

**THE BROTHERHOOD
OF MEN: ITS LAWS
AND LESSONS**

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The Brotherhood of Men: Its Laws and Lessons by William Unsworth

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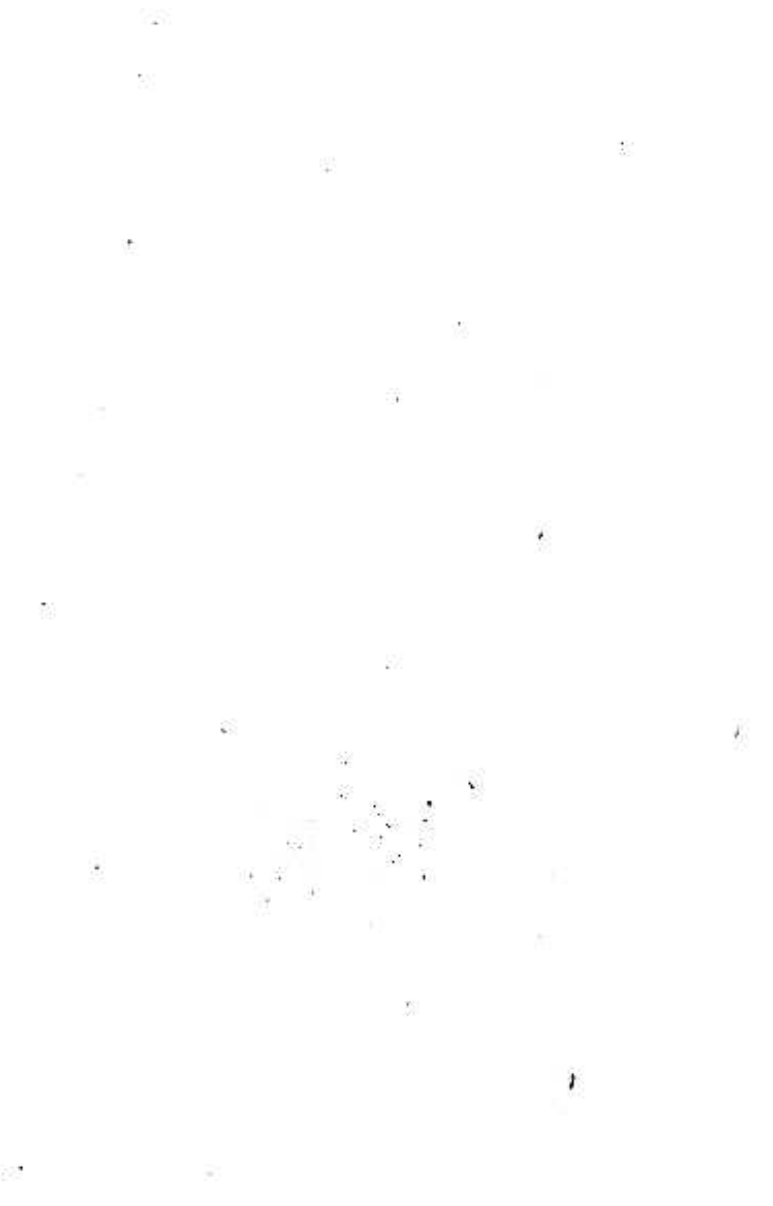
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WILLIAM UNSWORTH

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OF MEN: ITS LAWS
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THE
BROTHERHOOD OF MEN:
ITS LAWS AND LESSONS.

BY
WILLIAM UNSWORTH,

AUTHOR OF

"SELF-CULTURE AND SELF-RELIANCE, UNDER GOD, THE MEANS OF SELF-
ELEVATION;" "A PLAN FOR YOUNG MEN'S IMPROVEMENT CLASSES,"
ETC., ETC.



"And the Lord said unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother? And he said, I know
not: Am I my brother's keeper?"—GEN. iv. 9.

London:
ELLIOT STOCK, 62, PATERNOSTER ROW.
1872.

270. g. 429.

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I.

*THE BROTHERHOOD OF MEN IN ITS
PHYSICAL ASPECTS.*

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THE BROTHERHOOD OF MEN.

It is the proud and constant boast of many an aristocrat, that he can trace his descent from a long line of distinguished ancestors. He glories in the fact of belonging to an ancient and honourable family, and sometimes looks with supreme contempt on men of plebeian blood. I greatly wonder what real or reasonable objection can be taken to his going a few centuries further back, except that then he had ancestors very much like the ancestors of other common people. I greatly wonder, again, what real or reasonable objection can be taken to his going some thousands of years further back, as then he would get to the root of the family-tree, and greatly enlarge the circle of his relations. If there be any virtue in dating far back, then the argument, taken on its own merits, implies, the farther back the greater the credit, and the more abundant cause for glorying. If men boast that the blood of a dozen earls runs in their veins, then the argument, pushed to its logical issue, shows that we have all of us proportionately greater reason to boast, on the ground that we belong to the far more ancient aristocracy of Eden. On this principle we see the absurdity and hollowness of attempting to estimate human greatness according to the outward circumstances of men. Moral worth and intelligence alone form the basis of true greatness. We see, too, that we can all go further back in the