
BOOKS

MIND PHILOSOPHY.

The Mastery of Being. A study of the Ultimate Principle of Reality and the Practical Application Thereof. By William Walker Atkinson. Published by Elizabeth Towne Company, Holyoke, Mass. Price \$1.00.

Here is a work of 200 pages with a very fine portrait of the author, who deals in a philosophical way with a question both old and new according to the point of view.

That mind is the most substantial and the only real thing in the universe is proven by the logic of indisputable facts supported by the conclusions of the profoundest philosophers in all ages. There is but one Reality, called by whatever name that signifies an omnipotent, omnipresent and omniscient Power through which the universe moves and man has being.

To let Mr. Atkinson speak for himself on the subject of Spirit, which is the only reality recognized: "Spirit is imminent and abiding in the universe. . . . The presence and energy of Spirit is ever perceived manifesting in shape, form and activity. The veil of matter serves not only to conceal spirit but to reveal it. Just as the fluttering flag and the field of moving grain serve to reveal the presence and power of the breeze which is animating them and which in itself cannot be seen. So do the moving shapes, forms and activities of the universe serve to indicate the power and presence of Spirit ever behind them. This fact should serve to remove all ideas of the unreality and illusion of the universe, while the form and physical activity is and must be but mere appearance. The power acting and moving in that form is ultimate Reality itself—Spirit. The garment is seen to be but appearance—but the Reality wearing it is the only Real Thing there is."

It follows that humanity, seeking to identify itself with the substance rather than with the unrealities of being, may rise to a manifestation of the divine destiny as yet unrealized, but confidently forecast by the author of "The Mastery of Being," who bases his conclusions on the clearly proven creative power of thought.

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In line with this philosophic study comes a later booklet by Mr. Atkinson—"The Message of the New Thought"—published also by the Elizabeth Towne Co., Holyoke, Mass., at 25 cents per copy.

The history of the New Thought movement is clearly traced from the Orient through New Platonism, down through the long line of Greek, German, Swedish and English philosophers and poets,

to the Transcendentalism of New England that gave us the noble group of writers of whom Emerson is reckoned chief. Almost co-incident with Transcendentalism came the development of the New Psychology, which includes all the varying phases of the New Thought movement with its wonderful affirmation and accomplishment of mind control over all material conditions. Whoever is interested in these vital subjects will find in Mr. Atkinson's "Message" much information concerning the quality and fundamental principles of the "New Thought," which he defines, not as a creed or cult, but as a mental attitude favoring, and open to, the highest ideals of private and public life. One can hardly call Mr. Atkinson a disciple of Henri Bergson, who claims that the truth is revealed to man only through the interaction of Intellect and Intuition, for it is probable that the same principle was apprehended by Mr. Atkinson as early as by the promulgator of the New Philosophy in the College de France.

The perception of truth by intuition might be reckoned a faculty of the old prophets.

A. L. M.

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A VOICE OUT OF PLUTOCRACY.

The Passing of the Idle Rich. By Frederick Townsend Martin. Published by Doubleday, Page & Co., New York. 1911. Price, \$1.00.

Mr. Martin's book is neither a catalogue of the vices of millionaires nor a novel whose plot is their passing; but a warning and a prophecy—more or less eloquent—addressed to his fellow plutocrats to wake lest they die. Just what catastrophe is involved in the death of their class is not quite clear. But the author sounds very much in earnest and his book itself is evidence for his contention that the wealthy are waking—or at least being disturbed in their dreams.

The reader for whom the book is not meant will take an intrusive interest in the account of how "high Society" was roused:

Never before in the history of the world has there been anything analogous to the campaign of the American muck-rakers. . . . The work of destruction seemed to be done in a night. The "pillars of Society" tumbled. . . . To us, who, through the heyday of our popularity, simply sat in the sunshine and throve and grew fat in happiness, it came as a terrible shock, this change of the popular attitude. At first, we laughed at it; then we preached little sermons about it, half jesting, half serious; then we began to talk about it among ourselves; and we held indignation meetings every time we met our friends, and called down the wrath of heaven on those sharp-eyed and glib-tongued investigators. Finally—and here lies the heart of the matter—we began to read these out pourings of the popular sentiment very seriously indeed. They came, at last, from sources that we dared not disregard. . . . We recognized—those of us who thought, and saw, and felt—that instead of being a passing phase, as we had dreamed

or hoped, this change of popular sentiment was the beginning of a revolution.

Some books, like rumors, derive significance from source rather than content. On this ground Mr. Martin's book, supercilious though it be, might by its insistently asserted class-consciousness, claim attention. But the high source is here, like the "wondrous beauty" of some heroines, impressive only to the author. The reader grows skeptical. For a pure-blooded aristocrat—if we confess any—could never write such a book. Either he would raise his drawbridge and ignore "the people," or he would step out and become one of them, indistinguishable but for the sympathetic clarity of his democracy. Mr. Martin does neither.

ANGELINE LOESCH GRAVES.

BOOKS RECEIVED

—Kiddies Six. By Will M. Maupin. Published by the Author, Lincoln, Neb., 1911.

—The Gift of Sleep. By Bolton Hall. Published by Moffat, Yard & Co., New York. 1911. Price, \$1.25 net.

—The New Theology. By R. J. Campbell. Published by the Macmillan Co., New York. 1908. Price, \$1.50 net.

—The Dixie Book of Days. By Matthew Page Andrews. From the Press of Giddings & Rogers, Baltimore, Md., 1911.

—Christianity and the Social Order. By R. J. Campbell. Published by the Macmillan Co., New York. 1907. Price, \$1.50 net.

—The Diary of Gideon Welles. In Three Volumes. Published by Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston & New York. 1911. Price, \$10.00 net.

—The Lute of Life. By James Newton Matthews. Edited by Walter Hurt. Published by Horton & Co., Cincinnati, O., 1911. Price, \$1.50.

—Principles of Economics. In two volumes. By F. W. Taussig. Published by The Macmillan Co., New York, 1911. Price, \$4.00 net.

—The Great Problem. By Ivan Howland Benedict. Published by Sherman, French & Co., Boston. 1911. Price, \$1.00 net, postage 10 cents.

—Blue Book of the State of Illinois. 1911. Compiled and published by James A. Rose, Secretary of State. Printed at Danville, Ill., by the Illinois Printing Co.

PAMPHLETS

The Virgin Mary in Art.

Not strictly a pamphlet, more nearly a picture book, yet printed on one sheet and suitable for framing. "The Life of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Art" is a collection of reproductions of forty-nine familiar paintings by thirty-eight great artists. Murillo is represented by "Birth of the Virgin Mary," "The Virgin and St. Joachim," "The Virgin and St. Anne," "Espoused to St. Joseph," "The Annunciation," "The

Holy Family in Galilee," and "The Immaculate Conception." Among the other painters represented are Rembrandt with "The Purification," Michaelangelo with "The Holy Family in Bethlehem," Raphael with the "Meeting on the Way to Calvary," and Rubens with the "Queen of Holy Innocents." The reproductions are from carbon prints made in Europe from photographs of the original paintings. A companion sheet gives in tabular and easy-reference form the name of each painting, the name of the painter, its pronunciation, his school of painting, the place and date of his birth and death, the present location of the original, and the persons respectively by whom permission to reproduce has been given to the publisher. This unique collection is sold for \$2 postpaid, by the publisher, William F. Butler, 52 Loan & Trust Building, Milwaukee, Wis.

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Pamphlets Received.

Among the pamphlets recently received are the following:

Report of the Social Service Commission of the Diocese of Milwaukee. 1911.

A 1912 Single Tax Catechism. By C. B. Fillebrown, 77 Summer St., Boston. 1911. Price, 5 cents.

The Soul of Socialism. By John Milton Scott. Published by David Irving Dobson, Box 213, Chicago. Price, 20 cents.

Francisco Ferrer, Criminal Conspirator. By John A. Ryan. Published by B. Herder, 17 S. Broadway, St. Louis, Mo. 1911.

Government by Judiciary. By L. B. Boudin. Reprinted from Political Science Quarterly. Published by Ginn & Co., Boston. 1911.

The Aldrich Big Bank, or, The National Reserve Association of the United States. Annotated by Ellis O. Jones, 17 W. 31st St., New York. Price, 5 cents.

A Preacher in Hell. By Edwin I. S. Harding. Issued by the Darlington Single Tax League, 49 Codrington St., Redfern, New South Wales. 1905. Price, one penny.

Civic Righteousness, the Paramount Issue. By Alfred W. Arundel. Reproduced from The Index of July 2, 1910. Published by the Index Co., Nixon Bldg., Pittsburgh.

A Minimum Wage by Legislation. By John A. Ryan. Published by the Central Bureau of the German Roman Catholic Central Verein, 18 S. Sixth St., St. Louis, Mo. 1911.

Address on Alaskan Problems. By Walter L. Fisher. Given before the American Mining Congress, October 27, 1911. Published at the Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.

"It is the Function of Law to Define and Punish Wrongdoing, and Not to Throttle Business." Address by George W. Perkins before the Board of Commerce, Detroit, Mich., October, 1911.

Students' Expenses and College Aids in Harvard College and in the Graduate Schools of Arts and Sciences, Applied Science and Business Administration. Published by Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass., April 10, 1911.

Report on the Proposed Plan of Operations for Jamaica Bay Improvement. Submitted by Calvin Tomkins, Commissioner of New York Docks. Published by the Department of Docks and Ferries, Pier "A," North River, New York City. 1911.

State of New York, Public Service Commission for the First District. John G. Mayhew and others against Kings County Lighting Co. "Rate for Gas in 30th Ward, Brooklyn." Opinion and Order of the Commission, as rendered by Commissioner Milo R. Maltbie, October 20, 1911.

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