

**THE WORLD IN REVOLT;  
A PSYCHOLOGICAL  
STUDY OF OUR TIMES**

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The world in revolt; a psychological study of our times by Gustave Le Bon & Bernard Miall

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**GUSTAVE LE BON & BERNARD MIALL**

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# THE WORLD IN REVOLT

A PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDY OF OUR TIMES

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CAL STUDY OF OUR TIMES  
By DR. GUSTAVE LE BON  
*Translated by* BERNARD MIALL

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TO  
MY EMINENT FRIEND  
LOUIS BOUDENOOT  
VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE  
PRESIDENT OF THE ARMY COMMISSION  
IN GRATEFUL REMEMBRANCE OF HIS VALUABLE  
ASSISTANCE IN THE PUBLICATION OF MY  
BOOKS DURING THE WAR

GUSTAVE LE BON





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## INTRODUCTION

### THE NEW ERA

THE year 1918 marked a bright and conspicuous date in the annals of our history. After a series of successes which seemed to forecast their eventual triumph, our aggressors suddenly foundered in a cataclysm which at a single blow destroyed the oldest monarchies of Europe.

Never did such contradictory and unforeseen events occur within so brief a period. In the age of miracles it would have seemed a thing beyond doubt that the mysterious higher powers had intervened to change the path of destiny.

The powers capable, despite all forecasts, of subjugating the most formidable Empire that the world has ever known were mighty indeed, but not mysterious. They belonged to that transcendent domain of psychological forces which, in the course of the centuries, have so often succeeded in dominating material powers, whatever their magnitude.

In all the phases of the terrible conflict these moral powers manifested their activity. In countries formerly devoid of military material and without soldiers they called up innumerable legions, armed with ships and guns.

Day after day material and visible agencies came into being under the influence of the invisible powers, until the moment when the former became capable of surmounting obstacles regarded as invincible.

Psychological forces, in which moral activities are included, do not control the fate of battles merely. They rule over all the departments of national life and determine the destinies of peoples.