THE MORAL ECONOMY

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649228423

The moral economy by Ralph Barton Perry

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

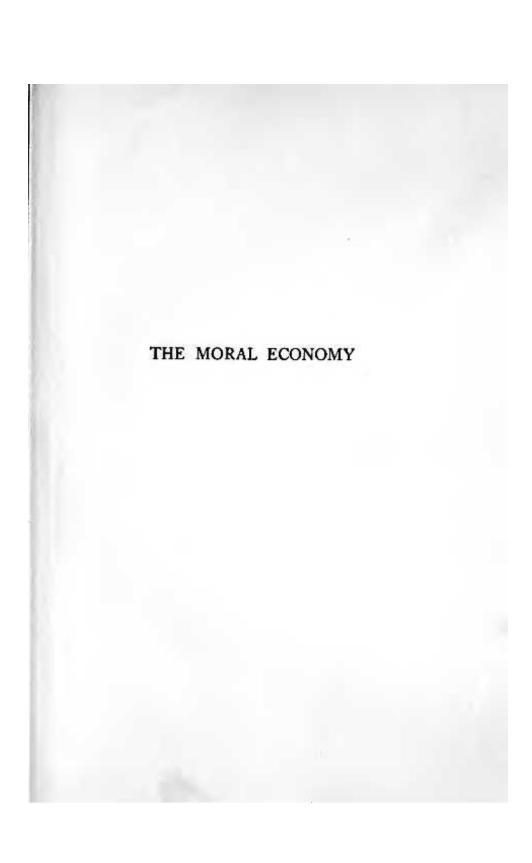
This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

RALPH BARTON PERRY

THE MORAL ECONOMY





BOOKS BY RALPH BARTON PERRY

PUBLISHED BY CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS

The Moral Economy, 12mo . . nst, \$1.25

The Approach to Philosophy. 12mo net, \$1.50

Philos Ethics P464

MORAL ECONOMY

BY

RALPH BARTON PERRY

Assistant Professor of Philosophy in Harvard University

1425-47

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS

NEW YORK

CHICAGO

BOSTON

COPYRIGHT, 1909, BY CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS



DEDICATED TO N.
MARCH 30, 1909

"Things and actions are what they are, and the consequences of them will be what they will be; why then should we desire to be decrived?"

BISHOP BUTLER.

PREFACE

THIS little book is the preliminary sketch of a system of ethics. Its form differs from that of most contemporary books on the subject because of the omission of the traditional controversies. I have attempted to study morality directly, to derive its conceptions and laws from an analysis of life. I have made this attempt because, in the first place, I believe that theoretical ethics is seriously embarrassed by its present emphasis on the history and criticism of doctrines; by its failure to resort to experience, where without more ado it may solve its problems on their merits. But, in the second place, I hope that by appealing to experience and neglecting scholastic technicalities, I may connect ethical theory with every-day reflection on practical matters. Morality is, without doubt, the most human and urgent of all topics of study; and I should like, if possible, to make it appear so.

The references which I have embodied in the notes are intended to serve the English reader as an introduction to accessible and untechnical literature on the subjects treated in the several chap-