

**THE WRECK; AN HISTORICAL
AND A CRITICAL STUDY OF THE
ADMINISTRATIONS OF
THEODORE ROOSEVELT AND OF
WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT**

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The wreck; an historical and a critical study of the administrations of Theodore Roosevelt and of William Howard Taft by Henry Clay Hansbrough

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HENRY CLAY HANSBROUGH

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WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT**

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of the Administrations of Theodore
Roosevelt and of William Howard Taft*

BY

HENRY CLAY HANSBROUGH



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1913

One of the Seven was wont to say that laws were like cobwebs; where the small flies were caught, and the great break through.

—*Bacon*

Oh, for a forty-parson power to chant
Thy praise, Hypocrisy! Oh, for a hymn
Loud as the virtues thou dost loudly vaunt,
Not practice.

—*Byron*

Sire, it is worse than a crime, it is a blunder.

—*Joseph Fouché*



PREFACE

WE plume ourselves upon our rapid advance in Civilization; and yet no people ever retrograded politically as the American nation is retrograding at this moment. In the name of Progress we are going back to Barbarism. I have reference to what must certainly follow when we have reached the limit in our present spasmodic spell of Wild-eyed Politics, if limit there be.

During the past dozen years politicians of all parties, each trying to outdo the other in proposals of a radical nature, have plied the arts of the Demagog with such success as completely to overthrow our earlier system of Government, and the cry is for still further achievements in irrational schemes of legislation.

The fatuous thing known as "Pure De-

PREFACE

mocracy," which always works its own destruction, is now gripping the Republic to its death. In the end it will prove to be the handmaiden of devouring monopoly, that other deleterious force now all controlling in the country's business affairs.

In *The Wreck* I have aimed to explain how it all came about, and to describe the methods of the leaders who are responsible for the catastrophe.

H. C. H.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

August 1, 1913.

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