THE FATE OF EMPIRES; BEING AN INQUIRY INTO THE STABILITY OF CIVILISATION

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The fate of empires; being an inquiry into the stability of civilisation by Arthur John Hubbard

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ARTHUR JOHN HUBBARD

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BY THE SAME AUTHOR

IN COLLABORATION WITH

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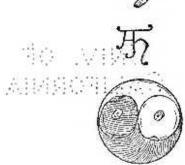


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DEDICATED

TO

MY WIFE

FOR

A THOUSAND GOOD REASONS

A. J. H.

PREFACE

THE turning-point in past civilisations has been marked, again and again, by the appearance of Socialism coincidently with a failure of the birthrate. During the lifetime of the present generation these two phenomena have assumed a more and more prominent position among the races of white men, and it has been my object to show how critical the position of any civilisation is when it reaches the point at which they are simultaneously manifested. I have tried to demonstrate that they are caused by the same force acting upon different materials, and that the supersession of that force by another and more powerful is indispensable to the stability of civilisation. My theme is not one that has permitted me to write with a running pen.

My most sincere thanks are due to Mrs. Renney Allinson for an immensity of kind and efficient help. She has not only prepared my manuscript for the press and compiled the index, but has rendered me valuable assistance by criticism and reference to authors.

I heartily thank, too, Mr. Clement John Wilkinson, M.R.C.S.Eng., alike for the welcome

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encouragement that he has given me during the progress of my task, and for the valuable time and work that he devoted to it.

The reader will see that this essay could not have been written had it not been preceded by Mr. Benjamin Kidd's great work, Social Evolution.

A. J. H.

LITTLE DEAN, NEWNHAD-ON-SEVERN, GLOUGESTERSHIRE, October 1912.