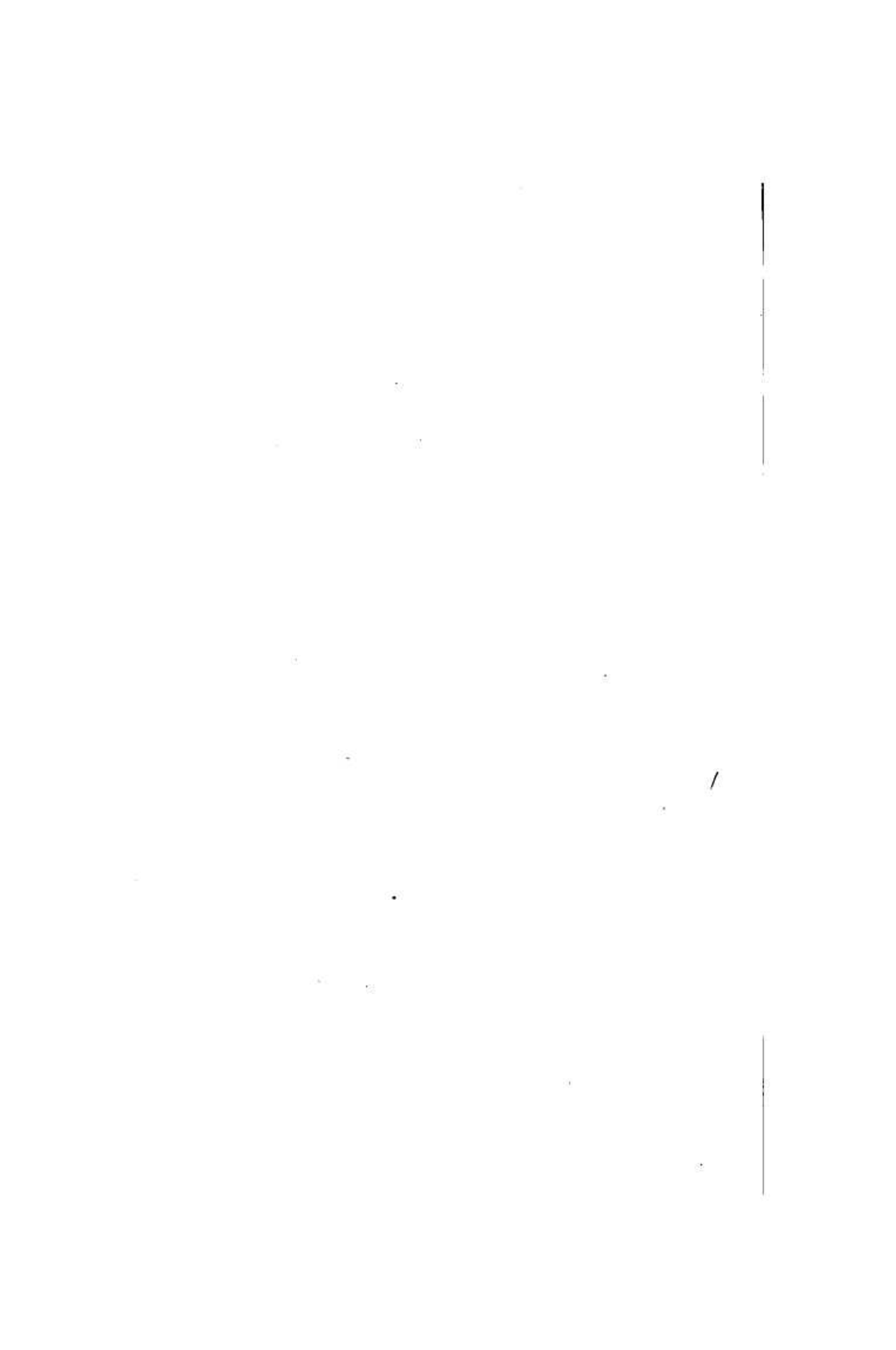
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The following papers (with one exception)
were originally published in "MACMILLAN'S
MAGAZINE."



POLITICAL ESSAYS.

PARLIAMENTARY REFORM.

THAT the people of this country are not duly represented in Parliament appears to be admitted, though with much diversity of meaning, by every party in the State. But in view of the changes which will probably be made in the constitution of the representative body, it is above all things desirable that the real nature of its defects, and their relation to each other, should be distinctly understood, and the ground cleared for legislative action by removing from it the formidable impediments which are due to confusion of thought. For it is certain, notwithstanding perpetual assertions to the contrary, that the national representation is no exception to the general rule which prescribes clearness of apprehension and closeness of reasoning, comprehensive inquiry and systematic treatment, as conditions of success in the solution of social problems; and that, if this question is abandoned to the care of those who deprecate as "mere theory" all attempt at scientific investigation, and consider that there is nothing in common between statesmanship and thought, that which has already followed from such a