

PROPERTY AND PROGRESS.

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OR,

A BRIEF ENQUIRY INTO CONTEMPORARY SOCIAL
AGITATION IN ENGLAND.

By W. H. MALLOCK.

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P R E F A C E.



THE aim of the present volume, which has been reprinted without substantial alteration from the pages of the 'Quarterly Review,' can be very simply stated. One of the principal features by which Continental politics have been, during modern times, distinguished from those of England, has, during the last few years, developed itself in England also. I refer to the attempts being now made by extreme Radicals on the one hand, and avowed Socialists on the other, to identify politics in the minds of the poorer classes, with some wholesale seizure, in their behalf, on the property, or on part of the property, of the richer; to represent the accomplishment of such a seizure, as the main task incumbent on a really popular government; and to madden the people with a conviction that, until the seizure is made, they will be suffering a chronic wrong.

When we consider the squalor and misery that exists in the heart of our wealth and civilization,