

**PRINCIPALLY ABOUT  
FINANCE,  
FINANCERS AND THE  
PEOPLE THEY FINANCE**

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Principally about Finance, Financers and the People They Finance by Henry Clifford Stuart

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**HENRY CLIFFORD STUART**

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Behold I have set before thee an open door,  
and no man can shut it:

—*Revelation III:8.*

"Thy princes are rebellious,  
and companions of thieves."

# PRINCIPALLY ABOUT FINANCE

Financers and the People They Finance

(With a Few Digressions into Kindred Subjects)

BY

ONE OF THE RANSOM-PAYERS



One of the old meanings of "feynauce," according to the Oxford Dictionary, was "to pay ransom," but we have long lost sight of the original uses not only of words but of things also, coming to look upon certain things as indispensable to society, just as we thought, until lately, that mosquitoes, flies, fleas, and other pests should be with us always.

HG 538  
.58

MAR 17 1911  
GIFT

*Handwritten signature*

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## THE WRITER'S APOLOGY.

I approach the subjects of national finance and of banking in the United States, not as a professor of economics but as an earnest seeker after light, well aware how unqualified I am for the task.

I would have liked to devote much more time to investigation, but as certain interests have already begun to agitate for changes in our system, and as I believe I can perceive their reasons for so doing, I feel impelled to give my immature ideas at once for what they may be worth.

I realize that my verbiage might be pruned to great advantage and the article coordinated so as to effect a more harmonious continuity of ideas, but I again plead lack of time and give them just as they came to me, with all the digressions.

Years of study would not do the subject justice, and I have not studied it at all, such authorities as I have so far glanced at all dealing with the matter from the orthodox and ancient point of view.\*

And I apologize in advance for any intemperance of language, on the ground of not being fitted temperamentally to view injustice with equanimity.

HENRY CLIFFORD STUART.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *February, 1911.*

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\*I have the very voluminous Reports of the National Monetary Commission before me, which I hope to find time to read and which I may try to digest for future comment, though there is no doubt, in my mind, that very hard and continued digging will be necessary to arrive at the material requisite for the presentation of a simple balance-sheet such as may be understood by common man.



“For I mean not that other men be eased, and ye burdened:

But by an equality, that now at this time your abundance may be a supply for their want, that their abundance also may be a supply for your want; that there may be equality:

As it is written, He that had gathered much had nothing over; and he that had gathered little had no lack.”

—II Corinthians, viii, 13/15.

#### TO MY WIFE

Who loves righteousness and hates  
inequity as much as I do, but whose spirit,  
also, for me, is far gentler than my own.

Speech is of man-imperfect.