THE GREAT PROBLEM

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The Great Problem by Ivan Howland Benedict

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IVAN HOWLAND BENEDICT

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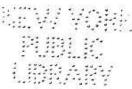
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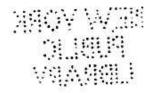
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TO MY FATHER EDWY ETHELBERT BENEDICT

"One who never turned his back but marched breast
forward,
Never doubted clouds would break,
Never dreamed, though right were worsted, wrong
would triumph,
Held we fall to rise, are baffled to fight better,
Sleep to wake."

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A FOREWORD

Since it sometimes happens that the humble wayfarer is able so to interpret life through his experience as to prove a blessing to his fellow pilgrims, I have felt emboldened to send out this little message of hope. No attempt has been made at elaborate discussion or final pronouncement, rather have I sought to gather together a series of frank, suggestive talks concerning a few of the many different phases of the all absorbing topic-life; the purpose being both to stimulate the mind to helpful thought and to supply it with a mental reagent. The reading public has been so inundated with information relative to the problem of life that many intelligent minds are rapidly approaching a condition very like a saturated solution and there is a desire to crystallize something of practical worth out of this great mass of material, hence this attempt to furnish what might be called a mental reagent. I have aimed to set forth certain principles of normal life which should help one in his endeavor to "work out his own salvation." If, then, this simple word shall assist any to a more efficient social adjustment and make the pilgrimage along the Great Highway more worth while it will not have been uttered in vain.

I. H. B.

Southfield, Massachusetts. July 7, 1911.

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