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林亨理作

A

COMMENTARY

ON THE

FOUR BOOKS

Adapted to Modern Times.



In Two Volumes.

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民 為 貴

"In the Realm the People are most Important"
MENCIUS.

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PREFACE

The great political changes through which China has recently passed, add fresh interest to the study of Mencius, and render the issue of a new Commentary on his teachings especially appropriate. For Mencius was essentially, a Democrat: like the Roman Gracchi, he may well be called the Tribune of the People. Though living in an age of absolute monarchy, which held literally to the "Divine Right" of Kings, he did not hesitate to proclaim the rights of the People, and boldly asserted that the people were of most importance, and the Prince of least value, to the nation. (Book VII, Part 2, Ch. 14).

The themes which Mencius discussed, while presented in a great variety of forms, refer chiefly to Government; to the Family and the Individual in relation to the Government; and to the supreme importance of moral culture to all three. He spoke much of beneficent rule, and of practical measures for the relief of the masses, in an age which was sinking deeper and deeper in selfish indulgence and in disregard of the common weal. His agrarian proposals suggest recent political discussions in Great Britain, which aim at equalizing the financial burdens of the State, and which mark an epoch in the life of a Nation.

That which the writers of the Sung Dynasty most prized in Mencius, and which through the weight of their authority has given him a high reputation for profundity, is his doctrine of the fostering of man's emotional nature, called by Dr. Legge, the "nourishment of the Passion nature." In the light of a more accurate philosophy, however, this theory will now attract little attention. The Sung scholars seem to have had the defect which was common among the Schoolmen of the Middle Ages, viz: passing over what is practical and rich in truth to delve in the vague and mysterious, mistaking the vague for the profound, and forgetting that the deepest truths are often the simplest. On the other hand those sublime sayings which made Mencius truly great are often passed over by the Commentators with briefest Among the many for which Mencius deserves ever to be remembered, is that on the uses of adversity,-"When Heaven is about to entrust a man with some great duty, it first disciplines his heart and will with suffering, and his sinews and bones with toil;" and that on Heaven's nobility as contrasted with man-made rank, which reminds one of Burns' immortal lines.

"The Rank is but the guinea-stamp, The man's the gowd for a' that."

Considering his age, Mencius' ideals were very high, and these he presents from every possible viewpoint, illustrating his teachings with impressive historical examples. His high standard was marred by occasional blemishes, as when he exhorts the Prince of T'si to "share his joys with the People," failing to distinguish between those that were good and evil, in spite of the King's confession that his pleasures were not virtuous ones.

(Book I, Part 2, Chs. 4, 5).

Though Chu Hsi inclines to give Mencius the rank of Sage, the consensus of opinion among Chinese scholars which denies him that honor, is doubtless just. As regards sincerity in search for the Truth, Mencius impresses one as not the equal of Confucius. Too often, as Chinese writers point out, he shows a spirit of self-sufficiency, and seems more intent on carrying his point, and winning the debate by some artifice of speech, than on reaching the Truth. But Mencius had courage of a high order: and in boldly proclaiming his convictions and rebuking evil he seems superior to Confucius.

In interpretation of the Text, Chu Hsi has usually been followed; his commentary however, while good, shows signs of failing powers, and does not equal his excellent work on the Analects. Other Commentaries as the 正義 and 味根 斜 have constantly been consulted. Valuable assistance has been derived from Dr. Legge's masterly work on the Four Books. The author has introduced frequent quotations from foreign writers of established reputation on Law and Government, which he hopes may be useful to advanced students, especially those of political science, and may lead to more extensive comparative study.

The central thought of Mencius, which runs like of a golden thread through all his teachings, is the supreme need of moral character to the Nation; the fact that if a Government is to last, its foundations must be laid deep and strong in Righteousness and Love of Humanity. This message is the one above all others for China to-day. Old standards of Life and Thought have been discarded. Shall moral convictions, obedience to Law, and reverence for Divine Truth be discarded also? It so, the wrecks of mighty nations strewn along the path of History warn us what to expect. If not, what shall replace the old systems? Guizot, in his History of Civilization speaking of the preservation of Europe from decay says: "The Christian Church alone possessed a moral power. It proclaimed that great Truth which forms the only foundation of our hope for humanity, that there exists a Law above every human law, a Power above all human authority." And again: "One of the vital conditions of civilization, -Faith"

Christian Faith and Morality,—these are the uplifting forces of mankind, the great sheet anchors of which History teaches us every nation must avail itself, if it is to endure. And to these, in their struggle for national existence, the eyes of the

Chinese people should be unceasingly directed.

HWAI-AN-FU,

勝。孔近學儒 君 近序 必 子。者 耳。所 辯 錄 理。子 庶 貴 不 夫 輕 子 國 今 或 其 屬 足 宋 者。等 最 作 註。 自 意 論。學 公 說。重 君 至 雕 此 足 見 此 竟 氣 印 民 張。 之潤 於 之 書。 有 之 未 博。之 考 之 民 特 是。見。思可蓋最 文 英 亦 說。而 權 丰 飾遇有所 法。解 最 氣。可 今知 似 利。 丰 古言 閱 深 與 舉 孔 不 乎 已。雖 書 對 子 孔 善 歐 以 閱 居 成 子 齊 之 以 所 美 爲 孟 州 君 立。 短 之謙 合 王 言。之 有 主 中 子 共 作 幸 道 實 猶 册 大 專 所 和 書者欲 勿 學。殊 仁 專 屢 之 可 論。制 施 異。政。求 因 使 取。多 取 辩 行。 諸 世。 樸 特 與 適 眞 七。無 爲 專歸答 詞 孟 今 非 民 理。近 即 基 復 仍 棄 用。子 同 孟 焉。忽 古 嘉 以 讀 所 多 樂 言 哲 子 略 民 之 孟 於 從 長 之 理。 所 及 近 學 爲 子 已至孟 文 說。言。孟 朱 於 者 常 重 。書。 不 有 孔 氏 究 不 子 而 全 以 出 之 所 子 未 徒 之 鶩 備 仁 言 版 子論 長。說。者 辨 位。高 求 而 義 國 新 多 亦 卽 淫 眞 後 遠 養 之 爲 註 賴 有 勇。樂 理。儒 宗 渺 氣 解。 准 取 要。正 無 茫 與 亦 以 有 旨 於正 正 若 懼 者。不 爲 民 也。 樂 以 M 求 亞 合 但 直 爲 也。得於 實

序

° 孟 子 序

Holf. 光日。道 不下 免敗亡法 Moutesqueeu 世 一者竊願愛 道 即 本 宇 於 今嘗聞 内 生之主著 感 云。 人至大之能 知 天 考 爵。 天 一士樂取。加幸福 國富 降 力之強盛當 乎民 大 · 而中可, 人類復 , 民之德富改、 也。則 切 雖 任。孝 國 本立 礙 倘 強 志。主。 進 則 步之謬誤尤宜歸 而 幸。舍生 道 求諸 能 生英相葛拉 強有 報 珍誤尤宜歸順上主篤信天商公理之持平旨哉言乎今 短有待於上下之志強法國 家 本 基 亦 進 未 一幅哉。教 希 不久 說。 知 望。 大羅 徳斯 全 而 馬昔稱 有 沈 首。待 屯 淪。 德 公善 於 強。其所以 爲 其 斯。 至 興 法 盂 闽 德 博 至 75 強。本。德。

淮安府林亨理具

盂

序

歷諸 歸魯今之山東兗州府鄒縣孟子三歲父沒母有賢德勤 子車又曰子輿未足據本係魯公族孟孫 孟 思。 敎 即 子孟姓有日氏也後世姓氏不分子者男子通稱名軻 至四十出身為師多招弟子後什於齊喪母歸葬於魯游 子因鄰舍不善三次遷家傳言孟子受教於孔子之孫 主 降世前三百七十一年生於鄒邑或作騶本屬邾國 國 以 至八十四歲去 傳道道不行歸魯晚年十五戰隱居專教門人作 世。 之後在周 烈王 後 謹

按程 則 子士位甚尊趙氏稱其 、県王道 朱二子之見謂與孔子無殊異其宗旨乃仁義之道論 民伸理或問孟子可謂聖人否程子曰未敢便道也然 而黜霸功立教則闢異端以宗正 學博日孟子通五經尤長於詩書 學與王侯

之次也。 字其功甚多但孟子有些英氣英氣甚害事孟子大賢亞聖 子有功於聖門不可勝言仲尼只說一箇仁字孟子開 說仁義仲尼只說一箇志孟子便說許多養氣出來只此二 至處朱氏加言愚按至字恐當作聖字程子又日孟 口便

沒其徒萬章公孫丑相與記軻所言焉耳趙氏意見與韓氏 與其徒作孟子七篇但韓氏日孟軻之書非孟軻自作軻既 子記諸善言成編集故曰論語而不號孔子孟子是孟軻自 書名孟子後儒多以爲孟軻自作劉熙云論語學而子曰子 之書如荀子故總謂之孟子史記亦稱其所如不合退而 謂孔子也孟子稱子與孔子稱子何異又曰論語是諸弟

同乃多爲門人所作也

章 孟子見梁惠王。

籍

也魯衛之君皆尊事焉故論語或以弟子名篇而有衛靈公、 二百有二年正義云孔子時諸侯問疑質禮若弟子之問師 卷分上下章句皆東漢著士趙岐所定趙氏沒於主降世後 題篇與公孫丑等而爲一例也 季氏之篇孟子亦以大儒爲諸侯所師是以梁惠王滕文公

有七王皆僭號者也魏惠王居於大梁故號曰梁王史記惠 魏氏韓氏僭奪主權威烈皇帝皆封爲侯其後范氏智氏荀 氏。 (惠) 諡號孔子時晉爲大國六卿任事趙氏范氏智氏荀氏 仁義孟子與惠王所論之要題國之與盛所本也(梁惠王) 梁魏國京城今屬河南開封府惠王原爲魏侯名答僧稱王。 為魏趙韓三家所佔分滅晉國魏其一也正義云時天下

孟

王三十五年卑禮厚幣以招賢者而孟子至梁(見)王招見

將有以利吾國乎 王曰曳不遠千里而來亦

孟子對日王何必日利亦

何以利吾家士庶人日。何 王曰何以利吾國大夫曰。

(叟)長老之稱猶父也(將)婉誘之辭(利)係外物非關道 德朱氏日富國强兵之類王問老翁不以干里爲遠而來亦

有以助寡人興利强國乎

多放此。 子曰心之制事之宜此二句乃一章之大旨下文詳言之後 (對)恭敬之辭下答上(仁義)心之德仁主愛義主公正朱

國危矣萬乘之國弑其君 以利吾身上下交征利而 (征)力取(交征)彼此相奪(乘)指車數之辭(萬乘之國) 備兵車一千(百乘之家)諸侯之大夫(弑)下殺上正義曰 之大卿有采地方百里備兵車一千八千乘之家」諸侯之國 指皇帝皇帝畿地方一千里備兵車一萬(千乘之國)皇帝

者必千乘之國千乘之國一夷羿之弑夏后是以千乘取萬乘也若齊崔衛寧晉六卿等

未有仁而遺其親者也未 有義而後其君者也

孟

卷一梁惠上

取千焉千取百焉不爲不 弑其君者必百乘之家萬 多矣苟爲後義而先利不 皆弑其君此以百乘取千乘也(苟)如果(娶)飽足(不奪 臣之於君每十分而取其一分亦已多矣若又以義爲後而 不娶)因貪得無厭非吞君之全國則不知足矣朱子曰言

大亂而國亡。 孟子指明道德爲國之急需而圖利爲國之深害曰王何必 以利為先則不弑其君而盡奪之其心未肯以爲足也〇此 國無不累也且禍勢日見深重始爭鬭繼强奪終行凶甚至 虐之害蓋貪利之氣傳染易且深上行下效自君及民而通 以 利爲名乎以仁義之道爲名是眞獲利益而可防相奪暴

利之深害相反令人盡忠孝保國與家蓋仁者愛人尤必愛 (遺)朱子作薬(後)動詞不重視○此見仁義之大益與貪 親而不棄之義者主忠尤必忠君而不負之是人君上義下

X爺 王亦日仁義而已矣何必

當不後其天君矣 主仁者不遺其家父更當不遺其天父義者不後其國君更 則其下化之自親戴於已也〇此理推極令人盡忠孝於上 利立表作法之效也朱子曰人君躬行仁義而無求利之心。

也自皇帝以至庶人好利之弊何以異哉程子日君子未嘗 孟子復言以結上文而重宗旨警惠王當治民以道德而慎 利也當是之時天下之人惟利是求而不復知有仁義故孟 不欲利但專以利爲心則有害惟仁義則不求利而未嘗不 貪財之惑太史公日利誠亂之始也夫子罕言利常防其源 子特言此以救之〇今中國爲民主之國尤宜審孟子此嘉

日君主之治其所恃以立者不必有至德要道之可稱也獨

言蓋民主之制有待於道德較君主更甚孟德斯鳩法意書

/

上顧鴻雁麋鹿曰賢者亦

子見梁惠王王立於沼

樂此乎。

孟子對日賢者而後樂此。 不賢者雖有此不樂也。

詩云經始靈臺經之營之。 鹿攸伏麀鹿濯濯白鳥 鶴王在靈沼於牣魚躍。 亟庶民子來王在靈囿。 民攻之不日成之經始

者)賢君惠王問賢君亦可樂此物乎。 可眞樂也(沼)池(鴻)大雁(麋)大鹿皆富者之玩物。 承上章論仁政君不可自富而民貧當使民同有所樂然後 至 民主之國非有一物爲之大命則不行道德是已

樂物為後君修道興善政然後樂物可也惟私而利己雖財 物豐盛終無樂矣。 (賢者而後樂)此一章之大旨後字指行仁利民爲先積財

度(靈臺)文王臺名(營)朱子曰謀爲(攻)作(不日)不終 (囿)大園臺沼在內(亳)牝鹿(伏)安於靜處(濯濯)肥光 而後樂此見文王行仁政故民樂其物阜甘勞其工(經)量 (詩)大雅靈臺之篇稱文王之德孟子引之以明上文賢者 日(瓜)急速文王勸民勿急勞功(子來)如子來助父之事

謂其沼曰靈沼樂其有**麋** 文王以民力爲臺爲沼而 文王以民力爲臺爲沼而

塵魚鼈古之人與民偕樂 被能樂也 楊誓日時日害喪予及女 偕亡民欲與之偕亡雖有

樂故眞能樂也。 魚民不怨而喜之惟因古王行仁不願獨樂而使民同有所 雖勞民作玩物民甘服役而稱美之雖有大囿池滿得鹿鳥 貌(鶴鶴)皦白貌(於)音鳥歎美辭(物)滿(偕)同〇文王

樂哉此章重興民偕樂見君有福使民同得其樂實也惟君 (湯誓) 商書篇名見論語堯日第一章三節引之以明上文 滅意無能沒己願同沒集物雖多富有臺池既遭民恨有何 字典上節偕樂相對桀自矜其位固如日民舉其言曰欲日 雪恨怨(時)是(日)指桀(害)晉曷何幾日(偕亡)同喪二 不賢者雖有此不樂見桀行苛虐民苦不堪曰甘與同死以 民利己為衆所憎財物雖盛何能獨樂乎孟德斯鳩重道

遷。 其所恃爲長城者民德而已蓋道德若爲所屏除則好上之 德為要以希臘國爲式日希臘爲民主之制以自厚其生知 私意估入人之心而通國之衆皆溺於貪婪其求嚮之鵠已 往者之所尚乃今以爲不足貴向者以奉法守典爲自由

(粟)北方之要穀在此句通言糧食朱子日移 河之東皆魏地正義曰魏舊在河東兼得河內(凶) 之辭(焉耳)正義作懇至之辭(惠王傷歎雖用心設法國仍不興民亦不增多孟 見人君行王道須用保民之善策此當力行不可半塗而廢 粟以給其老稚之不能移者(加少加多)正義日少而 治政之病後述興國利民之策(寡人)寡德之人時君自稱 今也以亂法干紀爲自由矣。 (河內)黄河西北(河東)黄 民以就食。 子先指王

梁惠上

甲 止。 喻填然鼓之兵刃既接棄 一或五十步而後止以五 步笑百步則何如日。 直不百步耳是亦走也。 曳兵而走或百步而後 子對日王好戰請以戰 如 知 此則無望民之

其 少。 多而 益增其多王曰余濟民雖較鄰國尤加留心民數

凡此皆武斷之偏詞不足以爲戰之義苟其用之吾見流血 鳩善指好戰之非日察攻戰之故夫日功名日利實日便宜。 退 戰殘 〇孟子此言指王願救民之災 退百 譬解其意(塡)音田鼓音古人進兵以鼓退兵以鑼(刃)械。 (直)只言兵械方交即棄甲拖械而退退五十步而止者譏 孟子設譬以發明王治政之病(喻)比譬王好戰故以戰事 未見增多於鄰國甚爲怪異何故乎。 過也王若知此不可譏 五 十步而笑退百步者故不能望民增多於鄰國孟德斯 民未行仁政是其病與鄰國相似雖有輕重之分乃歸 步而止者可否王答不可雖不至百步而退亦是退也。 他君不仁如徒譏其不仁是無異 移民轉穀雖强於鄰國然好

勝食也斧斤以時入山林。 是使民 木不可勝用也穀與魚 不可勝食材木不可勝 養生喪死無憾王道之 不入汚池魚鼈不可 養生喪死無

也夫偉烈豐功非他驕豪之變形而已矣貪忿之別名

遠農時穀不可勝食也。 憾 農時不可設二魚類不可妄獲三林 鳥汪(山)山上之木(林)平原之木(憾)惱怨所述三條。 (罟)網古例綱目必四寸之大魚未滿尺長不可食(洿)音 以養生棺槨所以送死皆民所急而不可無者今皆有以 民養生送死之事古王愛民不可不慎朱子曰飲食宮室所 時則五穀豐盛有餘(不可勝食)食足而有餘 農時)荀子云春耕夏耘秋收民得三時務農 孟子陳民生計之三要爲古道所重王不可不慎也 之則人無所恨矣王道以得民心爲本故以此爲王道 而已矣非合乎法度之天直也。 如江河矣所最不可者黷武窮兵而以人主之偉烈豐功爲 木不 可糜費皆有關斯 不違奪其

孟 梁 惠上