

**DEMOCRACY IN
THE OLD WORLD
AND THE NEW**

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Democracy in the Old World and the New by Anonymous

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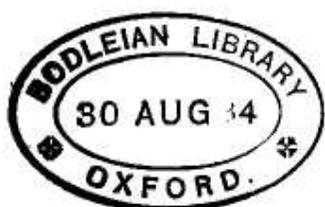
DEMOCRACY
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DEMOCRACY
IN THE
OLD WORLD AND THE NEW

BY THE AUTHOR OF
"THE SUEZ CANAL, THE EASTERN QUESTION
AND ABYSSINIA," "EGYPT, INDIA, AND THE COLONIES," ETC.

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PREFACE.

THE account contained in these pages of some facts connected with Democracy in the Old World and the New is laid before the reader without the least wish to advocate or deprecate any conclusions which may have or be supposed to have a bearing on party strife. Statements derived from sources believed to be unimpeachable are adduced as to plain matters of fact, and any opinions advanced rest, it is hoped, on sufficient evidence as to the matters with which they have to do, and not on adventitious relations with other topics.

Democratic and Socialistic tenets sometimes

act in alliance with each other, and sometimes are diametrically opposed. To judge aright as to the operation and prospects of Democracy in the Old World and the New, nothing is more requisite than to have a well-defined understanding of the nature, working, and tendencies of Socialism.

The present writer has long felt that writings and speeches and talk generally having to do with Socialism were apt to be very inaccurate, and, in proportion to the degree in which they were so, confused, and, so far as they were not as a consequence inconclusive, to be misleading. He has enjoyed opportunities, from communication with well-informed and eminent individuals, of being led to appreciate some salient points, on which a right comprehension of the topics alluded to mainly hinges.

He has been solicitous to treat the matter with the precision which alone entitles any statement to be regarded as a real thing, in knowledge or in science, which terms are in effect

and literally synonymous; both are too frequently employed to cover looseness in argument and inaccuracy of ideas; but in seeking to arrive at deductions of serious import, nothing, he conceives, is worthy of much attention as a foundation of belief and of action which *cannot be proved to be true*, whether by processes familiar to exact science, of late largely made available in literary pursuits by many distinguished men (including Sir H. S. Maine), whose labours have thrown floods of light on many social questions, or in any other way.

The reader's attention is particularly invited to the definition of Socialism, given in conformity with the views entertained by M. De Laveleye; to the description of the nature of socialistic tenets in 1849, as set forth by M. De Beaumont; to the views of Baron Von Keteler; and to the working of things in America, and especially to the action of the Supreme Court of the United States. The present writer hopes he has made available some facts not previously

brought prominently into connection with discussions on Socialism.

He has by no means been desirous to find fault with socialistic tendencies, when they are justified by the circumstances of the case, whatever they may be, as *e.g.* in the instances of some charitable provisions for the relief of distress. Nor is he prepared to find fault universally with what is called "State Socialism," as put forward by Prince Bismarck and others, which must simply be looked on as a mass of details, to be judged of according to the merits of those details.

The present writer feels that it is completely established by modern experience and investigation, that the main hope of society must rest on the prevailing influence of a sound education. Its influence may be a prevailing one, even though this education is confined to comparatively small numbers of the inhabitants of any country, including sound instruction generally, as of course the acquisition of all valuable in-