

**“Come forth into the light of
things”**

***William Wordsworth’s Human
Challenge to Economic Thinking***



Lynn Stuart Parramore,
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Adam Smith is “the worst critic, David Hume not excepted, that Scotland, a soil to which this sort of weed seems natural, has produced.”

~William Wordsworth, 1815



Town & Country

“How we mislead each other”

~Wordsworth, *The Prelude*, 1799-1805, 1850



Hearts & Minds

*“Society has parted man from man
Neglectful of the universal heart”*

~Wordsworth, *The Prelude*, 1799-1805, 1850



The Parts & the Whole

“Our meddling intellect

Mis-shapes the beauteous forms of things

We murder to dissect.”

~Wordsworth, “The Tables Turned,” 1798

“Science advances with gigantic strides;

But are we aught enriched in love and meekness?”

~Wordsworth, “To the Planet Venus,” 1838



The Rich & The Rest

“Getting and spending, we lay waste our powers”

~Wordsworth, “The World is Too Much With Us,” 1807

“[England’s} floors and soil

Groan underneath a weight of slavish toil,

For the poor Many, measured out by rules

Fetches with cupidity from heartless schools

That to an Idol, falsely called "the Wealth

Of Nations," sacrifice a People's health,

Body and mind and soul;”

~Wordsworth, “Humanity,” 1829



Past & Present

*“But where will Europe's latter hour
Again find Wordsworth's healing power?”
~Matthew Arnold, *Memorial Verses*, 1850*

