THE EFFECTS OF CIVILIZATION ON THE PEOPLE IN EUROPEAN STATES

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649256518

The effects of civilization on the people in European states by Charles Hall

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CHARLES HALL

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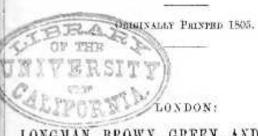
ON THE PEOPLE

IN.

EUROPEAN STATES.

BY

CHARLES HALL, M.D.



LONGMAN, BROWN, GREEN, AND LONGMANS.

MIDCECXLIX.

PREFACE.

The following Work, remarkable for its vivid description of the general condition of the people throughout Europe at the period of its publication, has lost none of its interest now, when many of our social evils have been greatly aggravated and extended, although some have been alleviated or removed. Machinery—which, in a rightly constituted society, based upon Christian principles, would prove invariably a blessing—bas, under the present system, increased the struggles and intensity of competition, and depressed, by overwhelming, the labour market—producing the two extremes of superabundance and destitution.

The title of the work has not been happily chosen, implying, as it does, that the effects described are the necessary consequences of civilisation; whereas, they can be regarded only as the result of an imperfect state of civilisation in the progress of society.

ADVERTISEMENT.

The persons who may be disposed to criticise this work, will have an advantage, which no doubt will be made use of. Some of the opinions maintained in it being contrary to the more generally received notions, it was necessary to treat the subject in a somewhat elementary manner, beginning with the more simple matters, and such as were less contrary to the common ways of thinking, and proceeding to others more complex and more opposite to popular ideas. On which account, the chapters in the advanced part of the discourse, if detached from their places and exposed to view by themselves, without the preceding facts and reasons on which they are grounded, may appear paradoxical and untrue. The author, therefore, makes use of the right he has to put in his caveat against that mode of proceeding.

CONTENTS.

SECT.							PAGE
I.	Definition of Civilisation	/¥	33	94	9	9	1
11.	Division of the People into	two	Order	s		3	2
III.	That the Poor are not suffic	ient	ly sup	plied	with	the	
	Necessaries of Life .	34	3.	100	24	84	4
ıv.	The Employments of the P	oor	injuri	ous to	Hea	lth	16
v.	Their Minds uncultivated				ŭ.	:	18
VI.	Their Moral and Spiritual I	nstr	uction	negle	ected	3	21
VII.	Condition of the Poor not	happ	y	12			23
VIII.	The Cause of the Scarcity of	f the	Nece	ssarie	es of I	Life	25
IX.	Of the Nature and Effects of	f W	ealth		ij.		38
x.	That Wealth is the Cause	of a	Imost	all I	ower	in	
	most Civilised States	7.0	1	100	ş	39	59
XI.	On Manufactures, Trade, a	nd C	omme	rce	2	83	62
XII.	Why Manufactures and Co	mm	erce b	ave	been	en-	
	couraged by States .	4					72
XIII.	The Increase of Wealth and	l Po	wer of	the	Few,	and	
	Poverty of the Many	-	334	(*)	(3)		74

CONTENTS.

sect,									AGE
XIV.	Whether the	Rich a	re use	fal to	the I	Poor		. 3	81
XV.	On the differe	ent Int	erests	of th	e Ric	h and	Poor	9	90
XVI.	What part of	the I	'rodu	e of	his o	wn I	abou	r	
	is made use	of by	the	Labor	ırer	1. 1		. 3	94
XVII.	The State of	the P	00r n	ot ne	dessa	rily s	ach a	8	
	it is .	7 4	25 - 5		į.			. 1	05
XVIII.	On the Effe								
	Orders	* 3		•	•			. 1	11
XIX.	Manufactures					the P	overt	7 25	
	of Nations						¥ 3		15
XX.	Civilisation a								
	more ignor								21
XXI.	Civilisation a	nd Ma	nufac	tures	weak	en a	Natio	n 1	25
XXII.	That the Poo	r conti	ibute	most	to m	ost G	overn		
	ments .		9 - 9					. 1	30
XXIII.	The Cause of	the F	reque	ucy of	Was	18	\$500	. 1	35
XXIV.	On National	Dobte				•		. 1	39
XXV.	On Privilege	d Orde	ers, a	s esti	blish	ed in	mos	t	
	Civilised S	tates	.50			•		. 1	44
XXVI.	On Power	43					355	. 1	47
XXVII,	On National	Reven	nes-					. 1	53
xxviii.	On Taxes		0					. 1	61
XXIX.	Recapitulatio	11		3		2		. 1	67
XXX	. The Method	propos	ed for	the	Ren	ioval	of th	ic	
	Evils comp	lained	of		•	*		, 1	71
XXXI	Objections an	swered	8					. 1	176

CONTENTS.

				100			
SECT.				151			PAGE
XXXII.	The Cause of Subject			- 3	ons or		181
283908077777	-and-ASomani				-33.04.34		
XXXIII.	That the Fact Causes of						
XXXIV.	On the Mean existing		ssening ,	a Sc	arcity,	when	186
XXXV.	Whether the land would						
xxxvi.	On the rising	g Arist	ocracy	of th	e Am		
	States	83 E	Ž.	•	200		197
xxxvii.	Happiest Stat	te .	(*)		<u>(i)</u>	65 ×	206
XXXVIII.	Whether the equal State						216
XXXIX.	That the Prod						
	the Labour	In a reference	ALC: NO PORT	11			1.152.4

APPENDIX