

**TOOLS AND THE MAN:
PROPERTY AND
INDUSTRY UNDER
THE CHRISTIAN LAW**

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Tools and the Man: Property and Industry Under the Christian Law by Washington Gladden

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WASHINGTON GLADDEN

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THE CHRISTIAN LAW*

BY

WASHINGTON GLADDEN

May it please your Serene Highnesses, your Majesties, Lordships, and I, our-wardships, the proper Epic of this world is not now "Arms and the Man;" how much less "Shirt-frills and the Man;" no, it is now "Tools and the Man;" that, henceforth to all time, is now our Epic; — and you, first of all others, I think, were wise to take note of that. — CARLYLE, Past and Present.



BOSTON AND NEW YORK
HOUGHTON, MIFFLIN AND COMPANY
The Riverside Press, Cambridge

1893

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PREFACE.

THE chapters which follow contain the substance of a course of lectures spoken to the students of the New Haven Theological Seminary, on the Lyman Beecher foundation, in January, 1887. Portions of the same course have been given in Cornell University, in Mansfield College, Oxford University, and in other places. In November and December, 1892, they were reconstructed and delivered before the Meadville Theological School and the citizens of Meadville, Pa. Of this last use of them some explanation should be made: —

The Rev. Adin Ballou, of Hopedale, Mass., left a legacy for the promotion of Christian Socialism, to the interests of which he had devoted a life of energetic philanthropy. Through some legal defects in the bequest, the courts refused to execute his will, and the property passed into the hands of his daughter, Mrs. Abbie Ballou Heywood. Determined to carry out her father's purposes, Mrs.

Heywood made over the entire amount to the trustees of the Meadville Theological School, to be held by them as a trust fund for the establishment and maintenance of "THE ADIN BALLOU LECTURESHIP OF PRACTICAL CHRISTIAN SOCIOLOGY." The design of the founder is thus expressed in her own words:—

"The purpose of this offer is to secure the annual delivery of a course of lectures, by the most satisfactory talent that can be obtained, upon *the social aspects of the religion of Christ, and the consequent duty and importance of applying the principles and spirit of that religion to the intercourse and conduct of man with man, in all the activities and relations of life.* In these lectures special attention shall be paid to such subjects, for example, as 'The Barbarism of War and the consequent claims of the cause of Peace,' 'The Extinction of the Evils of Intemperance,' 'The Proper Relation of the Sexes, including the true Doctrine of Marriage and Divorce,' 'The Higher Education and Complete Enfranchisement of Woman,' 'The Adjustment and Harmonization of the Relations between Capital and Labor,' 'The Prevention of and Remedy for Poverty,' 'The Care and Reformation of Criminals,' 'The Amelioration and Improvement of the Condition of the Unfortunate and Perishing Classes,' including in their full range all topics calculated to enhance the well-being and happiness of mankind and to fashion

human society after the Christian ideal of the kingdom of heaven on earth.

“These lectures, or such of them as may be deemed most valuable by the President and Board of Instruction, shall be published from time to time, and sent, free of expense, to other Theological Schools, and to leading educational institutions, libraries, etc., to the end that their usefulness may be extended as far and wide as possible.

“It is furthermore my express wish and intention that the contemplated lectureship shall be based upon *the distinct and positive recognition of the eternal excellency of the religion of Christ, in its fundamental truth and essential spirit, as taught and exemplified in the Scriptures of the New Testament, and as interpreted by the light of the advancing intelligence of mankind, and that its administration shall be absolutely impartial and free, regardless alike of denominational peculiarities and limitations, and of all artificial distinctions of race, sex, and nationality.*

“This offer is made with the full expectation and assurance that, if accepted, the endowment involved will be held sacred to the purpose for which it is designed, and in the earnest hope that the work of human improvement and social regeneration, so dear to the heart of my beloved father, will be advanced by the instrumentality it provides for and ordains, and that his name and influence for good in the world may be conserved and perpetuated unto many generations.”

This volume comprises the first course of lectures upon the Adin Ballou foundation. A portion of one of them has appeared in print; the remainder is now for the first time published.

My own deepest convictions are so clearly expressed in the words quoted above that I have found no difficulty in following the lines laid down by the founder. By the study and observation of many years, I have been confirmed in the belief that the Christian law, when rightly interpreted, contains the solution of the social problem. I believe that Christianity not only holds up before us a beautiful ideal, but that it presents the only theory of industrial and social order which can be made to work. To the arguments which follow, in support of this opinion, I ask the serious attention of all men of good-will.

W. G.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH,
COLUMBUS, OHIO, Feb. 22, 1893.

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