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RESTORATION OF THE WORLD'S CURRENCIES.

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PREFACE

The treatment of money forms a more or less distinct chapter in economics. The phenomena involved are more easily observed and classified than most of the facts of economic life, so that some attempt to state them, and to discuss their theoretic basis, is found even in Greek and medieval writings. A body of theory has grown up, which, while fundamentally identical with the general theory of value, may be developed independently. This small book is an attempt to give enough information to understand the broad characters of the subject, but as it is intended for the non-technical reader, the argument is developed in a somewhat informal way. The aim has been to describe, first; to define and generalize only gradually, as need arises, a precise statement of theory being deferred till near the end.

Accordingly, the first six chapters deal with the ordinary facts about money; chapters seven and eight with important special features that affect the monetary system; chapter nine essays the general ideas necessary to bring the facts into a coherent whole, while chapter ten glances at the application of monetary science to the problems of the future.

R. A. L.

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