

**POPULAR SOVEREIGNTY,
SOME THOUGHTS ON
DEMOCRATIC REFORM**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649676941

Popular Sovereignty, Some Thoughts on Democratic Reform by Charles Anthony

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

CHARLES ANTHONY

**POPULAR SOVEREIGNTY,
SOME THOUGHTS ON
DEMOCRATIC REFORM**

POPULAR SOVEREIGNTY.

LONDON: PRINTED BY
SPOTTISWOODE AND CO., NEW-STREET SQUARE
AND PARLIAMENT STREET

POPULAR SOVEREIGNTY:

BEING SOME THOUGHTS ON
DEMOCRATIC REFORM.

By CHARLES ANTHONY JUN.

AUTHOR OF
'THE SOCIAL AND POLITICAL DEPENDENCE OF WOMEN,' ETC.



LONDON:
LONGMANS, GREEN, AND CO.
1886.

All rights reserved.

032 249

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
CHAPTER I.	
THE PRINCIPLE OF LIBERALISM	1
CHAPTER II.	
PARLIAMENTARY DEADLOCKS	16
CHAPTER III.	
CAN PARLIAMENT BE RELIEVED?	36
CHAPTER IV.	
LOCAL LEGISLATION,	54
CHAPTER V.	
LIMITS OF PARLIAMENTARY GOVERNMENT	73
CHAPTER VI.	
THE ELECTORAL WEAKNESS OF LIBERALISM	90
CHAPTER VII.	
LIBERAL FOREIGN POLICY	109

	PAGE
CHAPTER VIII.	
LAND REFORM	128
CHAPTER IX.	
FREE TRADE IN LAND	139
CHAPTER X.	
THE DIVISION OF PROFITS IN AGRICULTURE	156
CHAPTER XI.	
FREE TRADE IN LABOUR	168
CHAPTER XII.	
FREE EDUCATION	181
CHAPTER XIII.	
THE BURDEN OF TAXATION	194

POPULAR SOVEREIGNTY.

CHAPTER I.

THE PRINCIPLE OF LIBERALISM.

THE MAIN PRINCIPLE which will be found to underlie the propositions and arguments of these political and social chapters, the leading motive to which they must owe whatever consistency they may lay claim to, is this—that for all the evils to which the State or the community is subject, the fit and sufficient remedies are to be secured by a recourse to the final authority of the people. In other words, the source of power, the object of government, the sanction of law, the remedy of all evils to which the body politic is subject, reside in the community of individuals by whom the State is made up. Does the statute law require amendment?—it must be done in the interest of the bulk of the nation, for their special behoof, if not at their special solicitation. Is an entirely new law proposed in Parliament?—it must be for the purpose of increasing the popular welfare,

not for the exclusive benefit of a class. Is the public mind disturbed, or the public peace threatened, or the prosperity of the country jeopardised?—the root of the disorder is to be sought in some abuse or injustice or hardship which has weighed upon the people, and which must be removed as soon as it is discovered, in order that the whole body politic may not suffer.

We have tried other measures in England, and have found them all more or less mischievous; though the history of this country will show that the idea of the commonwealth, and the rights and privileges of individual Englishmen, have never been lost sight of altogether. We have legislated for a class, or for the sovereign, at least as often as we have legislated for the people, and when the public mind has been agitated, and the masses have vehemently protested against a tyranny or an injustice, we have frequently turned upon them with sword and bayonet and musket, actually aggravating the evils which it was the alleged intention to cure.

England has had more than enough of these barbarous and empirical methods of treatment, and expects now to see the pure science of self-government applied by the political medicine-men who take her in hand. She has had (let us believe) her last Peterloo in the provinces, her last turn-out of the