

THE NEW UTOPIA, OR, PROGRESS AND PROSPERITY

AN EXPOSURE OF THE EVILS PRODUCED BY UNWISE
LEGISLATION, AND A SUGGESTION OF THE MEANS WHEREBY
THEY MAY BE REMEDIED
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Resumo de The New Utopia, Or, Progress and Prosperity; An Exposure of the Evils Produced by Unwise Legislation, and a Suggestion of the Means Whereby They May Be Remedied

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1890. Excerpt: ... THE NEW UTOPIA; OR, PROGRESS AND PROSPERITY. CHAPTER I. INTRODUCTION. TN "Looking Backward" Mr. Edward Bellamy has--opened the eyes of the world to speculations about the grand possibilities that lie before us in the future.

The picture he presents, however, though fascinating in every respect, is too finely drawn and too highly coloured to be received as a portrayal of reforms that are, as yet, within our reach.

We must attain a much higher level of social, moral, and political development before the plane on which he elevates humanity will appear to lie within the bounds of possibility.

For this reason, whilst viewing it with admiration and delight, we are compelled to acknowledge with a sigh that his picture is too good for us, as we are at present, to hope for its attainment.

Our minds cannot frame any possible intermediate steps by which to climb so great a height, and though we cherish a fond memory of the glimpse of heavenly beauty we have seen in "Looking Backward," we sadly wish the author had shown us "the how and the why," that we might set to work on even a forlorn hope of realising for ourselves some at least of the beauties of his dream.

In the following pages an attempt is made to show how we may attain, not all that Mr. Bellamy has described, but a much nearer approach to his ideal than is practicable under any political system at present existing in the world.

If we content ourselves-with what is demonstrably within our reach we may perhaps elevate ourselves, step by step, to a plane from which the means of reaching even a better state than he has imagined for us may at length become apparent.

Mr. Henry George has indicated the lines of a reform which may serve for the first step upwards, but his great indignation against the wrongs, the...

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