

## **The Evolution of the Industrial Civilization and Class Conflict in *The Time Machine***

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### **Abstract**

The aim of this paper is to present how Neo-classicism is portrayed in the science fiction novel *The Time Machine* (1895) by H.G. Wells, he became an overnight sensation. The story of an English scientist developing a Time Travel Machine earned him the title of 'father of futurism'. Here H.G. Wells predicts through two different human beings Eloi and Morlocks. H.G. Wells highlights in this novel *The Time Machine* will the very human leadership qualities of care and empathy ever be cast aside in a future populated with powerful machines and artificial intelligence?

**Keywords:** Time Machine, White Sphinx, Day, Night, Moonlight, Eloi, Morlocks, etc.

### **Introduction:**

*The Time Machine* (1895) by HG Wells is an extraordinary work of early science fiction. A Victorian Scientist builds a time machine and lands in the year 8, 02,701 AD. Initially, he is transported to the pastoral idyll of an unknown land which is delightfully peaceful. Soon, however, the paradisiacal facade shatters and he discovers the reality of two distinct species: Eloi are useless, childlike adults surviving on a fruit – based diet and Morlocks who are barbarians thriving underground. The Time Traveller saves one of the Eloi from drowning and navigates through tunnels to retrieve his time machine that has gone missing. Before returning to his era, The Time Traveller also visits a land where a bloated red sun stares motionless in the sky and the only sigh of life is a black blob with tentacles. Once again, the scientist prepares to leave on another time travel, but this time will he return?

**Industrial Revolution:**

**Industrial:** Having to do with industry business / manufacturing.

**Revolution:** A huge change or a change in the way things are done.

**Industrial Revolution:** A Change from making things by hand to making them in factories.

**Transportation:** Before the Industrial Revolution, people relied on the horse and their own feet to get around with the invention of the steam locomotive. The first two major railroad companies were the Union Pacific and Central Pacific Railroads.

**Class Conflict:**

The Marxist Theory of classes and class struggle belong to the key problems both of theory and political practice, Strategy and tactics of the working class. It makes possible a scientific analysis of each historical stage of social development, a preliminary condition if the political struggle for the victory of socialism is to have effective leadership. Marx regards classes and class struggle as a historical phenomenon which took place at a given stage of historical development. It resulted in a socialist revolution and the dictatorship of the proletariat, conditions for the extinction of classes and the creation of classless society. Marxian sociology is often called "The Sociology of class conflict". The idea of class war emerges from the theories of Dialectic materialism, materialistic interpretation of history and surplus value. "The history of the class struggles. Freeman and slave, patrician and plebeian, lord and serf, guild master and journey man, in a word, oppressor and oppressed, stood in constant opposition to one another, carried on uninterrupted, now hidden and open fight, a fight that each time ended in a revolutionary reconstitution of society at large, or in common ruin of the contending classes". Marx says that according to the relentless law of history, a particular class owns and controls the means of production and by virtue of this exploits the rest of the people. The capitalist class makes use of the state as an instrument of oppression and exploitation. Thus at every stage there are broadly two classes: The Exploiters and the exploited.

**Time Traveller's Laboratory:**

Every week Thursday a group of people had been gathered at Laboratory of Time Traveller. Filby, Psychologist, Provincial Mayor, Professor Simon Newcomb and Time Traveller, made a conversation about science when Time Traveller talks about Four Dimension Theories, he asks what is Fourth Dimension. None replied the question of Time Traveller. Everyone knows first three dimensions i.e. Length, Breadth, and Thickness, then Time Traveller clearly explains about the Four Dimension Theory that is Time. He narrates that recently the Time Traveller invented Time Machine, with the help of it we can travel past years and future years. "There is no difference between Time and any of the three dimensions of space except that our consciousness moves along it" (*The Time Machine*, 7). All the people raised question how is it

possible scientist? Highly ridiculous it seems. We won't believe it, everyone replied. When Time Traveller explain, I know that you won't believe it, but it is possible I had experience, just now I return from my Time Travelling, that is why I delay to arrive here. But nobody is ready to believe Time Traveller. Time Traveller started narrating his travel experience.

### **Pastoral Idyll:**

The Time Traveller landed in the beautiful rural area by his Time Machine. The place seems so beautiful, under the White Sphinx the Time Traveller parked his Time Machine and gets away. Wherever he sees which resembles greenish colour, so attractive. There he saw one big beautiful hall, Time Traveller entered into the hall, the floor was made up of white hard metal, beautiful furniture's, carpets etc., dining table and chairs. On the dining table delicious fruits, eatables and water have been placed Time Traveller feels thirsty who took a glass of water and ate fruits etc., wherever he seems beautiful Victorian model furniture have been placed. H.G. Wells ironically criticises Victorian England in this novel The Time Machine. Time Traveller sees the year in his Time Machine, which shows the year Eight Hundred and Two Thousand Seven Hundred and One. Near the big building there is a long river flows which symbolizes Thames River in London. "The big building I had left was situated on the slope of a broad river valley, but the Thames had shifted" (36). In the imaginary world, where Time Traveller reached, there were highly sophisticated life have been led by the people, good agricultural growth and industrial development there is no diseases have attacked human beings. The invention of science and technology reached its peak level. "Social triumphs, too, had been affected. I saw mankind housed in splendid shelters, gloriously clothed, and as yet I had found them engaged in no tail" (40)

### **Perfect Conquest of Nature:**

H.G. Wells highlighted man defeated the Nature, he doesn't depend upon the nature, who has created he needs of human beings, he supplied the demand, everyone lived happy life. Nobody was doing any hard work or physical labour, they took highly nutritious food and maintained diet control, these are called Eloi fair in appearance they will roam everywhere in the imaginary world at day time. Morlocks appearance are not pleasant, they have gigantic appearance physically so powerful then Eloi, Morlocks are not having visual power in the day time, so they take rest in day time, night only they have visual power, in the night time Morlocks are tried to kill Eloi, Eloi never comes out of their house in the night time because of Morlock. Here the time traveller meets Weena one of the Elois, she is so affectionate in Time Traveller, wherever he goes in the Utopian World, Weena follows him.

### **The Palace of Green Porcelain:**

The Palace of Green Porcelain is the symbolises Victorian Society, here Eloi are living. The Time Traveller forgot that where he placed his Time Machine. The Time Traveller wants to go back his contemporary world, he is searching his Time Machine with the help of Weena, but he was unable to find out the Time Machine. He became so tired, he takes a sleep under the tree along with Weena, in the night time Morlocks are roaming everywhere they tried to kill Eloi. Here H.G. Wells applied a theory through the character of Time Traveller Eloi are upper class people, they were the kings and lords, Morlocks were the mechanical servants for Eloi people. "The Eloi, like the Carolingian Kings, had decayed a mere beautiful futility, the Morlocks Subterranean for innumerable generations". (71) Now the Eloi were become very weak, they lost their ruling power, the Morlocks (Servants), once they were servants of Eloi, took reverse on Eloi, here H.G. Wells predicts the future happening of the world, evolution of Raising and falling of the people. In the night time Time Traveller tried to protect Weena from the Morlock. He had match Box in his pocket, used it to make fire, so Morlocks avoided to attack Time Traveller and Weena.

#### **Death of Weena:**

In one night there was fight between Time Traveller and Morlock, extreme level fight, Time Traveller burnt the forest for defending Morlock, finally in the war between Morlock and Time Traveller, he lost Weena, and she died in the burning fire. After the death of Weena Time Traveller found his Time Machine, which has been parked near White Sphinx, The Time Traveller gets entered into the Time Machine, again travelled to Three Million Years future. After reaching there, he can see at the end of the whole universe, there were no human beings; the motion of the planet has been stopped. The Time Traveller narrated his Time Travel experience to his friends and media people, No one is ready to take this seriously again Time Traveller explains, that is the reason I delayed to reach here, he took one of the flowers out of his coat pocket and shown it to the media people and his friends, which has been presented by Weena. Everyone is amazing they said, these kinds of flowers are not available in the entire world. "They were put into my pocket by Weena". (107) again some people believes the experience of Time Traveller some people are not ready to believe.

#### **The disappearance of Time Traveller:**

Two weeks back in one Thursday, the narrator visited to Time Traveller's Lab, where both of the chatting about contemporary issues, when Narrator asks Time Traveller do you have any Time Travel plan? Yes, I have wait for few minutes, I will be back says, Time Traveller. Then the Time Traveller enters into his personal room and he didn't return. Then the narrator leaves the

place next day he comes and asked the servants of Time Traveller, the servants replied that their master yet to come. Continuously three years over Time Traveller didn't come to the present world. The Narrator, H.G. Wells, wrote in the form of science fiction *The Time Machine*. "The Time Traveller vanished three years ago. And as everybody knows now, he has never returned". (109)

**Summing UP:**

H.G. Wells the father of Science Fiction, he predicts, that in the future whole human beings will depend upon of Machines, Technologies etc., when machines, Robots will be like human beings, The human beings will be Like Robots, Machines, etc., in *The Time Machine* he critics about Victorian English Society. Jack Ma, says in 30 years a robot will likely be on the cover of Time Magazine as the best CEO. Elon Musk fears robot could one day get rid of us entirely. So how will leadership look in a world of AI? The big danger essentially is that, if our workplace has become more automated and busier with robotics, that we will have to have something to do and governments will have to find solutions to ever greater numbers of people, who might not be out of work, but sort of hopping from one insecure temporary job to another.

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